Drakensberg

Golden Gate and The Sani Pass

A Greentours Trip Report

10th to 23rd January 2023

Led by Paul Cardy

Daily Accounts and Systematic Lists by Paul Cardy

Days 0 and 1 Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th January Arrival, to Port Edward (N.B. departure day treated as Day 0 to maintain the day numbers used for the checklists)

Having stayed near Durban overnight, at the airport I collected the mini-bus (an excellent vehicle), and in due course met the arriving group. Red-winged Starlings nested in the car park. Our journey bypassed the urban sprawl of the city as we headed west along the Pondo Coast. Arrivals had been punctual and all was going well until we hit heavy traffic. This held us up for some time, and we started spotting weedy plants on the roadside to begin the plant list! Finally we were moving again, but it was now dark. I had to drive purposefully to get us to the guesthouse in time for dinner, and I kept Arthur and Ursula up to date with our progress.

In the coastal community of Munster we quickly settled into our lovely guesthouse, amid lush gardens, and regrouped in the dining room for a delicious and welcome dinner, Ursula and Arthurs' cooking excellent.

Day 2 Thursday 12th January Port Edward, Umtamvuna Nature Reserve

A fine morning was warm early and we enjoyed an excellent breakfast. Knysna Turacos and Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird called in the garden, Speckled Mousebirds were much in evidence, and Citrus Swallowtail was on the wing.

A short drive to the west, near Port Edward, was our first stop, a marshy meadow where the impressive tall orchid *Eulophia angolensis* was in fine flower, and, belonging to the Melastomataceae, *Dissotis canescens* had striking purple flowers. There were both *Helichrysum odoratissimum* and *Helichrysum panduratum*, the first representatives of that very speciose genus, and Wild Frangipani, *Voacanga thouarsii*, was in flower. The fern *Cyclosorus interruptus* was typical of the habitat.

Plants continued with *Xyris natalensis*, *Ludwigia octovalvis*, *Nidorella auriculata*, *Morella serrata*, *Cyperus prolifer*, and *Typha capensis*. *Strelitzia nicolai* featured in the coastal grassland. On the wing were Common Bush Brown , and the acraeas *Telchinia serena* and *Telchinia cabira*.

A very short drive took us to grassland that swept down to the ocean. This site boasted many plants, including many Pondoland specialities. Legumes were a feature, and included *Eriosema salignum*, *Tephrosia macropoda*, *Tephrosia grandiflora*, *Ophrestia oblongifolia*, *Vigna vexillata*, *Aspalathus chortophylla*, *Indigofera abbotti*, *Indigofera dregeana*, and the undescribed *Indigofera herrstreyi*.

Thunburgia atriplicifolia, the Natal Primrose, was showy. Also here were *Pentanisia angustifolia*, *Buchnera dura*, *Hybanthus enneasperma*, *Gnidia nodiflora*, *Euphorbia natalensis*, and hemiparasitic *Thesium pallidum*.

The cactus *Rhipsalis baccifera* grew as a lithophyte and the endemic *Apodytes abbotti*, Pondo Whitepear, was in fruit on rocky outcrops. *Cyperus rupestris* was a beautiful sedge, and *Crassula obovata* was seen. *Aeollanthus parviflorus*, the pink spur bush, was in flower. Among the many petaloid monocots were *Schizocarpus nervosus*, *Aristea torulosa*, *Bulbine asphodeloides*, *Commelina africana*, *Trachyandra asperata*, and *Tritonia disticha*.

A large colony of Eugenia albanensis was interesting, a geoxylic suffrutex. Plants continued with Roella glomerata, Lobelia tomentosa, Selago tarachodes, and Grewia occidentalis. The orchid Disa polygonoides had striking orange flowers. The endemic Cassytha pondoensis, Wahlenbergia madagascariensis, and Euphorbia woodii continued the variety. Monocots continued with Hypoxis acuminata, Hypoxis colchicifolia in fruit, Hypoxis filiformis, Watsonia densiflora, and Watsonia pillansii.

White flowered *Utricularia livida* was followed by *Sopubia simplex*, *Monopsis unidentata*, and *Senecio erubescens*. The butterfly highlight was surely *Kedestes mohozutza*, Harlequin Skipper, a beautiful species.

We made a short supermarket stop so I could stock up on water, it was very hot today, unusually so, and that would be a feature this year in these first few days of the tour.

We drove a short way inland to Umtamvuna Nature Reserve where the first of much Agapanthus campanulatus was in flower. On rocky outcrops the Bulbine was an as yet undescribed species and the grey moss-like Selaginella dregei grew in distinctive mats. Here too were Centella glabrata var.natalensis, Dioscorea dregeana, and the attractive fern Pellaea calomelanos. It was time for lunch, a box lunch prepared by Ursula and Arthur, and we enjoyed this in the shelter of a palapa, seeing Amethyst Sunbird as we ate.

Common Reedbuck moved gracefully across the grassland. Plants continued with the endemic *Canthium vanwykii*, and *Ekebergia pterophylla*. The cycads *Stangeria eriopus* and Drakensberg Cycad represented this fascinating group of plants. Mocking Cliff Chat sang from rocky outcrops.

Burchellia bubalina, the wild Pomegranate, was distinctive. Plants continued with a very small specimen of *Clutia floribunda*, the composite *Inulanthera leucoclada*, and Red Rock Fig. Southern Rock Agama was active in the sunshine. *Crassula pellucida* var.*brachypetala* flowered on rocks, we saw *Psychotria capensis*, and the shrub *Polygala refracta*.

As we walked across the extensive grassland the great floral variety continued with Cassinopsis tinifolia, Syncolostemon parviflorus, Erianthemum dregei, Alectra sessiliflora, Selago trinervia, Secamone alpina, Athrixia phylicoides, Senecio rhyncholaemus, Tarchonanthus trilobus, Tenrhynea phylicifolia, Vernonia dregeanum, Indigofera shiluwanensis, Aristea abyssinica, Tritonia disticha, Scilla kraussii, Cyanotis speciosa, Alepidea peduncularis, and Tinnea galpinii.

An interesting selection of butterflies included the acraea Polka Dot, the very local endemic lycaenid *Lepidochrysops ketsi leucomacula*, Ketsi Blue, a pleasing find, *Chrysoritis natalensis*, *Eurema brigitta*, and the endemic *Charaxes pondoensis*.

Having reached another rock outcrop we found many new plants such as *Cyphia elata*, *Erica cubica*, and *Lichtensteinia interrupta*. Rare *Chironia albiflora* was in flower, *Tulbaghia acutiloba* was a pleasing find, and the orchid *Stenoglottis woodii* was in bloom.

Helichrysum featured in the area and species not already mentioned were Helichrysum adenocarpum, Helichrysum aureum monocephalum, Helichrysum cymosum, Helichrysum ecklonis, and Helichrysum populifolium.

New plants just kept coming, with Sebaea grandis, Gnidia anthylloides, Hybanthus enneaspermus, Xyris capensis, Asystasia gangetica, Centella asiatica, Searsia acocksii, Searsia carnosula, Delosperma lineare, Isoglossa ovata, and Isoglossa woodii all here. A productive day for orchids continued with Satyrium trinerve.

We enjoyed another excellent dinner back at the lodge, and made a first run through the already extensive plant list.

Also seen today, and not already mentioned, were the distinctive fern *Schizaea pectinata*, Common Buttonquail, and Black-collared Barbet.

Day 3 Friday 13th January

Red Desert, to Underberg

Firstly we drove to the nearby coast and strolled down to the Indian Ocean, we couldn't leave without seeing it! *Ipomoea pes-caprae* was typical of the habitat, the fleshy yellow flowered composite *Gazania rigens* was added to the list, and *Gloriosa superba* was a pleasing find. Back in the village we visited a Crowned Eagle nest, viewed through the telescope. We said farewell to Arthur and Ursula and their fine guesthouse, headed west to Port Edward and, after a fuel stop, turned north.

Our first destination was the protected site of Red Desert. Not immediately apparent why it's so called on arrival, once on foot, amid the grassland were indeed open red sandstone formations. I was pleased to find someone in the car park now taking an entrance fee, a change since our previous visits.

Again legumes were immediately much in evidence, among them *Indigofera grata*, *Chamaecrista plumosa*, *Chamaecrista comosa*, *Rafnia elliptica*, and *Zornia linearis*. Composites began with *Helichrysum mixtum*, *Helichrysum ruderale*, *Relhania pungens*, *Stoebe vulgaris*, and *Osteospermum imbricata*.

Here were our first proteas, with scattered *Protea roupelliae* and *Protea caffra* on the grassy slopes which were dominated by the grass *Loudetia simplex*. *Hypoxis hemerocallidea* was in flower and here too were *Lasiosiphon (Gnidia) triplinervis*, *Osyris compressa*, *Phylica natalensis*, *Agathosma ovata*, *Ipomoea crassipes*, *Striga asiatica*, *Vernonia corymbosa*, *Commelina erecta*, and *Cryptocarya wyliei*.

Overlooking the Umtamvuna river, a forest patch had *Schefflera umbellata*, *Tarchonanthus trilobus*, *Shirakiopsis elliptica*, *Gerrardina foliosa*, and *Protorhus longifolia*. Black Mangroves grew along the riverside below, the boundary with the Eastern Cape, and we saw distant *Hibiscus tiliaceus*.

Dalechampia capensis was in flower, and we saw Lobelia pteropoda, Helichrysum herbaceum, Scabiosa columbaria, Ipomoea mauritiana, and Dianthus mooiensis.

A requested stop was made for the naturalised *Lilium formosanum*, native to Taiwan, and a feature of roadsides here. Following a series of minor roads, we joined the highway and made good progress.

Leaving the Indian Ocean coastal belt we drove north, traversing sub-escarpment savanna, and reached the sub-escarpment grassland bioregion.

It was time for lunch and I was pleased to find a great spot just off the highway, beside a well vegetated small lake, amid woodland. *Impatiens hochstetteri* was in flower, and the alien *Oenothera rosea* was attractive. Also here were *Conostomium natalense*, a species of *Senna*, *Heteromorpha arborescens*, *Hibiscus trionum*, a species of *Grewia*, and a species of *Cynoglossum*. A pair of Cape Batis moved through the bushes. In the water flowered *Nymphoides thunbergiana* and at the fringes were species of *Eleocharis* and *Cyperus*.

Back on the road, a stop was prompted by 13 Cape Vultures, on the ground and in the air, and we had fine views of this endangered bird. A bonus was Secretarybird in the grassland at the same site. A detour along a minor road allowed a stroll along an interesting rocky roadside.

Late afternoon saw us reaching our fine guesthouse in Underberg, and we settled into the comfortable rooms. Hadada Ibis fed on the lawns. That evening we walked the short distance to a restaurant across the road from the guesthouse. Sitting outside, dinner was quite an experience, the current policy of load shedding meaning we had to eat by candlelight. Did the waiter put on his very well spoken 'English' accent, each word pronounced carefully, or did he really speak like that?

Day 4 Saturday 14th January

Sani Pass, Lesotho

Superb weather greeted us for our visit to Sani Pass, where we would spend a night at the Sani Top hotel. The sky was clear and it was already hot. The guesthouse was happy for us to leave most of our luggage until our return, taking with us only the essentials for an overnight stay. Stuart and Mondli were our drivers and guides for the Sani trip, and told us much about the area over the next two days.

Amur Falcons were on the wires but there were considerably fewer than in the recent past. Terrible culling of vast numbers in Naga, especially, has greatly reduced the numbers reaching southern Africa. Even ten years ago when we first led this tour, their numbers here were quite a phenomenon. Their fascinating migration from Central Asia follows the Indian Ocean crossing of the dragonfly Globe Skimmer.

Crocosmia paniculata flowered on the roadsides. Two Blue Cranes prompted a stop and we saw Wattled Starling, an uncommon species here.

At the first scheduled stop the orchid *Disperis lindleyana* was still just in flower in leaf litter under planted pines. The fern *Cheilanthes viridis*, and *Phytolacca octandra* were here. An immature Olive Thrush was in the trees, and Golden-breasted Bunting called, a species we've seen here in the past. A species of *Russula* was on the forest floor.

Walking across an open slope we saw Short-tailed Pipit well. In flower here were *Sopubia cana*, *Disa stachyodes*, *Protea simplex*, *Watsonia confusa*, *Satyrium cristatum*, *Eulophia zeyheriana*, and *Senecio asperulus*. Banded Martin flew low over the vegetation and Red-chested Cuckoo called. Four-striped Grass Mouse, a species that pollinates various plants, was seen.

Further along were Dioscorea sylvatica, Hermannia woodii, Asparagus cooperi, Aristea abyssinica, Helichrysum herbaceum, Rubus ludwigii, and Cyphia tysonii.

A cliff had *Sandersonia aurantiaca*, the only place we would see it, and I climbed up to white flowered *Hypoxis parvula albiflora* on a rock ledge. *Scilla natalensis* had gone over, *Polygala hottentota* was in flower, we saw *Haemanthus humilis*, and *Diascia cordata* was attractive. Southern Rock Agama basked, and pools had the lovely Goldtail Damsel, and Two-striped Skimmer. Cape Rock Thrush was seen.

Proteas were a feature with at least some *Protea caffra*, *Protea subvestita*, *Protea roupelliae*, and *Protea dracomontana* all in flower. *Satyrium neglectum* and *Moraea inclinata* bloomed and *Helichrysum rugulosum* continued that speciose genus. This was quite a day for orchids, and at this same site were *Corycium dracomontanum*, *Eulophia zeyheriana*, and *Habenaria laevigata*. Here too were *Gunnera perpensa*, *Athrixia angustissima*, *Jamesbrittenia breviflora*, *Lobelia flaccida*, and *Lotononis lotononoides*.

We reached the South African border post where departure formalities were straightforward. The showy *Anisodontea julii* was here, as well as *Geranium pulchrum*, *Diascia cordata*, *Diascia integerrima*, *Felicia filifolia*, and *Clematis brachiata*. Garden Acraeas were on the wing.

At the next stop a roadside cutting had *Bupleurum mundii*, *Asparagus asparagoides*, *Euryops tysonii*, *Myosotis semiamplexicaulis*, and *Asparagus ramosissimus*. *Gladiolus flanaganii*, named the Suicide Lily because of the usual innacessibility of its chosen habitat, flowered on cliffs above and was viewed in the telescope.

The lovely Mountain Pride, such a charismatic butterfy, was admired. The endemic Barratt's Warbler was seen. New plants kept coming, with *Sutera floribunda*, *Wahlenbergia cuspidata*, *Jamesbrittenia pristisepala*, *Indigofera dimidiata*, *Helichrysum trilineatum*, *Holothrix incurva*, *Disa cephalotes*, and the pineapple lilies *Eucomis bicolor* and *Eucomis schiffi*.

Glumicalyx nutans represented an endemic genus, and we would see four of its six species on this tour. A streamside stop had fine Helichrysum montanum, Cyrtanthus epiphyticus in fine flower, Polygala ohlendorfiana, Trifolium burchellianum, and Lotononis galpinii. Dierama dracomontanum was in numerous flower on one slope. Cliffortia nitidula pilosa was locally dominant, Leucosidea sericea formed scrub, and Xerophyta viscosa was in flower. Chacma Baboons were much in evidence, Sentinel Rock Thrush was seen, and Cape Vultures were in the air.

There were fine views from the lunch site, where a superb picnic was provided by Stuart. In flower here were *Lotononis sericophylla*, *Cysticapnos pruinosa*, *Lessertia perennans*, *Lithospermum papillosum*, *Cerastium arabidis*, and *Cycnium racemosum*.

Euryops evansii became a feature, and Holothrix incurva was in fine flower. Grey Rhebok grazed on the slopes below. Glumicalyx goseloides was the second species of the genus, and there was Geranium multisectum.

Cineraria dieterlenii was in flower, and the variety continued with Hebenstretia cooperi and Hebenstretia dura. Among many other plants here were Kniphofia ritualis, Wahlenbergia krebsii, Crassula dependens, Crassula peploides, Erica thodei, Euphorbia epicyparissias, Sutherlandia montana, Geranium wakkerstroomianum, Papaver aculeatum, Sopubia cana, Sutera floribunda, Pentzia cooperi, and Ursinia montana.

There was a great diversity of *Helichrysum*, and species not already mentioned were *Helichrysum* acutatum, *Helichrysum* auriceps, and *Helichrysum* pagophyllum. Senecio also featured, with weedy

Senecio inaequidens, pink flowered Senecio macrocephalus, large yellow-flowered Senecio macrospermus, and Senecio seminiveus.

Orchids continued with *Disa stricta* and the endemic *Dracomonticola virginea* gone over. *Hesperantha baurii*, *Crassula setulosa*, and *Dianthus basuticus* were seen.

