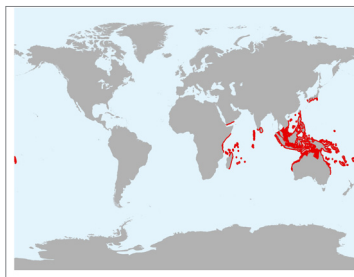




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NOT EVALUATED	DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	<b>&lt; VULNERABLE &gt;</b>	ENDANGERED	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
NE	DD	LC	NT	VU	EN	CR	EW	EX



Geographical range

## Species of the Day: Elegance Coral

**Elegance Coral**, *Catalaphyllia jardinei*, is listed as 'Vulnerable' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. This coral is found as individual polyps or in colonies settled loosely in depressions in the sand, from parts of East Africa, to Asia and Australia. While Elegance Coral can catch small prey with its tentacles, it relies upon zooxanthellae, algae living within the coral, to provide it with energy.

This species is rare and is the only member of the *Catalaphyllia* genus. Over-harvesting for the aquarium market is the biggest threat to this species and, like all corals, it is also threatened by coral bleaching and ocean acidification, both caused by climate change. Destructive fishing, pollution and coastal development also threaten corals.

Elegance Coral is listed on Appendix II of CITES, which makes it an offence to trade it internationally without a permit. However, quotas on the trade of this species may not be sufficient. It is likely that this coral is protected by some Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), but expansion and creation of MPAs are needed.

[www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org)  
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