

mined according to the following arbitrary scale of diameters (∅):

Very small	—15 mm ∅
Small	15-25 mm ∅
Medium	25-35 mm ∅
Large	35-45 mm ∅
Very large	45— mm ∅

Seed capsules are divided into a number of cells, locules or segments, usually 5, 6 or 7, hence designated 5-, 6- or 7-merous. In **profile**, as seen from the side with the pedicel at the bottom, seed capsules are described as **rotund**, more or less globose or spherical in shape, except at top and bottom; or **boat-shaped**, oblong, more or less flat at top and bottom, with rounded ends. The **top** of the capsule in profile may be flat, slightly concave, slightly convex or peaked. The **face** of the seed capsule, viewed from above, may be more or less round, or elliptic, in shape.

3 *Lithops bella* N.E. Br. (1922) (W). Plate 1/1-2.

COLLECTED by Sergeant E.C. Phillips in 1920 or earlier; an attractive species appropriately named *bella* "pretty, handsome".

DISTRIBUTION: SWA/Namibia, in a narrow crescent area extending SSE from Aus, the type locality, to Witputs, and NNE towards Helmeringhausen.

DESCRIPTION: A relatively uniform species, therefore fairly easily identifiable. **Profile** truncate to slightly cordate, usually distinctly convex, sometimes ± flat; fissure 6-10 mm deep, lobes conjunct, sometimes slightly divergent at the top. **Face** flush to slightly elevated; elliptic or slightly reniform; lobes ± unequal; smooth to slightly rugose. **Margins** distinct but usually irregular with bold peninsular projections into the windows. **Windows** infrequently open, usually partly occluded by bold islands and peninsulas, and therefore reduced to a number of **channels** which are distinct and usually fairly broad and translucent, forming an irregular pattern, but occasionally quite narrow, so that the face is mostly opaque; the channels usually slightly impressed below the level of the margins, peninsulas and islands, presenting a slightly rugose surface. **Islands** distinct, mostly relatively large, up to 5 mm, and somewhat irregular in shape. **Markings** usually absent, but occasionally in the channels a few subcutaneous red lines and dots which may form a sparse broken network, barely visible without a lens.

Colours: Margins, islands and peninsulas opaque, creamy buff, beige, yellow-grey or greenish grey, sometimes pinkish. Windows or channels dark pellucid green or grey-green, sometimes with a brown or greyish red tint. Markings dull red. Shoulders as for margins, sometimes lighter.

Size: Small to medium, up to 30 x 20 mm, mostly about 20 x 15 mm. Number of heads up to 60 or more, mostly 2-6.

FLOWERS white, small to medium, up to 27 mm ∅, mostly 20-30 mm ∅. **Seed capsules** usually 5-merous (92%), otherwise (8%) mostly 6-merous. Profile boat-shaped, top ± flat; face broadly elliptic, up to 8,0 x 6,75 mm, mostly about 7,0 x 6,0 mm.

GENERAL NOTE: *Lithops bella* shares several features with *L. karasmontana* (Dint. & Schwant.) N.E. Br. and *L. eberlanzii* (Dint. & Schwant.) N.E. Br., and the combination of these three into a single species is projected.

4 *Lithops dinteri* Schwant. (1927) (Y).

Four varieties are recognized within this yellow-flowering species: var. *dinteri*, var. *brevis* (L. Bol.) Fearn, var. *frederici* Cole, and var. *multipunctata* De Boer. All of these occur in fairly close proximity (north or south) to the Orange River, in the area between Pofadder and Vioolsdrif where its course is predominantly east-west. Only two of these varieties are at present known to occur in SWA/Namibia.

4.1 *Lithops dinteri* Schwant. var. *dinteri* (Y). Plate 1/3-4.

COLLECTED by Ernst J. Rusch in August 1926, and named for Professor Moritz Kurt Dinter, who contributed so much to botanical knowledge in the course of several sojourns in South West Africa during the years 1897-1935.

DISTRIBUTION: SWA/Namibia, to the W, SW, S and SSE of Warmbad, and within 40 km of the Orange River. Type locality Witsand, SSE of Warmbad.

DESCRIPTION: Somewhat variable. **Profile** truncate, flat to slightly convex; fissure 6-10 mm deep, lobes conjunct. **Face** flush to slightly elevated; usually ± reniform; lobes ± unequal; mostly translucent; smooth. **Margins** usually distinct and fairly regular, sometimes irregularly indented. **Windows** usually completely open and translucent. **Channels** absent, or manifest only as translucent areas around the opaque smudges. **Islands** absent, or present only in the form of indistinct and irregular opaque flecks or smudges, which appear to be made up of aggregations of small dots. **Markings** in the windows rarely absent, usually 5 to 15 or more subcutaneous blood-red dots, short dashes and/or hooks, usually very distinct and prominent, but sometimes barely visible without a lens.

Colours: Margins and flecks or smudges opaque, pale buff to yellowish, greenish or pinkish grey, the margins sometimes indistinctly banded with slightly deeper colour. Windows, various shades of translucent grey or grey-green, often with a reddish tint. Markings, blood-red. Shoulders usually a little lighter than the margins.

Size: Small to medium, up to 30 x 20 mm, mostly about 20 x 15 mm. Number of heads up to 7 or more, mostly 1-3.