Reaching the Lesotho border post the road became instantly excellent, fully paved in Lesotho, the road we had been driving up all morning being famously a challenge and still very rough, although this is being steadily 'improved', which will surely have an effect on the flora. As usual here were close views of Sloggett's Ice Rats, a fascinating mammal. *Limosella vesiculosa* and *Limosella longiflora* flowered in wet flushes. We checked in to the characterful hotel. What an amazing location.

At 16:30 we set out on foot. *Kniphofia caulescens* was prominent around the rooms. An alien *Myosotis* flowered in the short turf. We explored the rock sheets near the hotel where were vast numbers of *Rhodohypoxis baurii* in flower. Mats of *Lobelia galpinii* were in attractive bloom, and there was the related *Wahlenbergia polytrichifolia dracomontana*. Also here were *Erica alopecuros*, *Eumorphia sericea*, *Trifolium burchellianum*, *Ranunculus multifidus*, and *Helichrysum milfordiae*.

Here too were *Selago galpinii*, *Helichrysum milfordiae*, *Euphorbia clavarioides*, and *Berkheya cirsiifolia*. Birds typical of the habitat were Sickle-winged Chat, Brown-throated Martin, Speckled Pigeons, endemic Drakensberg Siskins, Mountain Pipit, and African Pipit. *Romulea thodei* was a great find and *Albuca humilis* and *Rhodohypoxis rubella* were new for the tour, the latter subtly distinctive among the numerous *R.baurii*. *Craterocapsa congesta* and *Scabiosa columbaria* continued the variety. *Glumicalyx lesuticus* was a highlight, new for the tour, the third species today of this endemic genus. The satyrid Machacha Brown flew over the rock sheets.

We enjoyed a good dinner and good wine in the 'highest pub in Africa'. Several moths were attracted to the lodge lights.

Day 5 Sunday 15th January Sani Pass, Himeville

We awoke to the beautiful scenery of Sani Top. There was much bird activity around the lodge, with Cape Canary, Red-winged Starlings, fine Malachite Sunbirds on the *Kniphofia caulescens*, Speckled Pigeons, and Drakensberg Siskins seen very well. Sloggett's Ice Rats were just outside our rooms. Ground Woodpecker was a highlight, seen very closely.

After breakfast (slow but good) we checked out of our characterful rondavel rooms. Grey Tit and Mountain Wheatear were seen near the hotel. We drove further into Lesotho, making several stops, seeing *Sutera patriotica*, *Selago galpinii*, *Euphorbia clavarioides*, and white flowered *Berkheya cirsiifolia*. Male Drakensberg Crag Lizard was here. In the air were Alpine Swifts and African Black Swifts and we saw displaying Mountain Pipit. The clouded yellow *Colias electo* flew over the wide open pasture.

Dierama robustum was in fine flower and we saw Nemesia caerulea. The endemic Southern Bald Ibis was on the open terrain, giving its name to the nearby town. A site with wet flushes was a highlight. Here were Cotula paludosa, Felicia uliginosa, Helichrysum tenuifolium, Berkheya multijuga, Romulea macowanii, and Gnapthalium limicola. The satyrid Dark Speckled Widow flew over the slopes. Turning our attention to amphibians we made three great finds, the characterful Maluti River Frog, Drakensberg River Frog, and Clawed Toad all in the streamlets. Lammergeier soared.

At another site were many *Massonia echinata*, all in fruit, and we saw the 'pyjama flower' *Androcymbium striatum*. Here I found one of the highlights of the tour. We'd been talking about the night flowering moth pollinated *Zaluzianskya rubrostellata*. Difficult to find, it usually involves a night search with a torch. But looking carefully at the sparse vegetation here, it suddenly struck me that I was looking at the distinctly closed flowers of this fine species. I carefully opened one flower and called everyone to look. Stuart and Mondli were especially impressed as they know how hard this plant is to find. In the end I found a total of four. This will of course be a regular stop on the tour from now on!

Limosella inflata and *Aponogeton junceus* were in wet flushes, Red-capped Lark with young was seen closely, Sickle-winged Chat was here, and the dragonfly Nomad was seen.

Having stopped again at the Lesotho border post, back in South Africa we saw fine examples of two species of *Glumicalyx* again, *goseloides* and *nutans*, and *Helichrysum sessiloides* and *Eragrostis curvula*. The skipper Grassland Sylph was here.

Female Drakensberg Rockjumper was a highlight, that most special of endemics, and we then had fine views of a pair and Einar was able to get photos. African Rock Pipit was heard, and then seen by Mondli.

Making our way slowly down from the pass we made a series of stops, seeing amongst many things *Gladiolus dalenii*, *Nemesia rupicola*, *Cynoglossum austro-africanum*, *Lessertia perennans*, *Lotononis laxa*, *Harveya pulchra*, and *Zaluzianskya pulvinata*. The very local endemic *Macowania hamata* was in flower. The endemic Gurney's Sugarbird fed on *Protea subvestita*. Rock Agama basked. Birds continued with Red-collared Widowbird, Cape Grassbird, Cape White-eye, and Malachite Sunbird. Barratt's Warbler flew across the road from bush to bush. Another highlight was watching a young Red-chested Cuckoo being fed by a Cape Robin Chat.

We ate lunch in a shaded spot beside a stream in the grounds of a currently empty property. Half-collared Kingfisher was heard and *Duchesnea indica* was naturalised here.

Near the village of Himeville we found the orchid *Habenaria clavata* in fine form, as well as *Satyrium longicauda* and *Satyrium cristatum*. The distinctive sedge *Cyperus sphaerocephalus* had striking golden yellow flowers. Also here were *Psammotropha mucronata*, *Kniphofia laxiflora*, *Eucomis autumnalis*, *Helichrysum cephaloideum*, Southern Anteating Chat, and Common Waxbill. Common River Frog continued a good day for amphibians.

A few kilometres away a marsh usually has striking *Satyrium hallacki* in flower, often a hundred or so impressive spikes, but today was only one, but at least there was that. Another site had another impressive orchid, *Orthochilus welwitschii*, as well as *Asclepias macropus*, *Gomphocarpus fruticosus*, and *Nerine appendiculata* in perfect bloom.

Back at the lodge it was farewell to Stuart and Mondli after two great days in the field. All restaurants in town were closed tonight so I had to drive us to the Himeville Arms for an interesting dinner, us the only customers!

Day 6 Monday 16th January To Giant's Castle via Kamberg

We left Underberg after another excellent breakfast, and set off on an interesting scenic drive, initially to the north, and via a series of minor roads skirting the lower mountains. The weather continued fine.

Sprawling settlements and expansive vistas were later replaced by farmland. As on most of our journeys, Yellow-crowned, Southern Red, and Yellow Bishops, and Fan-tailed, Red-collared, and Long-tailed Widowbirds, all in breeding plumage, punctuated the drive. African Paradise Flycatcher was seen as we drove through a patch of forest.

This minor route was an adventurous drive, and for much of the morning, once past the several sprawling settlements, we were in remote countryside, seeing few other vehicles.

At the first stop were fine views and the orchid *Disperis renibractea*. Next we stopped to admire *Watsonia lepida*, finding also *Satyrium parviflorum*.

Beautiful *Hesperantha coccinea* flowered at a streamside, followed by beautiful *Brunsvigia undulata*, and *Nidorella undulata*. Two Diederic Cuckoos were seen well. We had great views of several Southern Bald Ibis, among cattle. African Black Duck battled against a rushing river, behaving like the South American Torrent Duck! Malachite Kingfisher was at the water's edge, and Grey Crowned Cranes in the grassland.

Now in the Kamberg reserve, many impressive tall pink flowered *Dierama latifolium* bloomed in the extensive grassland. There were more fine *Brunsvigia undulata*. Here we also found *Monsonia attenuata*, *Disa chrysostachya*, *Disa versicolor*, and *Kniphofia laxiflora*. Red-winged Francolins were on the road, and Black Wildebeest grazed. We saw another Secretarybird.

A stop was prompted by three Wattled Cranes, a special bird, a threatened species. Blacksmith Plover was seen. Nearing our destination I spotted some striking *Brunsvigia radulosa* which we stopped to admire.

We arrived late afternoon at Giant's Castle, in the central part of Maloti Drakensberg Park World Heritage Site. We settled into the fine spacious rooms which afforded superb views.

The gardens supported a great variety including *Greyia sutherlandii*, *Dais cotinifolia*, *Melianthus villosus*, *Bowkeria verticillata*, *Halleria lucida*, *Diospyros whyteana*, and Southern Shell-flower. *Dryopteris inaequalis* and *Adiantum poiretii* were added to the fern list. The bamboo *Thamnocalamus tessellatus* was a feature. In flower were *Plectranthus grallatus*, *Crassula vaginata*, and *Geranium wakkerstroemianum*.

We enjoyed dinner in the restaurant.

Day 7 Tuesday 17th January

Giant's Castle

A fascinating and eventful day, the perfect weather still with us.

After breakfast we set out on foot across the grasslands, towards afromontane forest where caves boast impressive San rock art. The first of many *Acraea horta*, and Common Dotted Border were on the wing. The endemic Bush Blackcap was seen closely near the rooms. Orchids began with *Disperis fanniniae*.

The walk took us through extensive open grassland, the river below us, and dramatic scenery all around. *Disa patula* was added to the orchid list, and *Haplocarpha scaposa*, a composite with basal rosettes, was a feature. Among ferns were *Mohria vestita* and *Pleopeltis macrocarpa*. In flower were *Polygala gracilenta*, *Helichrysum acutatum*, *Oxalis depressa*, and *Stachys aethiopica*. The parasitic

Harveya speciosa was impressive. New plants came thick and fast and included Diclis reptans, Lobelia vanreenensis, Erica albospicata, Passerina montana, Valeriana capensis, Rhoicissus tridentata, Argyrolobium marginatum, Rhynchosia cooperi, Gnidia polyantha, Aster bakerianus, Helichrysum krookii, Berkheya rhapontica, Senecio discolor, Erica aestiva, Selago monticola, Chlorophytum acutum, and Inulanthera thodei. A family of Cape Rock Thrushes was on a boulder. Rainforest Brown was at the forest edge and a mating pair of the moth Syntomis kuhlweinii was on a tree trunk.

The habitat changed dramatically as we reached the afromontane forest further up the valley, where calls of Red-chested Cuckoo became a feature. Rapanea melanophloeas, Olinia emarginata, and Diospyros austro-africana were characteristic of the habitat. The orchid Stenoglottis fimbriata flowered on shady boulders, with Peperomia retusa, and Albuca fastigiata in attractive flower. Along the forest path were many fine Streptocarpus gardenii. Pteris cretica was among the ferns, Stachys grandifolia was common, and Euclea crispa, Lithospermum afromontanum, Polygala confusa and Satureja reptans continued the variety. Attractive Xerophyta viscosa was in flower.

We had timed our walk well, and once we'd reached our destination did not have to wait long at the cave entrance for the guide to appear for the next tour (they start on the hour). The group had an informative tour of the cave and its San rock art whilst I caught up on notes, seeing Red-chested Cuckoo and Cape Batis whilst I waited. Black Cuckoo called. Plants continued with *Thalictrum rhynchocarpum*, *Leonotis dubia*, *Impatiens hochstetteri*, *Cynoglossum austro-africanum*, and *Chlorophytum krookianum*. Parsley-tree, *Heteromorpha arborescens*, had distinctive peeling bark. The swallowtail *Papilio echerioides* and the danaid *Amauris echeria* flew in the forest.

Returning to open grassland we saw *Schizoglossum atropurpureum*, *Hermannia woodii*, *Corycium dracomontanum*, and *Vernonia hirsuta*. A black and red foam grasshopper was very impressive. From the streamside path we saw Water Bronze, and *Gomphostigma virgatum*. Near the river *Calpurnia sericea* became dominant, and *Satureja compacta* was in flower. Cape Grassbird sang. Einar took a swim in the river. *Habenaria tysonii* was in flower. The skipper *Kedestes wallengrenii* was an important find.

Near the lodge the satyrid Bush Beauty or Forest Beauty, *Paralethe dendrophilus*, was admired. We enjoyed a welcome lunch, and had a break before heading out again.

Later in the afternoon we drove the entrance road making several short stops. We viewed the endemic *Widdringtonia nodiflora*, Mountain Cypress, from a distance, the river between us and it. At the riverside grew *Salix mucronata* and *Senecio hygrophilus*. Nearby *Xysmalobium undulatum* had very large fruits.

Day 8 Wednesday 18th January Spionkop, to Golden Gate

Fiscal Flycatcher was near the rooms. Having loaded the vehicle we left Giant's Castle in very fine weather. A pleasant varied drive as again we took minor roads. Low cliffs had fine *Galtonia candicans* in flower, and in wet flushes was *Hesperantha coccinea*. We joined the N3 and made a service station stop.

Spionkop Dam Nature Reserve was ideally situated for a stop in the middle of the day. Above the reservoir rises Spion Kop, the site of the famous battle in 1890.

A circuitous track took us through savannah grassland, the drive punctuated by mammal sightings, with Impala, Burchell's Zebra, Blesbok, Eland, Kudu, and Tsessebe all here. Shelley's Francolins were seen well. Few other visitors here today, the track had not been driven for a while, and we regularly had to stop and break the spiny acacia branches to allow us to continue without scratching the vehicle.

Hypoxis hemerocallidea was in flower, Yellow Mongoose ran across the veld, Yellow Pansy was on the wing, Rufous-naped Lark sang from atop trees, and we saw Jacobin Cuckoo. There were several large orthopterans here, and we managed to catch up with one for a closer look.

Back on the road, now in Free State, we stopped to stretch our legs. A couple of guys were selling attractive little animal models and most of us bought one or too. Mid afternoon we arrived in the spectacular scenery of Golden Gate National Park and its impressive sandstone formations. The park is named for the colours given to the rocks when sunlit. These fine sandstone cliffs are interspersed with open grassland, where Blesbok and Burchell's Zebra grazed.

Having checked into our comfortable lodge, there was time for a late afternoon walk in the fine habitat all around us, where Eland grazed.

Day 9 Thursday 19th January

Golden Gate National Park

A superb day was spent in Golden Gate National Park.

A pre-breakfast walk around the hotel yielded the highlight Red-throated Wryneck.

The morning saw us driving a circuitous road that took us to quiet parts of the park away from the main road that traverses it. At the first stop were *Lotononis laxa*, *Trachyandra saltii*, *Crassula sarcocaulis*, *Helichrysum auriceps*, *Helichrysum aureonitens*, and *Felicia muricata*.

In marshy grassland was fine *Gladiolus papilio*, and *Hibiscus trionum*, *Epilobium capense*, *Pelargonium luridum*, and *Erica frigida*. A mantid was a good find. By a small dam was fine *Cycnium racemosum*, and *Sebaea sedoides* and *Hermannia gerardii* in flower. Red-knobbed Coot and Yellow-billed Duck were on the water.

We saw several lone territorial adult bull Black Wildebeest today. These bulls hold their territories all year, in the breeding season herding females onto their territories.

Walking up a hillside trail we found *Helichrysum chionosphaerum*, *Helichrysum herbaceum*, *Gladiolus crassifolius*, *Felicia muricata*, *Pellaea calomelanos*, *Haplocarpha scaposa*, *Cotyledon orbiculata*, *Cynoglossum austro-africanum*, *Striga bilabiata*, *Selago flanaganii*, *Delosperma hirtum*, *Polygala hispida*, and *Vernonia natalensis*. The satyrids False Silver-bottom Brown and Vari's Brown were on the wing and a red-winged grasshopper was seen.

We returned to the hotel for lunch. In the afternoon a different circuitous drive saw us again making several short stops. The attractive umbellifer *Alepidea amatymbica*, fine *Nemesia caerulea*, *Ajuga ophridis*, *Disa versicolor*, and *Pelargonium alchemilloides* were seen. A beautiful little blue frilly milkwort was probably *Polygala amatymbica*, the Dwarf Milkwort. An unusual composite, gone over, but with distinctive leathery greyish clasping leaves, was *Aster perfoliatus*. The variety continued with *Berkheya speciosa*, *Xerophyta viscosa*, *Lotononis eriantha*, *Cyphia ?oblongifolia*, *Albuca shawii*, *Habenaria dives*, and *Dierama cooperi*, this a new species for the tour.

We walked to a hide where food is put out to attract vultures. Only bones today, but a bonus was a Black-backed Jackal. *Jamesbrittenia aurantiaca* was in flower.

Other birds today included Batelaur, Horus Swift, White-rumped Swift, and Common Scimitarbill.

Day 10 Friday 20th January Golden Gate, Clarens, to Witsieshoek

After breakfast we walked the cave circuit from the hotel, the weather fine. Red-eyed Bulbuls fed on berries near the hotel.

A herd of Eland grazed and we again saw Black Wildebeest. Ground Woodpecker perched on a bare tree. Plants included *Commelina africana*, *Pelargonium luridum*, *Helichrysum tenax*, *Indigofera longebarbata* (new for the tour), *Cynoglossum spelaeum*, and a white flowered *Hermannia* was possibly *Hermannia geniculata*.

