

The **African Violet Conservation Fund** has been established by the Plant Research Division of CREW to support conservation of the African violet in the wild. Each year, funds are sent to support projects that will help conserve the remaining populations of *Saintpaulia* (African violet) in Africa. Donate \$10 or more to the fund and receive a free copy of the booklet, *The Story of the African Violet*.

Recent support has been provided for a Finnish-Tanzanian research project in Africa:

http://www.saintpaulia.fi/MamCeP_Eng.htm



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The care of African violets as houseplants reflects their adaptations to their habitat.

| <i>In the wild . . .</i> | <i>As a houseplant . . .</i> |
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| African violets grow on slopes or cliffs so that they are well-drained. | African violets need well-drained soil conditions. |
| African violets grow in a shaded forest, keeping them moist and out of direct sunlight. | African violets do not like direct sunlight. |



The African violet may be the best-known endangered plant, but it is certainly not the only one.

- It is estimated that at least 33,000 of the world's 300,000 species of plants may be threatened.
- Other houseplants or garden plants come from Africa, such as *Impatiens*, *Streptocarpus* (African primrose) and *Begonia*. Like the African violet, some of these plants are endangered in their native habitats.
- Many endangered plants are found "in our own backyards."
- Of the 16,000 plant species native to the United States, it is estimated that more than one-fifth are endangered or threatened.



Kentucky ladiyslipper, *Cypripedium kentuckiense*