

The effect of asexual propagation techniques and seed scarification on the propagation of Critically Endangered *Aspalathus amoena* and *Cyclopia pubescens*

Level: Advanced Diploma

Field: Horticultural Science, Plant conservation

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Description:

Many of the fynbos legumes are difficult to root from cuttings and seeds. Although many of the plants in the genus *Aspalathus* and *Cyclopia* are attractive, however, they are not commonly used in gardens for horticultural display and landscaping. This is thought to be due to the difficulty in sexual and asexual propagation and in providing the optimal growing conditions for the plants. *Aspalathus* is one of the big genus in the legume family with high number of threatened species and there is a need to initiate species recovery project on this family, however there is no study done to look at the propagation methods on these critically endangered species. This study will form as part of a baseline study in evaluating the effectiveness of different propagation methods within these two genera. This study will help to have a better understanding of propagation methods suitable for this species and the study will be used for future species recovery projects and to develop asexual and sexual propagation protocols for critically endangered *Aspalathus amoena* and *Cyclopia pubescens*.