Rock Martins were in the air. Garden Acraea nectared on agapanthus, Pirate landed on the path, and Meadow White was on the wing. The fern *Pleopeltis polypodioides ecklonii* was identified and *Galtonia regalis* was in fine flower on the cliffs. At the cave an exciting wooden ladder took us up and across a rock face. *Clematis brachiata* was in flower, *Selaginella mittenii* grew on the rocks, *Xerophyta viscosa* was in fine flower, and the deep purple flowered *Pelargonium sidoides* was added to the list.

Species seen at Golden Gate but not already mentioned included the attractive campanula *Monopsis decipiens*, fringed *Dianthus basuticus*, red *Crassula alba*, *Euphorbia striata*, *Indigofera hedyantha*, *Gnidia caffra*, white *Ajuga ophrydis*, and pink *Oxalis obliquifolia*.

Checking out of the lodge we drove through the park, then the sprawling settlement of Phuthaditjhaba. South of there we climbed slowly, and eventually reached fine habitat and the beautifully situated lodge at Witsieshoek, where the rooms afforded fine views of the Sentinel. We checked in and had lunch.

In the afternoon we walked from the rooms across fine grassland, full of flowers. *Moraea inclinata* was numerous, *Ornithogalum graminifolium*, *Craterocapsa tarsodes*, *Helichrysum krookii*, *Rhodohypoxis baurii*, a spiked species of *Alepidea*, and *Heliophila rigidiuscula* were all here. Among orchids were *Habenaria dives*, *Corycium nigrescens*, and *Satyrium longicauda*. There were amazing numbers of *Eucomis bicolor* and *Eucomis autumnalis*. The variety continued with *Sopubia cana*, *Linum thunbergii*, *Afrotysonia glochidiata*, and *Bupleurum mundii*. An amazing floral show. I was pleased to find the very unusual *Diascia purpurea* with its nodding flowers, and *Manulea crassifolia* was in flower. Levaillant's Cisticola sang.

Dinner was eaten at the lodge.

Day 11 Saturday 21st January

Witsieshoek

Our full day at Witsieshoek was one of the best of the tour, and we saw a wealth of things. There were fine views of The Sentinel (3165m) under blue skies, and a rough track took us several kilometres nearer in the lodge's vehicle. In the past we've driven to the upper car park in our vehicles, but the track has become very rutted and uneven, and it would have been impossible this year. There was

room for everyone in the 'comfortable' seats, but I had to ride in the back, and my was that a bumpy ride! Mountain Pride landed on the track, and several of this impressive butterfly were seen today.

Setting out on foot we enjoyed a superbly productive walk. Immediately we were seeing Kniphofia thodei, Crocosmia pearsii, Schizochilus angustifolius, Lobelia preslii, Sebaea thomasii, Hirpicium armerioides, Geranium magniflorum, fine Xerophyta viscosa, and Cycnium racemosum. Among orchids were Disperis tysonii, and Satyrium parviflorum. Glumicalyx montanus was the fourth species of the endemic genus we saw. Plants continued with Crassula sarcocaulis rupicola, Crassula setulosa, Indigofera dimidiata, and Berkheya rosulata. Beautiful Dimorphotheca jucunda was in flower. Drakensberg Crag Lizards were numerous and active in the sunshine.

The genus *Helichrysum* really featured here, with many species, among them *Helichrysum* marginatum, *Helichrysum* chionosphaerum, *Helichrysum* dasycephalum, *Helichrysum* lineatum, *Helichrysum* flanaganii, *Helichrysum* herbaceum, and *Helichrysum* spiralepis. Indeed we saw some forty species of the genus during the tour.

Plants continued with Wahlenbergia cuspidata, a branched Alepidea, Osteospermum thodei, Cotula hispida, Disa fragrans, Dierama dracomontanum, and Crassula dependens. A lone Ranunculus baurii was in flower. A Long-tongued Fly was a good find.

Albuca polyphylla was in flower, and a pleasing find was the fern Woodsia burgesiana. There was fine Romulea thodei, Moraea trifida, Nemesia rupicola, and Bulbine abyssinica. False Silver-bottom Brown was on the wing. Many Galtonia regalis flowered on a cliff, very robust Urginea macrocentra, poison snake head, was in fruit, and Diascia purpurea was seen again. Eucomis bicolor was in impressive flower.

A great find was *Wurmbea elatior*, new for the tour, and we saw several. A trip highlight was fine yellow flowered *Cyrtanthus flanaganii* also new for the tour. Special plants just kept coming, with *Brownlaea macroceras* and *Disperis tysonii* continuing the orchids. Drakensberg Rockjumper was seen superbly well. Eastern Hillside Brown and Grassland Sylph were on the wing.

At the furthest point of our walk the reward was a superb show of many flowering *Nerine bowdenii*, which had been a new species for the tour on our last visit. The diminutive white flowered monocot *Litanthus pusillus* was another great find as was *Alepidea amatymbica*. Two Verreaux's Eagles soared.

Rock Hyrax cavourted on boulders. The amazing floral variety continued with Osteopsermum thodei, Senecio glaberrimus, Senecio rhomboideus, Cyphia elata, Lobelia flaccida, Aristea woodii, Gladiolus ecklonii, Hesperantha baurii, Erica woodii, Athrixia fontana, Berkheya multijuga, Bupleurum mundii, Rabdosiella calycinus, Linum thunbergii, Polygala rhinostigma, and Phylica thodei. The genus Lotononis was well represented with Lotononis eriantha, Lotononis laxa, Lotononis lotonoides, Lotononis pulchella, and Lotononis pulchra.

Back in the car park we waited for our transport. Everyone else again in the front seats, on the return drive I shared the back with an Ethiopian girl and her guide.

Lunch was at the hotel. In the afternoon we explored further on foot. Notable things seen were *Habenaria dives*, *Kniphofia thodei*, *Alchemilla woodii*, *Xysmalobium stockenstromense*, and *Disperis cardiophora*.

Also seen at Witsieshoek were Crassula pellucida, Crassula vaginata, Cephalaria galpiniana simplicior, Cephalaria oblongifolia, Corycium dracomontanum, Corycium nigrescens, and Disperis wealii.

I paid one of the hotel staff to wash the car whilst we were in the field, in preparation for returning it tomorrow.

At dinner were speeches as we reflected on a very productive and enjoyable tour.

Day 12 Saturday 2nd January To Johannesburg, Departure

There was time for packing or a last walk from the lodge before we departed mid-morning. Striped Skinks were active around the lodge. It was a five hour drive to Johannesburg, the journey taking us back to Phuthaditjhaba, then Harrismith, where we joined the N3 which we motored along all the way north. We ate our packed lunch at a service station, at tables beside a petting zoo! Hamerkop and Southern Masked Weaver were here.

From the vehicle we saw *Aloe greatheadii* var.davyana in flower.

We arrived at Johannesburg airport in good time. Purple Heron was seen as we approached the city. Our flight was punctual and we arrived at Heathrow the following morning, going our separate ways from there, me taking a flight to Bogota the following day for what was to be a superb tour in Colombia.

Drakensberg Systematic Lists 2023

Compiled by Paul Cardy

The Itinerary

10th January. Departure London.

Day 1. 11th January. Arrival Johannesburg. Flight to Durban. To Port Edward.

Day 2. 12th January. Port Edward. Umtamvuna.

Day 3. 13th January. Red Desert. To Underberg.

Day 4. 14th January. Sani Pass. Lesotho.

Day 5. 15th January. Sani Pass. Himeville.

Day 6. 16th January. To Giant's Castle via Kamberg.

Day 7. 17th January. Giant's Castle.

Day 8. 18th January. To Golden Gate via Spionkop.

Day 9. 19th January. Golden Gate.

Day 10. 20th January. Golden Gate. To Witsieshoek.

Day 11. 21st January. Witsieshoek.

Day 12. 22nd January. Witsieshoek to Johannesburg. Departure.

23rd January. Arrival London.

Systematic List Number 1

Plants

For families likely to be unfamiliar to European botanists I have given a few defining characteristics. As an aide memoire I have usually given a few species characters too, which with locality information may help to identify photographs. Of course comments under each species are of necessity brief, and a character given for one species does not mean it is not shown by others in the list! The list should be used in conjunction with the relevant books.

Many books were used in the field, and later in compiling the list. The three books useful above all others were 'Mountain Flowers' by Elsa Pooley, 2003; 'A Field Guide to the Wild Flowers of Kwazulu-Natal' by Elsa Pooley, 2nd impression 2005; and 'Trees of Eastern South Africa. A Complete Guide' by Richard Boon, Second Edition 2012.

Many monographs were also used, such as 'Gladiolus in Southern Africa' by Goldblatt and Manning, and 'The Moraeas of Southern Africa' by Goldblatt.

Species recorded in previous years but not this year are annotated with the year in which they were last seen. A large number of species were added to the list this year and are annotated 2023. Species with no year annotation were of course also seen this year.

Pteridophytes

'Ferns of Southern Africa, a Comprehensive Guide' by Crouch et al., Struick 2011, is the standard work.

Anemiaceae

Mohria nudiuscula

Mohria rigida Sani, Giant's Castle, Witsieshoek.

Mohria vestita Giant's Castle.

Aspleniaceae

Asplenium aethiopicum African Spleenwort. Giant's Castle, Sani.

Asplenium splendens drakensbergense Sani.

Asplenium stoloniferum Giant's Castle, forest floor.

Asplenium trichomanes Maidenhair Spleenwort. Witsieshoek, Giant's Castle.

Cyathaceae

Cyathea dregei Common Tree Fern. Sani and Giant's Castle.

Dennstaedtiaceae

Pteridium aquilinum Bracken. Widespread and common.

Dryopteridaceae

Dryopteris athamantica Giant's Castle.

Dryopteris inaequalis Lop-lobed Wood-fern. Giant's Castle.

Dryopteris pentheri Ntsikeni 2018. Polystichum monticola Golden Gate.

Elaphoglossaceae

Elaphoglossum acrostichoides Umtamvuna.

Gleicheniaceae

Gleichenia polypodioides Umtamvuna 2019.

Lycopodiaceae

Lycopodiella cernua Umtamvuna 2019. Lycopodium clavatum Giant's Castle 2019. Nephrolepidaceae

Nephrolepis cordifolia Naturalised in the Port Edward area.

Osmundaceae

Todea barbara Umtamvuna 2019.

Polypodiaceae

Pleopeltis macrocarpa Scaly Lance-fern. Giant's Castle.
Pleopeltis polypodioides ssp.ecklonii Golden Gate and Witsieshoek.

Pteridaceae

Adiantum capillus-veneris Maidenhair Fern. Golden Gate 2019. Adiantum poiretii Fine Maidenhair Fern. Giant's Castle.

Cheilanthes eckloniana Resurrection Fern. Sani, Golden Gate, Witsieshoek.

Cheilanthes hirta Giant's Castle forest.

Cheilanthes quadripinnata Four-pinnate Lip-fern. Sani, Lesotho, Giant's Castle, Witsieshoek.

Cheilanthes viridis glauca Widespread, variable.

Pellaea calomelanos Blue Rock Fern. Umtamvuna, Spionkop, Giant's Castle, Golden

Gate, and Witsieshoek.

Pteris cretica Avery Fern. Giant's Castle, 2018.

Schizaeaceae

Schizaea pectinata Port Edward area, new in 2023.

Selaginellaceae

Selaginella dregei Grey, mat-forming and moss-like. Port Edward.

Selaginella mitteniiPort Edward and Golden Gate.Selaginella nubigenaFish-scale Clubmoss. Giant's Castle.

Thelypteridaceae

Cyclosorus interruptus Marsh near Port Edward.

Woodsiaceae

Cystopteris fragilis Sani.

Woodsia burgessiana Witsieshoek.

Gymnosperms

Cupressaceae

Widdringtonia nodiflora Mountain Cypress. Giant's Castle, locally dominant on one slope.

Pinaceae

Pinus elliottii Slash Pine.

Pinus patula

Podocarpaceae

Podocarpus latifolius Broad-leaved Yellowwood. Giant's Castle, Sani.

Stangeriaceae

Stangeria eriopus Stangeria. Umtamvuna.

Zamiaceae

Encephalartos ghellinckii Drakensberg Cycad. Umtamvuna.

Angiosperms

Palaeodicotyledons

Lauraceae

Cassytha pondoensis Port Edward.

Cryptocarya wyliei Red Wild-quince. Red Desert.

Piperaceae

Peperomia retusa Flowers in thread-like terminal spikes. On boulders at Giant's Castle.

Monocotyledons

Agapanthaceae

Agapanthus campanulatus Bell Agapanthus. Widespread.

Alliaceae

Tulbaghia acutiloba Wild Garlic. Green flowers, corona orange-brown. Umtamvuna.

Amaryllidaceae

'The Amaryllidaceae of Southern Africa' by Duncan, Jeppe, and Voigt, Umdaus Press, is the standard work.

Boophone disticha Fan-leaved Boophone. Fans of leaves, Free State, 2019.

Brunsvigia grandiflora Giant Candelabra Flower. Strap shaped erect leaves. Port Edward, in

flower 2019, gone over in 2023.

Brunsvigia natalensis Natal Candelabra Flower. In leaf and fruit at Witsieshoek.

Brunsvigia radulosa Thick leaves flattened on the ground. Giant's Castle, Golden Gate,

Witsieshoek.

Brunsvigia undulata Leaf margings wavy. In fine flower en route to Giant's Castle.

Clivia gardenii In leaf Port Edward.

Cyrtanthus epiphyticus Hanging Cyrtanthus. Sani, in fine flower.

Cyrtanthus flanaganii One in fine flower at Witsieshoek, a pleasing addition to the list in

2023.

Haemanthus humilis hirsutus In fruit at Sani.

Nerine appendiculata Leaves deeply channelled. 10-20 flowers. Stamens with conspicuous

white

appendages at base. Himeville.

Nerine bowdenii Large Pink Nerine. In flower on Witsieshoek cliffs.

Scadoxus puniceus In fruit at Giant's Castle.

Anthericaceae

Chlorophytum has linear leaves in a basal rosette. Pedicels jointed. Capsule prominently three angled.

Chlorophytum acutum Giant's Castle 2023.

Chlorophytum krookianum Giant Chlorophytum. Up to 2m tall. White flowers. Giant's Castle.

Aponogetonaceae

Aponogeton junceus Lesotho.

Araceae

Zantedeschia aethiopica Calla Lily. Evergreen. Widespread.

Zantedeschia albomaculata Arrow-leaved Arum. Deciduous. Leaves arrow-shaped with or

without

white spots. Scattered records.

Arecaceae

Phoenix reclinata Wild Date Palm.

Asparagaceae

Asparagus asparagoides Cladodes ovate. Sani and Giant's Castle.

Asparagus cooperi Cladodes threadlike. Sani.

Asparagus microraphis Cloadodes small, cylindrical, in dense clusters. Sani.

Asparagus ramosissimus Cladodes in threes, flat above, keeled below. Sani and Giant's Castle.

Asparagus setaceus Cladodes in round clusters, soft and shiny. Umtamvuna.

Asparagus sprengeri Port Edward.

Asparagus spp. Others unidentified.

Asphodelaceae

Aloe arborescens Port Edward area.

Aloe barberae Eastern Tree Aloe.

Aloe boylei Broad leaves. Golden Gate and Witsieshoek, in fruit.

Aloe greatheadii var.davyana Robust. Seen from the vehicle as we drove to Johannesburg.

Aloe maculata Common Soap Aloe. Scattered in leaf, e.g. Port Edward.

Bulbine are usually yellow flowered, with densely bearded filaments. Fleshy basal leaves.

Bulbine abyssinica Witsieshoek.

Bulbine asphodeloidesSpreading Bulbine. Port Edward.Bulbine favosaPale yellow flowers. Golden Gate 2019.

Bulbine narcissifolia Strap-leaved Bulbine. Leaves flat, hard, grey-green. Lesotho 2019.

Bulbine sp.nov. Umtamvuna.

Caesia contorta Blue flowers. Umtamvuna 2018.

Kniphofia caulescens Lesotho Red-hot Poker. Robust. Leaves 25 to 50mm wide, glaucous,

fleshy,

v-shaped, margings finely toothed. Stamens protruding. Numerous in

Lesotho.

Kniphofia evansii Evan's Poker. Grasslike leaves, orange to red flowers spreading to

hanging. Golden Gate, small examples. 2019.

Kniphofia fluviatilis River Poker. Probably this at Witsieshoek.

Kniphofia ichopensis Ixopo Red-hot Poker. Robust. Flowers cream, yellow-green, to salmon-

pink. Sani 2019.

Kniphofia laxiflora Slender Poker. Up to 1m. Leaves 6-10mm wide. Inflorescence elongate.

