

## 8 *Lithops fulviceps* (N.E. Br.) N.E. Br. (1914) (Y).

This yellow-flowering species is characterized by the raised pellucid dots on the face, and is one of the easiest to identify. Two varieties are recognized, var. *fulviceps* and var. *lactinea* Cole. There is also a white-flowering yellow-green cultivar whose habitat source is still unknown.

### 8.1 *Lithops fulviceps* (N.E. Br.) N.E. Br. var. *fulviceps* (Y). Plate 3/3-4.

**COLLECTED** by Professor H.H.W. Pearson in 1912. Latin *fulvi-* "yellow-brown, tawny", *-ceps* "head".

**DISTRIBUTION:** SWA/Namibia, in a narrow strip extending northwards for about 100 km from the vicinity of Karasburg, the type locality at Narudas being near the northern end of this area; and an isolated locality (as far as is known at present) near Lutzputs, Cape Province, over 180 km ESE from Karasburg. Westerly localities reported to the NE and SW of Klein Karas have not yet been confirmed.

**DESCRIPTION:** A very distinctive species, somewhat variable in colour, and by no means always tawny, but otherwise relatively uniform. **Profile** truncate, flat to slightly convex; fissure shallow, 5-8 mm, lobes conjunct. **Face** flush; mostly  $\pm$  reniform; lobes  $\pm$  unequal; mostly opaque; slightly rugose. **Margins, windows, channels and islands** generally absent or obscure. **Markings** on the face, few to many, very slender and irregularly branched, slightly impressed lines which are often indistinct but sometimes form a conspicuous network. **Pellucid dots**, up to 1,0 mm  $\varnothing$  and slightly raised like miniature blisters, scattered irregularly over the whole face (sometimes extending even over onto the shoulders), and occasionally so numerous as to flow together and produce the semblance of a window.

**Colours:** Face apparently opaque, fairly uniformly rusty yellow-brown to red-brown or grey-brown, sometimes grey with greenish or pinkish tinges, while the margins, though obscure, may occasionally manifest a slightly deeper hue. Markings yellow to orange-brown to red. Pellucid dots dark grey-green to blue-green. Shoulders bluish, reddish or yellowish grey.

**Size:** Medium to large, up to 40 x 27 mm, mostly about 30 x 23 mm. Number of heads up to 10 or more, mostly 2-3.

**FLOWERS** yellow, medium, up to 35 mm  $\varnothing$ , mostly 25-30 mm  $\varnothing$ . **Seed capsules** usually 5-merous (90%), otherwise (10%) mostly 6-merous. Profile boat-shaped, top flat to slightly convex; face broadly elliptic to elliptic, up to 12,0 x 9,0 mm, mostly about 8,5 x 7,0 mm.

### 8.2 *Lithops fulviceps* var. *lactinea* Cole (1973)(Y). Plate 3/5.

**COLLECTED** by D.T. & N.A. Cole on 2 July 1971. Latin *lactinea* "milky, bluish white".

**DISTRIBUTION:** SWA/Namibia, about 105 km ESE of Keetmanshoop and therefore over 35 km to the NNE of the main area of the type variety. Only one colony is known at present, growing on a gentle limestone slope.

**DESCRIPTION:** Except in colour, essentially as for the type. **Colour** of face opaque milky bluish or greenish or pinkish grey-white or grey; markings yellowish or reddish, the lines irregularly branched, sometimes barely visible; pellucid dots raised, mainly bluish green; shoulders milky grey-white, or bluish grey-white.

**Size:** As for the type or a little larger. Number of heads rarely more than 4, mostly 1-2.

**FLOWERS** as for the type or a little smaller. **Seed capsules** as for the type, or a little larger; mostly 5-merous (75%), otherwise (25%) usually 6-merous.

### 8.3 *Lithops fulviceps* cv. *Aurea* (W). Plate 3/6.

This albinistic cultivar has appeared in cultivation in the United States of America and in Japan, but its source in habitat is not known. It was published in 1977 as *L. fulviceps* f. *aurea* Y. Shimada. Latin *aurea* "golden yellow".

**DISTRIBUTION:** Unknown.

**DESCRIPTION:** As for the type, but the **face** opaque creamy yellowish green, sometimes with the vague semblance of a translucent grey-green window, and with obscure margins paler yellowish; the irregularly branched but often barely perceptible lines golden yellow; the raised pellucid dots bluish green; and shoulders milky greenish or bluish grey.

**FLOWERS** white, otherwise as for the type, or a little smaller. **Seed capsules** as for the type, or a little smaller; mostly 5-merous (80%), otherwise (20%) 6-merous.

## 9 *Lithops gesineae* De Boer (1955) (Y).

Two fairly similar varieties are included within this species, var. *gesineae* and var. *anna* (De Boer) Cole.

### 9.1 *Lithops gesineae* De Boer var. *gesineae* (1955) (Y). Plate 4/3-4.

**COLLECTED** by Franz S. Erni in 1938, and again in 1952 (after World War II) by his son, Herbert F.J. Erni (See Cole 1973a: 60, under \**Namtibbergensis*); named for Mrs Gesine de Boer-Weyer, wife of Dr H.W. de Boer.

**DISTRIBUTION:** SWA/Namibia, at only two known localities in the Namtibberg, to the north of Aus.

**DESCRIPTION:** Relatively uniform and fairly easy to identify. **Profile** truncate to cordate, usually distinctly convex; fissure 6-12 mm deep, lobes conjunct, often