

Please

**DON'T FEED,
DON'T TOUCH,
DON'T TAME**



Cape Porcupine (*Hystrix africaeaustralis*)



Status in CCT:

Native range:

Diet:

Behaviour:

Predators:

Threats:

Least Concern

Sub-Saharan Africa

Roots, geophytes (bulbs), flowers,
fallen fruit, sapling bark

Nocturnal, solitary or small family
groups, nests in burrows

Lion, leopard and caracal

Road kills; poached for meat and
quills; misconceived persecuted

WHATS THE PROBLEM?

- Can cause damage to gardens/plants/trees through foraging, bark stripping, digging and nesting.
- Defensive behavior when threatened or cornered, causing injury to domestic animals



WHAT CAN I DO?

- Preventing access to gardens and food sources is the most effective way to reduce porcupine-related damage.
- Translocation of porcupines is often ineffective, as other individuals may move into the area if attractants remain.
- Porcupines are monogamous and removal will disrupt family groups and ecosystem balance.
- Removal can only occur by appropriate wildlife management authorities but is generally unsupported by conservation.
- Illegal captivity, hunting, or animal welfare concerns can be reported to CapeNature or the Cape of Good Hope SPCA.



WHO TO CALL

If you need help, contact **SPCA Wildlife Unit** at **021 700 4158** or **Cape Nature permit office** at: permits.fax@capenature.co.za



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