Very variable. Day 5 lunch, and Kamberg.

Kniphofia linearifolia Common Marsh Poker. Robust, leaves 12-28mm wide, yellow-green,

inflorescence large. Marshes at Sani and Giant's Castle.

Kniphofia ritualis Solitary. Leaves soft and deeply keeled. Flowers greenish-yellow.

Sani.

Kniphofia thodeiThode's Poker. Solitary. Leaves narrow, blue-green. Witsieshoek.Kniphofia triangularisMandarin Poker. Leaves grasslike. Witsieshoek and Golden Gate.

Trachyandra asperata Port Edward and Sani.
Trachyandra saltii Day 6 and Golden Gate.

Cannaceae

Canna indica Roadsides.

Colchicaceae

Androcymbium have petal like floral bracts that enclose the small flowers. Sometimes included in Colchicum.

Androcymbium striatum Pyjama Flower. Bracts white striped green. Several on plateau on

Lesotho side of Sani, not in flower.

Gloriosa superba Flame Lily. Munster coast, new in 2023.

Sandersonia aurantiaca Christmas Bells. Bright orange flowers with only tips of tepals free.

Sani.

Wurmbea elatior Several at Witsieshoek, new in 2023.

Wurmbea sp. Sani Top 2019.

Commelinaceae

Commelina africana Yellow Commelina. Flowers yellow. Scattered records.

Commelina erecta Flowers blue. Port Edward.

Cyanotis speciosa Stamens conspicuously hairy. Port Edward and Sani.

Cyperaceae

Sadly there has been little time to devote to sedges!

Ascolepis capensis Tufted perennial herb with heads of white flowers. Port Edward

2023.

Carex cognata Nodding Sedge. Lower Sani.

Carex zuluensis

Carex spp.A few others unidentified.Cyperus denudatusWinged Sedge. Port Edward.

Cyperus obtusiflorus Port Edward.

Cyperus prolifer Dwarf Papyrus. Port Edward.

Cyperus rupestris Russet Rock Sedge. Widespread, e.g. Port Edward.

Cyperus semitrifidus Scattered records.

Cyperus sphaerocephalus Yellow Sedge. Himeville, Giant's Castle, Golden Gate, etc. Locally

numerous.

Eleocharis sp. Day 3
Ischyrolepis schoenoides Sani.
Isoplepis sp. Sani

Kyllinga alba White Button Sedge. Durban area 2023 (PGC).

Mariscus congestus Port Edward etc.
Pycreus polystachyos Port Edward 2023.

Dioscoreaceae

Dioscorea brownii In fruit, Weza, 2019.

Dioscorea cotinifoliaThis species Port Edward area?Dioscorea dregeanaWild Yam. Umtamvuna.

Dioscorea rupicola Climber with lobed wavy margined leaves. Giant's Castle.

Dioscorea sylvatica Forest Elephant's Foot. Climber with heart-shaped leaves and a large

corky

tuber. Sani, Golden Gate, and Giant's Castle.

Dioscorea sp. Another species at Umtamvuna.

Dracaenaceae

Dracaena aletriformis Large-leaf Dragon-tree.

Eriocaulaceae

Eriocaulon dregei Water Pom-pom. Umtamvuna 2019.

Eriospermaceae

Eriospermum, Cottonseed, are geophytes, leaves and flowers produced at different seasons, leaves often

distinctive.

Eriospermum mackenii Yellow Fluffy-seed. In leaf at Umtamvuna.

Eriospermum spp. A few others seen in leaf.

Hyacinthaceae

Albuca are Ornithogalum like and sometimes included in that genus. They differ in erect inner tepals, with at

least the inner filaments pinched below.

Albuca fastigiata Large Spreading White Albuca. Giant's Castle.

Albuca humilis Flowers white, inner tepals tipped yellow. Sani Top 2023.

Albuca pachychlamys Tepals white with green median stripe. Sani.

Albuca polyphylla White flowers. Witsieshoek.

Albuca setosa Small White Albuca. In flower at Port Edward 2019.

Albuca shawii Small Yellow Albuca. Flowers nodding. Golden Gate NP, a few in fine

flower.

Albuca sp. Lesotho.

Eucomis autumnalis Common Pineapple Lily. Leaves with crisped margins. Very

widespread,

numerous at Witsieshoek.

Eucomis bicolorEucomis humilisLeaves purple spotted at base. Sani. Locally common at Witsieshoek.Eucomis humilisDwarf Pineapple Lily. Small bracts edged purple, stem spotted purple.

Sani and Golden Gate, 2019.

Eucomis schijffii Miniature Eucomis. Leaves prostrate, flowers purple. Sani.

Galtonia candicans Common Berg Lily. Leaves erect, flowers pure white. Near Giant's

Castle, a fine colony.

Galtonia regalis Royal Berg Lily. Leaves lax and spreading, teplas creamy white.

Golden Gate and many at Witsieshoek.

Ledebouria ovatifolia Purple spotted leaves flat on ground. Scattered in leaf.

Leaves with dark spots. In leaf at Port Edward.

Litanthus pusillus Very small with white flowers. On boulders at Witsieshoek and Golden

Gate.

Massonia echinata Many in fruit in Lesotho.

Massonia sp.nov. In fruit in Lesotho.

Ornithogalum graminifolium Dense spikes of white flowers, tepals with a green stripe. Witsieshoek

and Sani.

Scilla dracomontana Miniature Blue Scilla. In leaf and fruit at Sani and Giant's Castle.

Scilla kraussii Dwarf Scilla. Umtamvuna.

Scilla natalensis Large Blue Scilla. Widespread in leaf and fruit.

Scilla nervosa White Scilla. In flower at Port Edward, Sani, and Witsieshoek.

Urginea macrocentra Poison Snake-head. Up to 1.5m. Stem robust. Leaf solitary and

cylindrical. Sani and Witsieshoek, in fruit.

Hypoxidaceae

Hypoxis acuminataHypoxis argenteaLeaves in a spiral tuft, v-shaped, ribbed, with long hairs. Port Edward.Small Yellow Star-flower. Leaves narrow, v-shaped, covered in silky

yellowish hairs. Flowers small, in pairs. Golden Gate NP 2019.

Hypoxis colchicifolia Very robust. In fruit at Port Edward.

Hypoxis costata Broad ribbed hairy or hairless leaves. In fruit at Golden Gate.

Hypoxis filiformis Grass Star-flower. Leaves threadlike, u-shaped with fine white hairs.

Port Edward.

Hypoxis hemerocallidea Star-flower. Leaves in three ranks. In flower at Spionkop and Port

Edward.

Hypoxis iridifolia Leaves narrow, shiny, hairless, margins and keels with line of dense

white

hairs. In fruit Sani 2019.

Hypoxis parvula var.albiflora Delicate with solitary white flowers. Sani.

Hypoxis rigidula Silver-leaved Star-flower. Erect ribbed leaves covered in white hairs.

Ntsikeni 2018.

Rhodohypoxis baurii Red or White Star. Forms colourful carpets in grassland and on rocky

outcrops. Flowers red or white. Abundant on Lesotho side of Sani, and

also at Witsieshoek.

Rhodohypoxis rubella A few at two sites in Lesotho, new in 2023.

Iridaceae

Aristea have actinomorphic blue flowers.

Aristea abyssinica Blue-eyed Grass. Slender. Flowers in terminal cluster. Sani, Port

Edward, and Golden Gate. (Aristea cognata).

Aristea grandis Robust. Gone over at Giant's Castle.

Aristea torulosa Port Edward.

Aristea woodii Wood's Aristea. Leaves in basal fan, flowering stem not flattened.

Widespread, e.g. Witsieshoek and Sani.

Crocosmia aurea Falling Stars. Orange and red flowers with spreading tepals. Giant's

Castle,

not in flower.

Crocosmia paniculata Evergreen, in large clumps, tubular curved yellow-orange flowers.

Underberg area, fewer than usual.

Crocosmia pearsii Leaves pleated. Inflorescence held horizontally. Flowers hooded.

A few at Witsieshoek.

'Dierama, The Harebells of Africa', by Hilliard, Burtt, and Batten, 1991, is the standard work.

Dierama argyreum Flowers white to ivory. Ntsikeni 2018.

Dierama cooperi Golden Gate 2023.

Dierama dracomontanum Drakensberg Hairbell. Witsieshoek and Sani.

Dierama igneum Fairy Bell. Umtamvuna 2019.

Dierama latifolium Broad-leaved Hairbell. Abundant at Kamberg.

Dierama robustum Lesotho.

Gladiolus has leaves usually with a definate midrib, inflorescence a spike of usually zygomorphic flowers.

Gladiolus crassifolius Thick-leaved Gladiolus. Erect leaves with margins and veins heavily

thickened. Small mauve to pink flowers turned to one side. A few at

Witsieshoek and Golden Gate.

Gladiolus dalenii African Gladiolus. Large hooded flowers, variously coloured. Sani and

Himeville.

Gladiolus ecklonii Sheathed Gladiolus. Flowers 40 to 60mm greenish to silvery-white,

densely

speckled red-brown, grey, or mauve. Witsieshoek.

Gladiolus flanaganii Suicide Gladiolus. In flower at Sani, but not as approachable as in 2018! Gladiolus papilio

Butterfly Gladiolus. Nodding flowers, pale creamy yellow with large

purplish blotch on lower halves. A few at Golden Gate NP in fine

flower.

Hesperantha flowers usually actinomorphic, often opening late afternoon. Style divides at the mouth of the tube

into long filiform branches.

Hesperantha baurii 2 firm basal leaves, margins thickened, midrib and side veins raised.

Several at Witsieshoek, Umtamvuna, and Sani.

Scarlet River Lily. Large scarlet flowers. Some fine examples en route Hesperantha coccinea

to

Giant's Castle, and Kamberg, and at the Galtonia candicans site.

Moraea have either iris-like flowers with unequal tepals, or with all tepals more or less equal.

Moraea albicuspa Large white to cream flowers with yellow nectar guides. Inner tepals

Short and sharp pointed. Sani 2019.

Moraea alticola Robust. 1 still in flower Witsieshoek, 2018.

Moraea brevistyla Leaf solitary. Flowers small, outer tepals white to pale lilac-blue above,

grey to purple below, inner tepals, claws and nectar guides yellow.

Witsieshoek and Sani.

Moraea elliotii Blue Tulp. Solitary leaf. Blue-violet flowers with yellow-orange nectar

guides. Umtamvuna, in leaf.

Moraea inclinata Nodding Wild Moraea. Solitary leaf much longer than flowering stem.

Large blue flower on inclining stem. Sani, Witsieshoek, and Giant's

Castle.

Moraea spathulata Leaf long, narrow and twisted. In leaf Port Edward.

Moraea trifida Leaf solitary, stiff, small creamy yellow flower spotted brown to green.

Upper Witsieshoek.

Romulea macowanii Lesotho, new in 2023.

Romulea thodei Flowers pink with yellow throat, outer tepals striped buff and purple

outside. Sani and Witsieshoek.

A very small species found at Giant's Castle. Romulea sp.

Tritonia disticha Red Tritonia. Port Edward.

Watsonia have spikes of two-ranked numerous pink, orange, or red flowers.

'The Genus Watsonia' by Peter Goldblatt, National Botanic gardens, 1989, is the standard work.

Watsonia lepida En route to Kamberg.

Port Edward. Watsonia densiflora

Watsonia pillansii Gone over at Port Edward. Some still in flower at Sani. (W.socium).

Watsonia confusa Sani 2023.

Juncaceae

Juncus acutusSharp Rush.Juncus effususSoft Rush.

Juncus spp.

Liliaceae

Lilium formosanum Naturalised on Port Edward roadsides. Native to Taiwan.

Orchidaceae

'Orchids of South Africa, A Field Guide' by Johnson, Bytebier, and Starker, Struick 2015, is the standard work.

Brachycorythis inhambanensis Purple spotted green flowers. Red Desert 2018.
Brachycorythis ovata Flowers purple and white. Himeville 2018.

Brownleea macroceras 1, upper Witsieshoek.

Bulbophyllum scaberulum Lithophytic with spikes of purplish flowers. Umtamvuna, in

leaf this

year.

Corycium dracomontanum Lip appendage bright green, side arms face sideways. Witsieshoek,

Sani, and Giant's Castle.

Corycium nigrescens Sepals pale green, soon turn black, petals purple brown to black.

Widespread, e.g. Witsieshoek and Sani.

Cyrtorchis arcuata Lithophytic. Flowers white turning orange. Umtamvuna 2019.

Disa has median sepal hooded and elongated into a spur, or pouch.

Disa cephalotes Dense inflorescence of white flowers. A few at Sani.

Disa chrysostachya Robust with orange flowers. Weza 2019.

Disa cooperi Flowers white to pale pink, spurs point upwards. Himeville, near

Giant's

Castle, and Golden Gate. Not seen 2023.

Disa fragrans Fragrant Disa. Dense inflorescence, small white to deep pink flowers,

spur

slender, pointing down. Witsieshoek.

Disa patula Flowers horizontal, pink, spur round, pointed, horizontal. A few at

Giant's

Castle.

Disa polygonoides Orange flowers in dense spikes. Port Edward.

Disa saxicola Flowers white marked pink. Streamside rocks Sani, 2018.

Disa scullyi Large pink flowers, spur to 4cm. Several at Ntsikeni, 2018.

Disa stachyodes Slender with purple flowers. Sani.

Disa versicolor Dense inflorescence, flowers small, usually facing downwards, vanilla

scented. Himeville, Kamberg, Witsieshoek, and Golden Gate NP.

Locally

common.

Disperis has median sepal and petals joined to form a helmet-shaped hood, side sepals pouched or spurred.

Disperis cardiophora Flowers small, white and green, magenta tipped. A few at Witsieshoek.

Disperis fanniniae Giant's Castle forest.

Disperis lindleyana Flowers white, suffused pale green, with pink spots inside. Leaf

litter lower Sani Pass. One in flower, others over. Also at the Day 3

lunch

site.

Disperis renibractea Flowers resemble an owl's face, pungent odour. En route to Giant's

Castle.

Disperis stenoplectron White and pink flowers. Witsieshoek 2019.

Disa stricta Sani 2023.
Disperis tysonii Witsieshoek.

Disperis wealii Flowers white, spotted green under hood margins. Witsieshoek.

Dracomonticola virginea Endemic genus. Gone over at Sani, 2023.

Eulophia angolensis Robust with yellow flowers. Port Edward.

Eulophia clavicornis Day 7 2019. (Eulophia hians).

Eulophia horsfallii Very robust with pink and green flowers. This very impressive species

was seen at Umtamvuna in 2019.

Eulophia ovalis Giant's Castle 2019.

Eulophia parvilabris Weza 2019.

Eulophia schnelliaePort Edward 2019.Eulophia tenellaPort Edward 2018.Eulophia zeyherianaLower Sani, common.

Habenaria anguiceps Kamberg 2018.

Habenaria clavata Robust with green flowers. Several at Himeville.

Habenaria dives Small white flowers, midlobe of lip longer than side lobes. Scattered

records, e.g. Port Edward, Witsieshoek, Sani, and Golden Gate.

Habenaria dregeana Small Green Hood. Yellowish green flowers. Witsieshoek 2018.

Habenaria laevigata Sani and Kamberg.

Habenaria pseudociliosa Basal leaf sheaths marked with black bars. Red Desert 2018.

Habenaria tysonii Giant's Castle 2023.

Holothrix incurva A few at Sani.

Neobolusia tysonii Sani. An excellent addition to the list in 2019.

Orthochilus aculeatus Day 6 roadside, 2018.

Orthochilus ensatusFlowers yellow. Port Edward 2019.Orthochilus foliosusHimeville Nature Reserve 2019.Orthochilus leontoglossusSani and Himeville, 2018.

Orthochilus welwitschii Robust with purple centred pale yellow flowers. Day 5 afternoon, and

near Giant's Castle.

Polystachya pubescens Umtamvuna, in leaf.

Pterygodium has median sepal and petals joined to form very shallow hood. Lip with short or tall appendage.

No spur.

Pterygodium cooperi Sani 2019.
Pterygodium hastatum 3 at Witsieshoek.

Pterygodium magnum Up to 1.5m. Petals fringed, yellowish with red dots and veins. Lip

white to

pale green to mauve with darker veins, fringed. This fine species at

Witsieshoek 2019.

Rangaeris muscicola In leaf at Port Edward. Satyrium flowers have two conspicuous spurs or pouches.

Satyrium cristatum Flowers whitish blotched red. Himeville and Sani.
Satyrium hallackii ssp.ocellatum Marsh on afternoon of Day 5. Only 1 in flower this year.

Satyrium longicauda Leaves on separate shoot from flowering stem. Flowers white to red.

Variable. Widespread.

Satyrium macrophyllum Large leaves, white to deep pink flowers. Day 6 roadside, 2018.

Satyrium neglectum Sterile shoot present. Pink flowers. Sani.

Satyrium parviflorum Devil Orchid. Yellowish green to maroon flowers. Petals dry brown

soon

after opening. Witsieshoek, Sani, Kamberg, etc.

Satyrium sphaerocarpum Day 3 2019.

Satyrium trinerve White and yellow flowers. Umtamvuna.

Schizochilus angustifolius Inflorescence dense, flowers white with yellow lip. Sani and

Witsieshoek.

Schizochilus zeyheri Yellow flowers. Port Edward 2019.

Stenoglottis fimbriata Fringed Stenoglottis. Small lilac-pink flowers, lip 3-lobed. On rocks in

forest at Giant's Castle.

Stenoglottis woodii Umtamvuna.

Tridactyle bicaudata ssp.rupestris Lithophyte. Port Edward, in leaf.

Poaceae

'Identification Guide to Southern African Grasses' by Fish et al., Pretoria 2015, Strelitzia 36, is the standard

work.

Aira cupaniana Alien.

Arundo donax Giant Reed. Alien.

Avena barbata Alien.

Avena fatua Wild Oat. Alien.

Avena sterilis Winter Wild Oat. Alien.

Brachypodium distachyon Alien.

Bromus diandrusGreat Brome. Alien.Bromus madritensisCompact Brome. Alien.Bromus rigidusStiff Brome. Alien.Bromus sterilisBarren Brome. Alien.Bromus tectorumDrooping Brome. Alien.

Cenchrus incertus Alien.
Cortaderia selloana Alien.

Cynodon dactylon Bermuda Grass.
Cymbopogon excavatus Giant's Castle.

Cynosurus echinatus Rough Dogstail. Alien.

Ehrharta calycina

Ehrharta longiflora

Eragrostis capensis

Eragrostis curvula Weeping Love Grass

Fingerhuthia africana

Hordeum murinum Wall Barley. Alien.

Hyparrhenia hirta Widespread.

Lolium multiflorum Italian Ryegrass. Alien.
Lolium perenne Perennial Ryegrass. Alien.

Lolium rigidum Stiff Darnel. Alien.

Lolium temulentum Darnel. Alien.

Lophochloa cristata Alien.

Loudetia simplex Dominant at Red Desert

Melinus repensAlien.Merxmuellera drakensbergensisSani.

Monocymbium ceresiiforme Port Edward.

Pennisetum setaceum Alien.

Pentaschistus airoides Pentaschistus curvirostris

Phalaris aquaticaBulbous Canary-grass. Alien.Phalaris minorLesser Canary-grass. Alien.

Phragmites australis Common Reed.

Poa annuaAnnual Meadow-grass. Alien.Poa bulbosaBulbous Meadow-grass.Poa pratensisSmooth Meadow-grass. Alien.

Setaria spp.

Thamnocalamus tessellatus Drakensberg Bamboo. Giant's Castle and Sani.

Themeda triandra Red Grass. e.g. Giant's Castle.

Thinopyrum distichum

Vulpia bromoides Squirreltail Fescue. Alien.

Restionaceae

Restio sp. Port Edward.

Smilacaceae

Smilax anceps Port Edward.

Strelitziaceae

Strelitzia nicolai Coast Strelitzia. Very common in the Port Edward area.

Typhaceae

Typha capensis Bulrush. Port Edward, Himeville, etc.

Typha sp. Day 4.

Velloziaceae

Xerophyta viscosa Small Black Stick Lily. Flowers lilac to deep mauve. Sani, Giant's

Castle, Golden Gate, and Witsieshoek.

Xyridaceae

Xyris are herbaceous marsh plants.

Xyris capensis Common Xyris. Yellow flowers, bract margins entire. Port Edward.

Xyris natalensis Port Edward.

Palaeodicotyledons

Nymphaeaceae

Nymphaea nouchali Blue Waterlily. Umtamvuna 2019.

Eudicotyledons

Acanthaceae

Asystasia gangetica Flowers white with purplish markings. Port Edward.

Blepharis obtusisepala Mauve flowers. Spionkop 2019. Crabbea acaulis White flowers. Golden Gate.

Dyschoriste depressa Umtamvuna 2019. Isoglossa ovata Port Edward.

Isoglossa woodii Shrub with white flowers. Umtamvuna.

Thunbergia atriplicifolia Natal Primrose. Flowers creamy yellow. Port Edward, locally common.

Aizoaceae

Delosperma caespitosumPort Edward 2019.Delosperma hirtumGolden Gate.

Delosperma lavisiae Mountain Vygie. Magenta flowers. Giant's Castle and Sani.

Delosperma lineare White flowers. Umtamvuna.

Delosperma subpetiolatum Trailing Vygie. White flowers. Port Edward.

Delosperma sutherlandii Flowers magenta fading to white at base, pink or white. Sani 2018.

Amaranthaceae (includes Chenopodiaceae)

Achyranthes aspera Alien. Giant's Castle.

Anacardiaceae

Harpephyllum caffrumWild-plum. Umnatvuna.Loxostylis alataTarwood. Umtamvuna.

Protorhus longifolia Red-beech. Port Edward, Umtamvuna.

Schinus terebinthifolius Brazilian Pepper Tree. Port Edward. A noxious weed.

Searsia (formerly Rhus) are shrubs or small trees with trifoliate leaves.

Searsia acocksii Pondo Climbing Currant. Umtamvuna.

Searsia carnosula Port Edward.

Searsia dentata Golden Gate, Giant's Castle and Sani.

Searsia discolor Sani, Golden Gate, Witsieshoek and Giant's Castle.

Searsia laevigata Giant's Castle.

Searsia lancea

Searsia lucida Golden Gate and Spionkop. Port Edward.

Searsia pyroides Giant's Castle and Sani.

Searsia tomentosa

Searsia viminalis Giant's Castle.

Apiaceae

Alepidea have conspicuous petal-like bracts.

Alepidea amatymbica Giant Alepidea. Witsieshoek.

Alepidea natalensis Leaves in basal rosette. margins toothed, flowerheads c.15mm, bracts

white.Widespread, e.g. Giant's Castle and Witsieshoek.

Alepidea peduncularis Port Edward.

Alepidea sp. c.12 cm tall, very narrow leaves, white bracts.

Alepidea sp. Taller species with spiny edged leaves.

Alepidea sp. Flowers in spikes, Witsieshoek.

Alepidea sp.Near Underberg.Alepidea sp.Near Underberg.

Bupleurum mundiiPerennial herb. Witsieshoek and Sani.Centella asiaticaMarsh Pennywort. Port Edward.

Centella glabrata var.natalensis Umtamvuna. Ciclospermum leptophyllum Naturalised.

Heteromorpha arborescens Parsley-tree. Day 3, Giant's Castle, and Golden Gate.

Hydrocotyle bonariensis Naturalised in Port Edward area.

Lichtensteinia interrupta Port Edward.

Peucedanum thodei Robust. Witsieshoek 2019.

Pimpinella caffra Basal leaves entire, stem leaves finely divided.

Sium repandum Water Parsnip. Day 6, 2019.

Apocynaceae (includes Asclepiadaceae)

Asclepias adscendens Pompom Cartwheels. Himeville 2019.
Asclepias macropus Tailed Cartwheels. Himeville and Kamberg.

Aspidoglossum gracile Umtamvuna 2019. Brachystelma australe Umtamvuna 2019.

Brachystelma rubella Pink Tenaris. Red Desert 2018. (*Tenaris rubella*).

Carissa bispinosa Num-num. Thorny shrub with milky sap. Port Edward and Giant's Castle.

Carissa macrocarpa Big Num-num. Port Edward.

Ceropegia carnosa Port Edward 2019.

Gomphocarpus fruticosus Shrub with nodding clusters of cream flowers. Fruits swollen with

fleshy

projections. Widespread and common.

Gomphocarpus physocarpus Stem solitary below. Fruits roundish and inflated. Port Edward area.

Miraglossum verticillare Wreathed Miracle-tongue. Witsieshoek 2018. Pachycarpus asperifolius Large Red Milkwort. Port Edward 2019.

Pachycarpus grandiflorus Grand Pachycarpus. Large hanging, round, yellow and purple flowers.

Port

Edward 2018.

Periglossum angustifolium Round Head. Flowers yellow inside, reddish brown outside, inner

corola

lobes threadlike. Himeville 2019.

Rauvolfia caffra Quinine-tree

Riocreuxia torulosa Candle-vine. Leaves heart-shaped, tubular flowers with inflated base

and

lobes joined at tips to form a cage. Giant's Castle 2018.

Schizoglossum atropurpureum Flowers almost black. Port Edward 2019 (ssp.virens), Giant's Castle

2023.

Schizoglossum bidens atrorubensVariable Schizoglossum. Sani 2019.Schizoglossum hillardiaeHilliard's Schizoglossum. Sani 2019.Secamone alpiniRusset Secamone. Umtamvuna 2019.Sisyranthus virgatusThin Grass-flower. Port Edward 2018.

Tabernaemontana ventricosa Forest Toad-tree

Voacanga thouarsii Large white flowers turn creamy yellow. Port Edward.

Xysmalobium involucratum Scented Xysmalobium. Umtamvuna 2019.

Xysmalobium stockenstromenseMountain Uzura. Witsieshoek.Xysmalobium undulatumLarge inflated fruits, Giant's Castle.

Aquifoliaceae *Ilex mitis*

Araliaceae

Cussonia paniculata Mountain Cabbage Tree. Widespread.

Cussonia spicata Port Edward.

Schefflera umbellifera False Cabbage-tree. Red Desert.

Asteraceae

Achillea millefoliumYarrow. Alien.Ageratum conyzoidesAlien. Port Edward.Ageratum houstonianumAlien. Port Edward.

Ambrosia artemisiifolia Alien.

Arctotis have 5 or 6 rows of bracts, outer often tailed, inner broad with large membranous tips.

Arctotis arctotoides Yellow flowers 25 to 40 mm, yellow, ray florets often purplish beneath.

Lesotho, Sani.

Artemisia afra Wormwood. Widespread and locally numerous.

Aspilia natalensis Wild Creeping Sunflower. Port Edward.

Aster bakerianus Flowers white to deep pink, bracts with long hairs at least on midline.

Giant's Castle.

Aster erucifolius Prostrate, ray florets purple. Sani.

Aster perfoliatus Grey-leaved Aster. Distinctive with leathery perfoliate grey-green

leaves.

Not in flower, Golden Gate.

Athrixia angustissimaStem leaves slender. Ray florets white. Sani and Witsieshoek.Athrixia fontanaLong cobwebby bracts with recurved tips. A few at Witsieshoek.

Athrixia phylicoides Ray florets mauve. Umtamvuna.

Berkheya are thistle-like usually with yellow flowers.

Berkheya bergiana Robust, day 3, 2019.

Berkheya bipinnatifida1-3m, disc florets white to mauve. Port Edward.Berkheya cirsiifoliaRay florets white. Lesotho and Witsieshoek.

Berkheya echinacea Spionkop, 2019.

Berkheya multijuga Leaves deeply lobed and spiny. Flowers yellow. Witsieshoek and

Lesotho.

Berkheya purpurea Purple Berkheya. Sani 2019.

Besal leaves in rosette, harshly hairy, long narrow inflorescence of

yellow

flowers. Widespread.

Berkheya rosulata Rosette Thistle. Leaves dark green above, white-felted below, solitary

yellow flowers. Witsieshoek.

Berkheya setifera Upper surface of leaves with coarse bristles. Flowers yellow. Giant's

Castle, above Lower Loteni, and Witsieshoek.

Berkheya speciosa Leaves basal, green above, white-felted below. Flowers yellow. Port

Edward and Golden Gate.

Bidens bipinnata

Bidens formosa Cosmos. Naturalised on roadsides. Brachylaena discolor Coast Silver-oak. Red Desert.

Callilepis laureola Ox-eye Daisy. Still in flower at Red Desert 2019.

Chromolaena odorata An invasive weed.

Chrysocoma ciliata Scattered records, e.g. Sani.

Cineraria albicans Port Edward.

Cineraria dieterlenii Herb with lobed kidney shaped leaves, flowers yellow with ray florets.

Sani.

Cineraria lyrata Golden Gate.

Cirsium vulgare Alien. Widespread.

Conyza sp.

Coreopsis lanceolata Naturalised at Himeville.

Cotula have discoid heads, although sometimes with rays, 2 rows of bracts with narrow membranous margins.

Cotula hispida Witsieshoek.

Cotula membranifolia Sani and Witsieshoek.

Cotula paludosa Lesotho.

Dicoma anomala Perennial with narrow leaves. Golden Gate 2018.

Dimorphotheca jucunda Trailing Pink Daisy. Ray florets pink, coppery below, disc florets

yellow

tipped black. Witsieshoek.

Eumorphia sericea Dwarf shrub white ray florets, bracts with large orange oil

glands on

the inner surface. Lesotho.

Euryops are shrubs with yellow flowers with one row of smooth oval bracts joined at the base.

Euryops acraeus Rounded shrub, leaves leathery. In fruit at Sani.

Euryops decumbens Dwarf shrublet. Sani.

Euryops evansii Shrub with grey-green leaves, yellow flower in terminal clusters. Sani.

Euryops leiocarpus Port Edward.

Euryops tysonii Shrub with glossy green leaves, smaller yellow flowers than previous

species, in crowded terminal clusters. Sani.

Felicia have yellow or rarely blue disc florets and blue, pink or white rays, with 2 to 4 rows of green bracts with

narrow membranous margins.

Felicia filifolia Fine-leaved Felicia. Aromatic shrub with mauve to blue flowers.

Golden Gate, Witsieshoek, and Sani.

Felicia muricata Low growing bushy herb. Golden Gate.
Felicia uliginosa Herb with blue to mauve flowers. Lesotho.

Galinsoga ciliata Alien.

Gazania are perennials or annuals with milky latex. Several rows of stiff bracts joined below into a smooth or

hairy cup.

Gazania krebsiana Perennial. Leaves narrow, flowers yellow or orange. Scattered records,

e.g.

Sani.

Gazania rigens Trailing Gazania. Creeping perennial herb, flowers yellow. Munster

coastal

sands, new in 2023.

Gerbera piloselloides Leaves in basal rosette, stem swollen below flowerhead. Golden Gate,

over.

Gnapthalium limicola Sani, 2023. Haplocarpha nervosa Lesotho.

Haplocarpa scaposa Leaves in basal rosette, white-felted beneath. Yellow flowers. Giant's

Castle and Golden Gate grasslands.

Helichrysum are usually woolly or felted, with disciform flowers with several rows of papery bracts. A very

large genus in the region.

Helichrysum acutatumSilver leaves, yellow bracts. Sani and Giant's Castle.Helichrysum adenocarpumSolitary flowerheads, bracts red or pink. Port Edward.

Helichrysum albo-brunneumWhite bracts tipped brown. Sani.Helichrysum albumWhite bracts red at base inside. Sani.

Helichrysum appendiculatum

Upper stem leaves often tipped with a small coloured bract. Bracts dull

white to yellowish to pink. Widespread.

Helichrysum aureonitens Silvery grey perennial with compact heads of yellow flowers. Locally

abundant.

Helichrysum aureumHelichrysum auricepsVar.monocephalum. Solitary yellow flowerheads. Port Edward.Congested heads of bright yellow flowers. Sani and Golden Gate.

Helichrysum bellum Basal leaves thin and soft. Bracts snow-white. Lesotho.

Helichrysum cephaloideum Perennial, grey woolly. Inflorescence a compact round cluster of

yellow

flowers. Himeville 2023.

Helichrysum chionosphaerum Tiny Snowball Everlasting. Mat-forming, wool usually confined to 3

veins

and margins. Bracts glossy white. Witsieshoek and Golden Gate.

Helichrysum cymosum Compact yellow inflorescences. Port Edward.

Helichrysum dasycephalum
Branches covered in grey tissue like felt. Flowers yellow. Witsieshoek.
Helichrysum drakensbergense
Tight heads of yellow flowers felted together at the base. Sani, 2019.
Helichrysum ecklonis
Large solitary flowers with glossy white to pink bracts. Umtamvuna.
Helichrysum flanaganii
Forms large mats, narrow leaves woolly or not, bracts tawny yellow

tipped

golden brown. Lesotho and Witsieshoek.

Helichrysum krookii Leaves mostly in basal rosette. Bracts bright yellow. Giant's Castle,

Witsieshoek, and Sani.

Helichrysum herbaceum

inner

Monkey-tail Everlasting. Bracts to 28mm across, outer golden brown,

lemon-yellow. Red Desert, Golden Gate, Giant's Castle, Sani, Witsieshoek.

Helichrysum hypoleucum Scrambling shrub with yellow flowers. Giant's Castle.

Helichrysum lineatum Greyish rounded leaves in basal rosettes. Bracts light golden brown.

Sani, Witsieshoek and Giant's Castle.

Helichrysum marginatum Mat-forming dwarf shrub with solitary flowers with dull white bracts.

Widespread and locally common.

Helichrysum milfordiae Silvery subshrub with glossy white bracts red or brown tipped.

Lesotho.

Helichrysum mixtum Port Edward.

Helichrysum montanum Dwarf shrub, leaves thick grey woolly, bracts bright yellow. Sani.

Helichrysum monticola Bracts glossy white. Sani 2018.

Helichrysum odoratissimum Aromatic perennial. Flowerheads matted together with wool at the

base.

Flowers yellow. Port Edward.

Helichrysum oreophilum Leaves grey woolly, only main vein visible beneath. Bracts lemon-

yellow.

Golden Gate 2018.

Helichrysum pagophyllum Very compact hard cushions at Sani.

Helichrysum pallidum Sani 2019.

Helichrysum panduratum Grey woolly subshrub, bracts white, disc florets yellow. Port Edward.

Helichrysum populifolium Shrub with large leaves and branched inflorescences of small

flowers,

bracts brown and white. Port Edward.

Helichrysum praecurrens Dense mats, gone over at Sani, 2019.

Helichrysum ruderale Leaves sticky. Inflorescence branches white woolly. Port Edward.

Helichrysum rugulosum Tufted perennial to 30cm. Sani and Giant's Castle.

Helichrysum sessilioides Cushion-forming dwarf shrub. Sani.

Helichrysum spiralepis Flowerheads in small congested clusters surrounded by leafy bracts.

Scattered e.g. Witsieshoek and Giant's Castle.

Helichrysum subglomeratum This at Sani?

Helichrysum sutherlandii Shrublet. Woolly bracts. Golden Gate, over.

Helichrysum tenax Sticky Everlasting. Subshrub with heads of attractive yellow flowers.

Sani and Golden Gate.

Helichrysum tenuifolium Shrub. Narrow leaves. Lesotho, 2023.

Helichrysum trilineatum Aromatic shrublet, leaves with three parallel veins, bracts bright

yellow.

Lesotho and Sani.

Helichrysum umbraculigerum Leaves very variable, greyish woolly, bracts golden yellow. Giant's

Castle,

Sani.

Hirpicium armerioides Large white ray florets, yellow to purplish black beneath. Witsieshoek.

Hypochoeris radicata Cat's-ear. Alien. Inulanthera leucoclada Umtamvuna. Inulanthera thodei Lesotho.

Lactuca inermis

Macowania hamataSani, very local endemic.Mikania natalensisClimber. Port Edward, 2018.

Nidorella auriculata Port Edward.

Nidorella undulata En route to Giant's Castle.

Osteospermum have 2 to 4 rows of narrow bracts, and yellow flowers.

Osteospermum imbricatum Leaves leathery. Red Desert.

Osteospermum monilifera Scattered records. (Chrysanthemoides monilifera)

Osteospermum thodei Witsieshoek. Pentzia cooperi Sani.

Relhania pungens Leaves sharp tipped. Yellow flowers. Port Edward.

Senecio usually has one row of bracts, often with membranous edges. Usually a few small dark-tipped bracts occur on the pedunclebelow the involucral bracts.

Senecio asperulus Solitary bright yellow flowers. Sani.

Senecio deltoideus Scrambler with zigzag stems. Giant's Castle.
Senecio discodregeanus Flowers deep violet. Himeville and Kamberg.

Senecio erubescens Port Edward.

Senecio glaberrimus Umtamvuna and Witsieshoek.

Senecio haygarthii Robust shrubby herb, leaves white felted beneath. Sani and Giant's

Castle.

Senecio hygrophilus Blue green with yellow flowers. Giant's Castle riverside.

Senecio inaequidens Sani.

Senecio inornatus Widespread.
Senecio isatideus Locally common.

Senecio macrocephalus Pink flowers. Sani, Lesotho.

Senecio macrospermus Large grey-woolly herb with large yellow flowers. Sani.

Senecio oxyriifolius False Nasturtium. Very distinctive blusih-green leaves, resembling the

genus Oxyria. In leaf Port Edward and Kamberg.

Senecio rhomboideusFleshy perennial with blue-green leaves. Witsieshoek.Senecio rhyncholaenusHerb with yellow flowers, bracts sticky. Port Edward.

Senecio seminiveus Dwarf shrub, young leaves densely white woolly, large yellow flowers.

Sani.

Senecio subrubriflorus Sticky aromatic herb with pale mauve to white flowers. Golden Gate.

Stoebe vulgaris Zigzag Bush. Intricately branched shrub. Red Desert.

Taraxacum officinale Dandelion. Scattered records.

Taraxacum sp. Lesotho.
Tarchonanthus trilobus Umtamvuna.

Tenrhynea phylicifolia Leaf base winged onto stem. Umtamvuna.

Ursinia montana Sani.

Ursinia tenuiloba Ray florets yellow above, reddish below.

Vernonia corymbosaRed Desert.Vernonia dregeanumUmtamvuna.Vernonia hirsutaGiant's Castle.

Vernonia natalensis Silver Vernonia. Covered in silvery silky hairs. Golden Gate, Giant's

Castle, Himeville, etc.

Zinnia peruviana Alien. Spionkop.

Balsaminaceae

Impatiens hochstetteri Giant's Castle, and at the Day 3 lunch site.

Begoniaceae

Begonia sutherlandii

Bignoniaceae

Spathodea campanulata African Tulip Tree. Naturalised in Durban area.

Boraginaceae

Afrotysonia glochidiata Tall herb, widely branched inflorescence of white flowers flushed

mauve.

Giant's Castle, Kamberg, and Witsieshoek.

Cynoglossum austro-africanum Blue flowers. Witsieshoek, Sani, Golden Gate.

Cynoglossum geometricum

Cynoglossum spelaeumWhite flowers. Cave Sandstone at Golden Gate.Echium plantagineumNaturalised on Witsieshoek upper roadsides.Lithospermum afromontanumFlowers pale yellow to white. Giant's Castle.

Lithospermum papillosum Flowers white to blue. Sani.

Myosotis semiamplexicaulisForget-me-not. Sani and Witsieshoek.Myosotis sp.Presumably an alien species? Sani Top.

Brassicaceae

Heliophila are annual or perennial, sometimes slightly woody. Flowers blue, pink, white, or occasionally yellow.

Heliophila elongata White flowers. Port Edward.

Heliophila rigidiuscula Flower colour variable. Umtamvuna, Sani and Witsieshoek.

Heliophila spp. A few others seen, e.g. Golden Gate, Witsieshoek.

Hirschfeldia incana Lepidium sp.

Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum Water Cress. Kamberg, 2019. Rorippa nudiuscula Witsieshoek upper car park 2023.

Buddlejaceae

Buddleja salviifolia Quilted Sagewood. Locally numerous, e.g. Sani. Not in flower this

year.

Gomphostigma virgatum River Stars. Giant's Castle and Sani.

Cactaceae

Rhipsalis baccifera Mistletoe Cactus. Straggling, pendulous, epiphytic succulent. Port

Edward area.

Campanulaceae

Craterocapsa congesta Prostrate perennial herb. Blue stalkless flowers, crowded at tips.

Lesotho.

Craterocapsa tarsodes Carpet Bell Flower. Stems end in rosettes of leaves. Blue flowers

solitary.

Witsieshoek.

Cyphia are erect or twining herbs with white to purple flowers, equally five lobed or two lipped, and split down

the side.

Cyphia elata Erect herb, flowers creamy white with mauve markings. Witsieshoek,

Umtamvuna, Giant's Castle.

Cyphia oblongifolia Erect herb. Possibly this at Golden Gate, 2023.

Cyphia tysonii Twining herb. Sani.

Lobelia has the corolla two-lipped and split to the base at the back, the front lip with three lobes.

Lobelia anceps Swamp Lobelia. Umtamvuna. Lobelia erinus Annual. Marshes at Ntsikeni, 2018.

Lobelia flaccida Annual herb, two crests in mouth of flower tube. Witsieshoek and

Giant's

Castle.

Lobelia galpinii Creeping herb. Common at Sani Top.

Lobelia preslii Perennial herb, flowers bright deep blue, stems up to 240mm long.

Giant's

Castle, Sani, and Witsieshoek.

Lobelia pteropoda Port Edward.

Lobelia tomentosa Port Edward.

Lobelia vanreenensis Flowers whitish, yellow on palate. Sani and Giant's Castle.

Monopsis decipiens Butterfly Monopsis. Flowers violet and blue with a yellow palate. Fine

at

Golden Gate. Also at Witsieshoek, Himeville, Kamberg, and Giant's

Castle in the past.

Monopsis stellarioides Sticky-leaved Monopsis. Giant's Castle 2018.

Monopsis unidentata Wild Brown Violet. Port Edward.

Roella glomerata Bell shaped white to blue flowers. Port Edward.

Wahlenbergia has campanulate flowers with broad petals.

Wahlenbergia cuspidata Large violet-blue flowers. Widespread and locally common.

Wahlenbergia grandiflora Giant Bell Flower. This species at Ntsikeni? 2018.

Wahlenbergia huttonii Flowers in small terminal clusters, lobes long and narrow. Giant's

Castle

2018.

Wahlenbergia madagascariensis Very small flowers. Port Edward.

Fairy Bell-flower. Leaves crowded towards base of stems. Violet-blue

flowers. Sani, Kamberg, Giant's Castle, Witsieshoek.

Wahlenbergia pallidiflora Chalky blue flowers. Marsh at Ntsikeni 2018. Wahlenbergia polytrichifolia ssp. Mat forming on rock sheets at Sani Top.

dracomontana

Wahlenbergia krebsii

Wahlenbergia sp. A species with short pointed leaves. Golden Gate, 2019.

Caryophyllaceae

Cerastium arabidis Snow Flower. Sani and Witsieshoek.

Dianthus mooiensis Frilly Dianthus. Umtamvuna.

Dianthus basuticus Lesotho Dianthus. Pink or white flowers. Witsieshoek, Golden Gate,

and

Sani.

Silene bellidioides Sani 2019. Silene burchellii Witsieshoek.

Silene undulata 20 to 40mm white to pink flowers. Leafy flower stem from side of

rosette.

Sani and Giant's Castle.

Stellaria media

Celastraceae

Gymnosporia buxifolia Common Spikethorn. Giant's Castle. Maytenus peduncularis Cape-blackwood. Giant's Castle.

Pseudosalacia polyantha Umtamvuna.

Putterlickia retrospinosa Pondo False-spikethorn. Umtamvuna.

Robsonodendron eucleiforme False Silky-bark. When leaf broken, connected by silvery threads.

Umtamvuna.

Celtidaceae Celtis africana

Trema orientalis Umtamvuna.

Convolvulariaceae

Cuscuta campestris Dodder. Alien.

Hewitt's Dwarf Morning Glory. Flowers pale yellow with deep red

centre.

Port Edward.

Ipomoea cairicaLeaves with 5 to 7 lobes. Port Edward.Ipomoea crassipesLeaves hairy. Port Edward and Golden Gate.Ipomoea mauritianaPinkish mauve flowers in clusters. Port Edward.

Ipomoea pes-capraeDune Morning Glory. Munster coast.Ipomoea purpureaNaturalised weed. Port Edward.

Cornaceae

Curtisia dentata Assegai.

Crassulaceae

Cotyledon orbiculata Large succulent leaves, clusters of nodding tubular red flowers, which

are stalked. Lesotho and Golden Gate.

Crassula albaRed flowers. Sani, Golden Gate, and Witsieshoek.Crassula brachypetalaHerb with starry white flowers. Umtamvuna and Sani.Crassula dependensSharp-tipped leaves at right angles to stems. White flowers.

Witsieshoek

and Sani.

Crassula ericoides Umtamvuna 2019.

Crassula natalensis Leaves in basal rosette. Flowers small, petals recurved, white or pink.

Golden Gate 2019.

Crassula natans Aquatic herb. Sani.

Crassula nudicaulis Leaves in a basal rosette. Golden Gate 2019.

Crassula obovata ssp.obovata Perennial white white or cream flowers. Port Edward area.

Crassula pellucida Leaves sharp tipped, flowers in terminal inflorescence, white tinged

pink.

Witsieshoek.

Crassula peploides Sani.

Crassula sarcocaulis ssp.rupicola Shrublet. White flowers. Witsieshoek and Golden Gate.

Crassula setulosa Mats of leaf rosettes, terminal clusters of white flowers. Witsieshoek and

Sani (var.rubra).

Crassula vaginata Stems leafy, yellow flowers. Witsieshoek, and Giant's Castle.

Cucurbitaceae

Zehneria scabra Trailing herb, leaves with rough white dots, small white flowers, hairy

yellow to red or brown fruits. Giant's Castle.

Cunoniaceae

Cunonia capensis Butterspoon Tree.

Dipsacaceae

Cephalaria galpiniana ssp.simpliciorBasal leaves with small lobes. Witsieshoek.Cephalaria natalensisRobust herb with large compound leaves.

Cephalaria oblongifolia To 1m, leaves in basal rosettes, margins entire. Port Edward, Sani,

Witsieshoek.

Scabiosa columbaria Small Scabious. Native here as well as in Europe. Scattered records, e.g.

Port Edward, Witsieshoek, Lesotho, Sani, Golden Gate.

Scabiosa drakensbergensis Drakensberg Scabious. Large perennial herb, leaves deeply divided. Giant's

Castle 2018.

Droseraceae

Drosera natalensis Port Edward and Giant's Castle. 2019.

Ebenaceae

Diospyros austro-africana Fire-sticks Star Apple. Giant's Castle.

Diospyros dichrophylla Poison Star Apple. Golden Gate? Apparently this but too high altitude?

Diospyros scabrida Coast Bladder-nut. Port Edward.

Diospyros whyteana Bladder-nut. Scattered records e.g. Giant's Castle and Golden Gate.

Euclea crispa

Blue Guarri. Giant's Castle.

Ericaceae

Erica aestiva Sticky pink flowers. Golden Gate, Witsieshoek and Giant's Castle.

Erica albospicata Terminal spikes of white flowers. Giant's Castle.

Erica alopecuros Foxtail Erica. Spikes of pink flowers. Lesotho and Golden Gate.

Erica caffrorumMountain Heath. Up to 2m. Widespread, not in flower.Erica cerinthoidesRed Hairy Heath. Large red flowers. Sani, over this year.

Erica cubica Pink flowers in dense clusters. Port Edward area.

Erica frigida Sticky white flowers. Golden Gate.

Erica oatesii Shrublet to 40cm, red flowers. Giant's Castle 2018.

Erica straussiana Sepals as long or longer than corolla. Sani 2018.

Erica thodeiDwarf shrublet with white to pink flowers. Sani Top.Erica woodiiFlowers white, stigmas just exserted. Witsieshoek.Erica spp.Other species, most not in flower, unidentified.

Erythroxylaceae

Erythroxylum pictum Forest Coca-tree. Umtamvuna.

Euphorbiaceae

Acalypha peduncularis Male and female plants separate. Ntsikeni 2018.

Acalypha punctata Male and female plants separate. Giant's Castle and Witsieshoek,

locally

very common.

Clutia floribundaUmtamvuna.Clutia roseaUmtamvuna.Clutia spp.Golden Gate.

Dalechampia capensis Conspicuous petal-like bracts. Port Edward 2018.

Euphorbia clavarioides Lion's Spoor. Cushionlike succulent. Bracts bright yellow. Lesotho. *Euphorbia epicyparissias* Subshrub, bracts large and yellowish green tinged red. Sani and

Witsieshoek.

Euphorbia natalensis Leaves closely packed and erica-like. Port Edward. Euphorbia striata Herb with red leaf margins. Port Edward and Golden Gate.

Euphorbia tirucalli Durban area.

Euphorbia woodii Dwarf succulent. Cyathia yellow. Port Edward.

Phyllanthus meyerianus Port Edward.

Shirakiopsis elliptica Jumping-seed Tree. Red Desert 2018.

Fabaceae

Abrus laevigatus Mauve to cream flowers clustered towards tips of terminal

inflorescence.

Port Edward.

Acacia karoo Sweet Thorn. Spionkop etc.

Acacia melanoxylonAustralian Blackwood. Widespread.Acacia niloticaScented-pod Thorn. Spionkop.Acacia sieberanaPaperbark Thorn. Spionkop etc.

Albizia adianthifolia Flat-crown Albizia.

Argyrolobium amplexicaule Port Edward 2018.

Argyrolobium harveyanum Slender herb, flowers c.10mm. Port Edward 2018.

Argyrolobium marginatum

Giant's

Silvery hairy herb, leaf margins golden, yellow flowers 10-15mm.

Castle and Sani.

Aspalathus chortophyla

Shrublet with yellow flowers. Port Edward.

Calpurnia sericea

Mountain Calpurnia. Small yellow flowers in erect terminal bunches.

Giant's Castle, locally common. A few Golden Gate.

Chamaecrista comosa

Trailing Dwarf Cassia. Perennial with large golden yellow flowers.

Port

Edward.

Chamaecrista mimosoides

Fishbone Dwarf Cassia. Annual with sensitive leaves and yellow

flowers.

Port Edward.

Chamaecrista plumosa

Perennial, stems annual. Port Edward.

Crotalaria globifera

Round Pod Rattle Bush. Bright yellow flowers coppery when old.

Umtamvuna.

Crotalaria lanceolata

Twin-leaved Rattle Bush. Small yellow flowers. Port Edward.

Dalbergia sp.

Red Desert.

Desmodium dregeanum

Marsh Desmodium. Port Edward.

Desmodium repandum Orange Desmodium.

Dichrostachys cinerea Sickle-bush. Port Edward 2018.

Dolichos falciformis Port Edward.

Eriosema distinctum Scarlet Eriosema. Ntsikeni 2018.

Eriosema dregei Port Edward. Eriosema parviflorum Port Edward 2019.

Eriosema salignum Port Edward and Giant's Castle.

Eriosema umtamvunense Large red and yellow flowers. Umtamvuna 2019.

Erythrina humeana Dwarf Coral-tree. Port Edward.

Erythrina lysistemon Coral-tree.

Indigastrum fastigiatum Slender Indigo. Small pink flowers. Port Edward.

Indigofera are herbs or shrubs with pink flowers, the keel petals with a sac or spur.

Indigofera abbottiPort Edward.Indigofera dimidiataWitsieshoek.Indigofera dregeanaPort Edward.Indigofera grataRed Desert.

Indigofera hedyantha Black-bud Indigo. Shrublet, flowers red with darker spot in centre,

standard

covered in golden silky hairs, calyx covered in black hairs. Sani, Giant's

Castle, Golden Gate.

Indigofera herrstreyi Port Edward. An as yet undescribed species.

Indigofera longebarbataGolden Gate 2023.Indigofera natalensisPort Edward.Indigofera shiluwanensisUmtamvuna.

Lessertia perennans Shrublet with large inflorescence of pink flowers. Sani and

Witsieshoek.

Lotononis corymbosa Perennial, flowers yellow turning orange-red. Giant's Castle.

Lotononis eriantha Russet Lotononis. Shrublet, flowers yellow turning reddish brown,

densely

hairy. Golden Gate and Witsieshoek.

Lotononis galpinii Solitary blue flowers with white eye. Sani.

Lotononis laxa Mat forming herb with silvery leaves and yellow flowers. Sani, Golden

Gate, and Witsieshoek.

Lotononis lotonoides Shrublet with long inflorescence of blue flowers. Scattered records, e.g.

Witsieshoek, Giant's Castle, Sani.

Lotononis pulchella Silvery grey with pale blue-violet flowers. Witsieshoek.

Lotononis pulchra Herb with yellow flowers turning orange. Golden Gate and

Witsieshoek.

Lotononis sericophylla Silky with blue and yellow flowers. Sani.

Lotononis viminea White Lotononis. Shrublet with mauve veined white flowers.

Umtamvuna

2019.

Melilotus albus White Melilot. Day 3 etc.

Ophrestia oblongifolia Creeping herb with white to lilac flowers, calyx densely golden hairy.

Port

Edward, locally common.

Otholobium polystictum Shrub with pale blue flowers. Giant's Castle.

Pseudarthria hookeri Bug-catcher. Robust shrub with pink flowers.

Psoralea glabra Narrow-leaf Fountain-bush. Shrub with linear leaflets and blue

flowers.

Umtamvuna Nature Reserve 2019.

Psoralea sp. Subshrub with fine leaflets and bright blue flowers. Riverside at

Giant's

Castle. An undescribed species (still undescribed?).

Rafnia elliptica Hairless shrub. Red Desert, locally common.

Rhynchosia cooperi Trailing herb. Leaves held erect, inflorescence erect. Giant's Castle.

Senna didymobotra Durban and Port Edward, 2023.

Sphenostylis angustifolia Wild Sweetpea Bush. Large magenta flowers.

Sutherlandia montana Mountain Balloon Pea. Sani.

Tephrosia capensis

Tephrosia gnidioides Umtamvuna.

Tephrosia grandiflora Large magenta flowers. Port Edward.

Tephrosia kraussii Red Desert.

Tephrosia macropoda Creeping Tephrosia. Pink flowers. Port Edward.

Tephrosia polystachyaPioneer Tephrosia. Umtamvuna.Tephrosia purpureaSilver Tephrosia. Spionkop.

Trifolium burchellianum Wild Clover. Pink flowers. Widespread.

Trifolium repens White Clover. Naturalised at Giant's Castle etc.

Vigna unguiculata Trailing herb, white to purple flowers on erect stems. Ntsikeni 2018.

Vigna vexillata Trailing creeper with lilac to purple flowers. Port Edward.

Zornia capensis Caterpillar Bean. Zornia linearis Port Edward. Fagaceae

Quercus robur Pedunculate Oak, Alien, Lower Sani lunch site.

Flacourtiaceae

Gerrardina foliosa Krantz-berry. Umtamvuna.

Pseudoscolopia polyantha False Red-pear. Umtamvuna, 2019.

Scolopia mundii Red Thorn-pear.

Trimeria grandiflora Wild-mulberry. Giant's Castle.

Fumariaceae

Cysticapnos pruinosa Climbing annual with small pink flowers and inflated fruits. Sani,

locally common.

Gentianaceae

Chironia albiflora Small White Chironia. Umtamvuna. Very local endemic.

Chironia krebsiiShowy deep pink flowers. Kamberg.Chironia sp.A pink flowered species at Giant's Castle.

Sebaea are herbs often with angled or winged stems. Flowers usually yellow, sometimes white.

Sebaea grandis Large white flowers. Umtamvuna.
Sebaea natalensis Anthers tipped with small round gland.

Sebaea sedoides Small yellow flowers. Scattered records. Sebaea thomasii Showy yellow flowers. Witsieshoek.

Sebaea sp.nov White flowers. A very local endemic. Port Edward.

Sebaea spp. Several were unidentified.

Geraniaceae

Geranium drakensbergensis Blue-purple flowers in pairs. Sani.

Geranium magniflorum Leaves less divided than following species, large pink to purple

flowers.

Witsieshoek.

Geranium multisectumLeaves finely divided, flowers violet to magenta. Lesotho and Sani.Geranium pulchrumLeaves large and deeply lobed, large pink flowers. Sani, locally

common.

Geranium schlechteri Leaves lobed, small pink or white veined pink flowers. Sani,

Witsieshoek

and Giant's Castle.

Geranium wakkerstroomianum White Geranium. White flowers veined pink or red. Sani, Giant's

Castle

and Witsieshoek.

Monsonia attenuata Large whitish flowers. Kamberg, Giant's Castle, Golden Gate, and

Witsieshoek.

Monsonia grandifoliaLarge-leaved Monsonia. Ntsikeni 2018.Monsonia sp.Another species at Golden Gate 2023.

The 3 volume 'Pelargoniums of Southern Africa' by Van der Walt (and Vorster, volume 3), various publishers, is the standard work on the genus.

Pelargonium alchemilloidesLeaves sometimes with purplish mark in centre. Witsieshoek.Pelargonium capituliformeVery small flowers in crowded heads. Golden Gate 2019.

Pelargonium luridum Waving Pelargonium. Leaves deeply lobed. Sani, Giant's Castle,

Golden Gate, and Witsieshoek.

Pelargonium ranunculophyllum On shaded rocks, Lesotho. 2018.

Pelargonium sidoides Flowers very dark reddish purple. Golden Gate 2023.

Gesneriaceae

Streptocarpus gardenii Lower lip of flower pale violet with deep violet broken lines.

Numerous

in forest at Giant's Castle.

Streptocarpus porphyrostachys Rocks by forested stream at Umtamvuna. Local endemic. 2019.

Streptocarpus pusillus White flowers. Sani 2019.

Greyiaceae

Greyia sutherlandii Natal Bottlebrush Tree. Giant's Castle.

Gunneraceae

Gunnera perpensa Wild Rhubarb. Leaves large, spikes of tiny brown flowers. Sani,

Giant's Castle, Witsieshoek.

Hypericaceae

Hypericum aethiopicumHypericum forrestiiPerennial. Scattered records, e.g. Sani.Alien shrub. Naturalised at Giant's Castle.

Hypericum lalandii Erect herb. Golden Gate 2019.

Icacinaceae

Apodytes abbottii Pondo White-pear. Port Edward. Cassinopsis tinifolia False Lemon-thorn. Umtamvuna.

Kiggelariaceae

Kiggelaria africana Wild Peach. Sani.

Lamiaceae

Aeollanthus parvifolius Pink Spur Bush. Shrublet, pink to white flowers in much branched

inflorescence. Port Edward.

Ajuga ophrydis Bugle Plant. Blue flowers. Sani 2018. A white flowered form at

Golden Gate.

Becium obovatum Port Edward 2018.

Clerodendrum glabrum Tinderwood

Leonotis dubia Leaf stalks long. Giant's Castle.

Leonotis intermedia Broad-leaved Leonotis. Leaf stalks short. Witsieshoek.

Leonotis leonurus Narrow-leaved Leonotis. Whorls of orange tubular flowers.

Umtamvuna.

Leucas martinicensis Tumble Weed. Small white flowers in well spaced crowded clusters.

Spionkop.

Mentha aquaticaWater Mint. Himeville.Mentha longifoliaHorse Mint. Golden Gate.

Plectranthus grallatus Tuberous Spur-flower. Shrub with flowers white flushed pink. Giant's

Castle.

Plectranthus hadiensis Flowers mauve to purple. Port Edward 2018.

Plectranthus saccatus pondoanus Umtamvuna 2018.

Pycnostachys reticulata Slender Pycnostachys. Mauve flowers in dense terminal spikes.

Himeville.

Rabdosiella calycinus Upland Fly Bush. Coarse herb with dense leafy spikes of cream flowers

tipped purple. Giant's Castle and Witsieshoek.

Satureja compacta Giant's Castle 2023.

Satureja reptans Flowers white to pale blue, flushed pink in throat with a yellow stripe.

Giant's Castle.

Stachys aethiopica White to pink flowers. Giant's Castle.

Stachys grandifolia White flowers with mauve spots on lower lip. Common in Giant's

Castle forest.

Stachys nigricans Umtamvuna.

Stachys sessilis Ntsikeni and Himeville 2018.

Syncolostemon parviflorus Small-flowered White Plume. To 1m, white to pinkish flowers. Port

Edward.

Syncolostemon ramulosus Umtamvuna, in leaf, 2018. A very local endemic.

Syncolostemon rotundifolius Round-leaved Pink Plume. Umtamvuna.

Tinnea galpinii Black lip-flower. Umtamvuna.

Lecythidaceae

Barringtonia racemosa Powder-puff Tree.

Lentibulariaceae

Genlisea hispidula A bladderwort. Umtamvuna 2019.

Utricularia livida Flowers mauve. Port Edward and Umtamvuna.

Linaceae

Linum thunbergii Yellow flowers. Scattered records e.g. Port Edward, Sani,

Witsieshoek

Golden Gate, Kamberg, Giant's Castle.

Loganiaceae

Gomphostigma virgatum River Stars. Lower Sani and Giant's Castle riverside.

Loranthaceae

Erianthemum dregei Hairy Mistletoe. Clusters of white to pale pink hairy flowers.

Umtamvuna, 2019.

Malvaceae

Anisodontea julii Shrub with showy pink flowers. Sani.

Hermannia are shrublets or perennials with small yellow, red, pink, or white flowers with spirally twisted petals and globular to bell-shaped calyces. A very complex genus with many recently discovered and undesribed species, although only a few species in this area.

Hermannia coccocarpa Purplish-blue flowers. Lesotho 2018.

Hermannia geniculata White flowers. This species at Golden Gate 2023? Hermannia gerrardii Gerrard's Yellow Hermannia. Golden Gate 2023.

Hermannia malvifolia Yellow flowers hidden among the rounded leaves. Sani.

Hermannia woodii Flowers few on long stalks, pink, red, or creamy yellow. Witsieshoek,

Kamberg, Giant's Castle, and Sani.

Hermannia sp. A species with small red flowers. Giant's Castle.

Hibiscus aethiopicus Common Dwarf Wild Hibiscus. Himeville roadsides.

Hibiscus tiliaceus Lagoon Hibiscus. Small tree with large yellow flowers. Coast.
Hibiscus trionum Bladder Hibiscus. Flowers cream-yellow with red centre.

Golden Gate NP,

Galtonia albicans site, Day 3 lunch site.

Malva parviflora Recorded 2019.

Modiola carolinianum Annual herb with red flowers.

Sida rhombifolia Spionkop.

Sida sp. Another species with narrow leaves seen.

Melastomataceae

Dissotis canescens Pink Marsh Dissotis. Shrub with striking magenta flowers. Marshes at

Port Edward.

Meliaceae

Ekebergia pterophylla Rock Cape-ash. Umtamvuna.

Melia azedarach Persian Lilac.

Trichilia dregeana Forest Natal Mahogany. Port Edward area.

Melianthaceae

Trees or shrubs. Racemes of green, brown or red flowers. Sepals 5, petals 4 or 5.

Melianthus villosus Maroon Honey-flower. Densely hairy leaves, fruit inflated and 4-

angled.

Giant's Castle.

Menyanthaceae

Nymphoides thunbergiana Small Yellow Waterlily. In the pool at the Day 3 lunch site.

Molluginaceae

Psammotropha mucronata Himeville and Giant's Castle.

Psammotropha obtusa Small mats with leaves crowded in rosettes at branch tips. Witsieshoek

and Golden Gate.

Psammotropha sp. Another species at Golden Gate.

Moraceae

Ficus ingens Red-leaf Rock Fig. Umtamvuna and Sani.

Ficus natalensis Coast Strangler Fig.

Ficus trichopoda Swamp Fig.

Myricaceae

Morella serrata Lance-leaved Waxberry. Shrub with narrow leaves with entire to

deeply

serrate margins, yellow gland dots beneath, aromatic. Port Edward and

Giant's Castle.

Myrsinaceae

Maesa lanceolata False-assegai. Umtamvuna 2019.

Myrsine africana Cape Myrtle. Golden Gate and Giant's Castle.

Rapanea melanophloeos Cape Beech. Giant's Castle etc.

Myrtaceae

Eucalyptus grandis Saligna Gum. Invasive alien.

Eugenia albanensis Dwarf Grassland Eugenia. A large 'colony' at Port Edward.

Eugenia capensis ssp.capensisDune Myrtle. Port Edward area.Eugenia erythrophyllaLarge-leaf Myrtle. Umtamvuna.Eugenia verdoorniaeSmall-leaf Myrtle. Umtamvuna 2019.

Psidium guajava

Syzygium cordatum Waterberry. Umtamvuna.

Oleaceae

Olea capensis ssp.enervis Umtamvuna.

Olea europaea ssp.africana

Oliniaceae

Olinia emarginata Mountain Hard Pear. Giant's Castle, dominant in forest.

Onagraceae

Epilobium capense Flowers white, stigma 4-lobed. Sani, Giant's Castle, Golden Gate. *Epilobium salignum* Flowers white turning pink after pollination. Stigma entire. Scattered

records, e.g. Sani and Giant's Castle riverside.

Ludwigia octovalvis Shrubby Ludwigia. Port Edward.

Oenothera rosea Rose Evening Primrose. Small pink flowers. Alien. Widespread.

Oenothera sp. An evening primrose. Large yellow flowers.

Orobanchaceae

Harveya pulchra Parasitic herb. Pink flowers. Sani.

Harveya scarlatina 2 at Sani 2018.

Harveya speciosa Tall White Ink-flower. Parasitic herb. White flowers. Scattered records, e.g.

Giant's Castle, and en route to Underberg.

Oxalidaceae

Oxalis corniculata Creeping Yellow Sorrel

Oxalis depressa Hairless, leaflets often purple below, flowers pink or white. Giant's

Castle,

and Golden Gate.

Oxalis obliquifolia Oblique-leaved Sorrel. Leaflets broader than long with long hairs near

base

of stalk. Solitary pink flowers. Rather widespread e.g. Sani, Kamberg,

and

Golden Gate.

Oxalis smithiana Narrow-leaved Sorrel. Deeply divided leaves with narrow lobes. In leaf

Sani.

Papaveraceae

Argemone mexicana Alien.

Papaver aculeatum Orange Poppy. Scattered records, e.g. Sani.

Passifloraceae

Adenia gummifera Green-stem.

Phytolaccaceae

Phytolacca octandra Pokeweed. Lower Sani etc.

Plantaginaceae

Plantago lanceolataScattered records.Plantago majorGiant's Castle.

Polygalaceae

Muraltia flanaganii Probably this species at Golden Gate, 2018.

Polygala amatymbica Dwarf Polygala. Golden Gate.
Polygala confusa Forest at Giant's Castle.

Polygala gracilenta Himeville, Kamberg, Giant's Castle.

Polygala hispida Golden Gate.

Polygala hottentotta Small Purple Broom. Perennial with pink flowers. Sani, Kamberg,

Giant's

Castle, Golden Gate.

Polygala myrtifolia Durban area.

Polygala ohlendorfiana Slender herb with deep pink flowers. Sani and Giant's Castle.

Polygala refracta Narrow-leaved Polygala. Port Edward.

Polygala rehmannii Spionkop.

Polygala rhinostigma Witsieshoek and Sani.

Polygala virgata Purple Broom. Shrub with large pink flowers. Port Edward, Giant's

Castle, and Sani.

Polygonaceae

Persicaria attenuata Ntsikeni 2018.
Persicaria lapathifolia Scattered records.

Persicaria serrulata

Rumex acetosella spp.angiocarpus Scattered, naturalised.

Rumex crispus Curled Dock.

Rumex lanceolatus Sani.

Rumex sagittatus Climbing Dock. Giant's Castle.
Rumex woodii Scattered records, e.g. Giant's Castle.

Primulaceae

Anagallis huttonii White Pimpernel. Marsh at Ntsikeni 2018.

Proteaceae

Trees or shrubs. Sometimes dioecious. Inflorescence often with colourful bracts. Sepals 4, petals absent. Ovary superior. Fruit a woody nutlet, often aggregated into a cone.

Grevillea banksii Scarlet Silky Oak. Alien. Invasive at Red Desert.

Grevillea robusta Australian Silky Oak. Alien.

Hakea sericea Silky Hakea. Alien. Port Edward.

Leucadendron spissifolium ssp.oribinum Oribi Spear-leaved Conebush. Umtamvuna.

Protea are shrubs or small trees, with flowers in terminal heads, surrounded by large colourful bracts.

Protea caffra Common Protea/Sugarbush. Small tree, light green leaves, bracts pink

or

cream, flowers white. Locally dominant. Port Edward, Giant's Castle,

Sani,

Golden Gate, Witsieshoek.

Protea dracomontana

60

Drakensberg Dwarf Protea/Sugarbush. Dwarf shrub with flowers 40 to

mm, creamy yellow, pink, to red. Locally dominant with a few in

flower on

lower Sani Pass road.

Protea roupelliae Silver Protea/Sugarbush. Small tree, dark bluish green leaves. Inner bracts

spoon-shaped and deep pink, flowers densely hairy and pink to red. Widespread and locally common, Golden Gate, Giant's Castle, Sani,

Port Edward.

Protea simplex Dwarf Grassland Protea. Port Edward and Sani.

Protea subvestita Lip-flower Protea/Sugarbush. Small tree, leaves grey, flowerheads

narrow,

bracts creamy white, pink, to carmine, tips of inner bracts folded back.

Some in fine flower along lower Sani road.

Ranunculaceae

Anemone fanninii Giant Wild Anemone. In leaf Witsieshoek.

Clematis brachiata Golden Gate and Sani.

Ranunculus baurii Large-leaved Ranunculus. In impressive flower at Witsieshoek, 2018.

In leaf 2019. 2023, only one in flower.

Ranunculus multifidus Leaves deeply divided. Sani and Witsieshoek.

Ranunculus sp. Lesotho, cordate leaves. 2019.

Thalictrum rhynchocarpum Herbaceous shrub. Giant's Castle and Sani.

Rhamnaceae

Phylica are shrubs or small trees. Leaves ericoid, flowers often grouped in heads, calyx woolly or hairy outside.

Phylica natalensis Red Desert and Umtamvuna. Local endemic, vulnerable.

Phylica thodei Rigid small shrub, sepals densely covered in white woolly hairs.

Witsieshoek.

Rhamnus prinoides Glossy-leaf. Giant's Castle.

Rhizophoraceae

Bruguiera gymnorrhiza Black Mangrove. Coast.

Rhynchocalycaceae

Rhynchocalyx lawsonioides False Waterberry. Umtamvuna.

Rosaceae

Agrimonia proceraHimeville area.Alchemilla woodiiWitsieshoek.Alchemilla sp.Ntsikeni 2018.

Cliffortia nitidula pilosa Needlelike leaves in tufts of three. Sani, locally dominant.

Clifforta paucistaminea Possibly this species at Port Edward.

Cliffortia sp. Witsieshoek, locally common.

Duchesnea indica Himeville area.

Geum capensis Noted in fruit in Lesotho 2018.

Leucosidea sericea Oldwood. Small tree, flaking bark, greyish white leaves. Widespread

and

often dominant in scrub 1800-2500m

Rubus cuneifolius American Bramble. Alien. Widespread.

Rubus ludwigii Silver Bramble. Underside of leaves white-woolly. Widespread.

Rubiaceae

Alberta magna Krantz Flame-tree. Umtamvuna.

Anthospermum are shrubs or herbs with narrow often whorled leaves. Flowers small.

Anthospermum galpiniiRed Desert 2018.Anthospermum herbaceumPort Edward.Anthospermum hispidulumPort Edward.Anthospermum spp.Several others seen.

Burchellia bubalina Tree. Port Edward.

Canthium inermeTurkey-berry. Port Edward.Canthium vanwykiiPondo Turkey-berry. Umtamvuna.

Conostomium natalense Wild Pentas. Port Edward.

Eriosemopsis subanisophylla Erect herb with woody rootstock. Rare. Port Edward 2020.

Galium capense Scrambling glabrescent perennial. Leaves in whorls of 6 to 10. A few

records, e.g. Sani, Giant's Castle, and Witsieshoek.

Galium sp. Broad leaves in whorls of 4. Giant's Castle forest.

Galium sp. Small, leaves in whorls of 3 and 4, off white flowers. In shade at

Golden Gate.

Galium sp. Giant's Castle riverside.

Keetia gueinzii Climbing Turkey-berry. Umtamvuna 2019.

Kraussia floribunda Rhino-coffee
Oldenlandia herbacea Umtamvuna 2018.

Pavetta bowkeri Hairy Coast Brides-bush. Umtamvuna 2018.

Pavetta revoluta Dune Brides-bush. Probably this species in dunes at Port Edward, 2023.

Pentanisia angustifolia Almost hairless, narrow leaves. Port Edward.

Pentanisia prunelloides Broad-leaved Pentanisia. Leaves hairy to hairless. Dense inflorescence

of

purplish flowers. Widespread.

Psychotria capensis Black Bird-berry. Umtamvuna.

Psydrax obovata Quar. Umtamvuna.

Rothmannia globosa September Bells. Umtamvuna 2018.

Rutaceae

Trees or shrubs. Often aromatic. Frequently ericoid. Leaves dotted with oil glands. Flowers mostly white to pink. Sepals and petals 5 (rarely 4). Ovary superior.

Agathosma ovata Oval-leaved Buchu. Crushed leaves citrus scented. Red Desert, in bud.

Calodendrum capense Cape-chestnut. Lower Ntsikeni, 2018.

Zanthoxylum davyi Forest Knobwood.

Salicaceae

Populus x canescens Grey Poplar. Alien. Widespread.

Populus nigra italica Lombardy Poplar. Alien.

Salix babylonica Weeping Willow. Alien. Giant's Castle.

Salix fragilis Crack Willow.

Salix mucronata Small-leaf Willow. Native. Giant's Castle.

Santalaceae

Colpoon compressum Port Edward.

Osyris lanceolata Hemiparasitic shrub. Giant's Castle.

Thesium are hemiparasites with perianth lobes and stamens 5.

Thesium natalensis

Umtamvuna 2018.

Thesium pallidum

Port Edward.

Thesium spp. Other species unidentified.

Sapindaceae

Deinbollia oblongifolia Dune Soap-berry.

Sapotaceae

Mimusops caffra Coast Red-milkwood.
Sideroxylon inerme White-milkwood.

Scrophulariaceae

Alectra sessiliflora Hemiparasitic herb with yellow flowers. Toothed leaflike bracts. Port

Edward.

Anastrabe integerrima Pambati-tree. Umtamvuna 2019.

Bowkeria verticillata Southern Shell-flower. Small tree. Giant's Castle.

Buchnera are pernnial herbs, often parasitic, with regular flowers.

Buchnera dura Flower tube softly hairy. Port Edward.

Buchnera simplex Leaves basal, heads of small blue to lilac flowers. Flower tube +/-

hairless.

Giant's Castle.

Craterostigma nanum Mole's Spectacles. Dried out plants reabsorb water and recover within

24

hours. Umtamvuna.

Cycnium are perennial parasitic herbs with large nearly regular flowers.

Cycnium racemosum Large Pink Ink Plant. Large pink flowers turn black when bruised.

Port Edward, Golden Gate, Sani, and Witsieshoek.

Diascia have mostly purple flowers with bright yellow windows, lower petal with pouches or spurs.

Diascia anastrepta Upturned Twinspur. Conspicuous spreading upturned spurs. Sani

2019.

Diascia barberae Spurs incurved. Witsieshoek, 2019.

Diascia cordataPink flowers with diverging blunt spurs. Sani and Giant's Castle.Diascia integerrimaFlowers pale pink. Spurs incurved at tips, pointing downwards.

Sani.

Diascia purpurea Flowers nodding, spurs very short. Witsieshoek, in fine flower.

Diclis reptans Dwarf Snapdragon. Sprawling herb with white flowers with violet

spots,

palate yellow, spur slender, violet. Giant's Castle.

Diclis rotundifolia Has shorter and broader spur than previous species, less toothes

leaves.

En route to Kamberg, Golden Gate, etc.

Glumicalyx are perennial herbs or shrublets with cylindrical flowers in nodding inflorescence. Genus endemic

to Eastern Mountain Region.

Glumicalyx flanaganii Flower tube up to 17mm, leaves finely hairy. Golden Gate 2020.

Glumicalyx goseloides Flower tube 20 to 29mm. Sani.

Glumicalyx lesuticus Flower tube 7 to 11.5mm. Lesotho, where endemic. New in 2023. Flower tube 4 to 6mm. Cream flowers. Upper Witsieshoek.

Glumicalyx nutans Flower tube 12 to 16mm. Sani.

Halleria lucida Tree Fuchsia. Small tree with orange flowers. Giant's Castle and

Golden Gate.

Hebenstretia have sessile flowers in dense spikes, white usually with orange fleck at the base of petals.

Hebenstretia comosa Golden Gate.

Hebenstretia cooperiSoft wooded shrub. Sani.Hebenstretia duraPerennial herb. Sani.

Hebenstretia sp. Witsieshoek.

Jamesbrittenia are shrubs or herbs with glands. Corolla regular.

Jamesbrittenia aurantiaca Red or orange flowers. Golden Gate vulture hide site.

Jamesbrittenia breviflora Large brick-red flowers. Sani.

Jamesbrittenia pristisepala Dwarf shrublet with lilac flowers. Sani and Witsieshoek.

Limosella are aquatic herbs, flowers among leaves.

Limosella inflata

Lesotho 2023.

Limosella longiflora Leaves needle-shaped, calyx five-veined. Sani.

Limosella vesiculosa Leaves roundish, flowers white, calyx tube wrinkled from bladdery

swellings. Lesotho and Sani.

Manulea crassifolia Tall perennial, long spike of yellow flowers. Witsieshoek.

Manulea platystigma Dwarf perennial, long inflorescence of yellow flowers in clusters of 2 or

3. Lesotho 2018.

Melasma scabrum Hemiparasite with large yellow flowers with red centre. Marsh, Day 5

afternoon.

Nemesia have strongly 2-lipped flowers, rather snapdragon like.

Nemesia caerulea Violet-blue flowers with two raised yellow bosses in mouth. Sani.

Nemesia rupicola Clustered white to mauve flowers, palate yellow. Sani and Witsieshoek.

Nemesia sylvatica White Forest-Nemesia. Large white flowers. Giant's Castle and

Witsieshoek. 2020.

Phygelius aequalis River Bells. Shrub, tubular red flowers with equal mouth. Giant's

Castle.

Not seen 2023.

Phygelius capensis Southern Phygelius. Shrub, scarlet flowers, tube curved, mouth

oblique. Sani. Not seen 2023.

Selago are shrubs or herbs with small flowers often in many flowered heads.

Selago densiflora Clusters of white flowers. Giant's Castle.

Selago flanaganii Large inflorescence of white to mauve flowers. Sani, Golden Gate,

and Witsieshoek.

Selago galpiniiHeads of blue-violet flowers. Sani etc.Selago monticolaFlowers white. Giant's Castle 2023.

Selago tarachodes Compact inflorescence of white flowers. Port Edward.

Selago trinervia Port Edward.

Sopubia cana Silvery Sopubia. Parasitic herb. Silvery grey with pink flowers.

Sani, Witsieshoek and Giant's Castle.

Sopubia simplex Nearly hairless. Port Edward.

Striga are parasitic herbs.

Striga asiatica Red flowers. Red Desert.

Striga bilabiata Lilac 2-lipped flowers. Golden Gate and Witsieshoek.

Striga elegans Large red flowers. Spionkop 2020. Possibly this at Golden Gate 2023. Striga gesnerioides

Sutera floribunda Aromatic perennial herb with many white flowers. Sani and Giant's

Castle.

Sutera patriotica Pink flowers with yellow-orange tube. Sani.

Golden Gate 2023. (There are no Verbascum species in the Free State Verbascum sp.

Flora).

Veronica persica Common Field Speedwell.

Veronica anagallis-aquatica Blue Water-speedwell. Naturalised at Sani.

Zaluzianskya, Drumstick Flowers, have flowers with 5 more or less similar lobes, the lobes often notched or

forked.

Zaluzianskya microsiphon Short-tubed Drumsticks. Flower has two upward facing lobes

and three

downward, pink outside, white inside. Sani, Giant's Castle, Golden

Flower tube horizontal, mouth with thick hairs. Kamberg 2020. Zaluzianskya natalensis Zaluzianskya ovata

Corolla limb held horizontally. White inside, pink outside. Sani and

Day 6, 2020.

Leaves in small rosettes. Corolla limb held horizontally. Sani 2023. Zaluzianskya pulvinata Zaluzianskya rubrostellata Flowers brown below, bright yellow above with red markings at base.

Flowers open at night. A superb addition to the list in 2023, although

the

flowers were closed, found at Sani.

Solanaceae

Datura stramonium Common Thorn Apple. Spionkop 2023. Physalis viscosa Wild Gooseberry. Alien. Spionkop.

Solanum mauritianum Bugweed. Alien.

Solanum panduriforme Mauve flowers. Spionkop.

Solanum retroflexum White flowers. Port Edward, Golden Gate, and Sani.

Strychnaceae

Red Desert. Strychnos sp.

Thymelaeaceae

Small trees or shrubs, often ericoid. Inflorescence a spike or head. Flowers white, yellow or pinkish, tubular, sepals 4 or 5, petals replaced by 4, 8, or 12 scale-like appendages. Ovary superior.

Dais cotinifolia Pompom Tree. Giant's Castle. *Gnidia* are often ericoid, flowers usually in heads, usually white or yellow, membranous or fleshy petal scales in the mouth of the fused sepal tube. (*Lasiosiphon*).

Gnidia anthylloides Flowers bright lemon yellow. Port Edward.

Gnidia baurii Umtamvuna and Red Desert.

Gnidia caffra Softly silvery hairy shrublet, flowers shiny lemon yellow. Golden Gate.

Gnidia kraussiana Robust shrublet. Umtamvuna.

Gnidia nodiflora Port Edward 2020.

Gnidia polyantha Silky subshrub with crowded heads of bright yellow flowers. Giant's

Castle

and Sani.

Gnidia triplinervis Flowers yellow, calyx tube silky. Port Edward.

Passerina has small cream or reddish flowers.

Passerina montana Small creamy flowers in profusion in terminal clusters. Lesotho and

Giant's Castle.

Passerina sp. Umtamvuna.

Peddiea africana Poison-olive.

Tiliaceae

Grewia occidentalis Cross-berry Raisin. Port Edward and Giants' Castle.

Urticaceae

Urtica urensAnnual NettleUrtica sp.Golden Gate.

Valerianaceae

Valeriana capensis Cape Valerian. Giant's Castle.

Verbenaceae

Lantana camaraAlien. Port Edward.Phyla nodifloraAlien. Port Edward.

Verbena aristigera Fine-leaved Verbena. Alien. Widespread. Numerous at Spionkop.

Verbena bonariensis Tall Verbena. Alien. Very common and widespread.

Verbena brasiliensis

Violaceae

Hybanthus enneaspermus Lady's Slipper. Pink flowers with lowest petal pouched at base. Red

Desert.

Viscaceae

Viscum sp. Umtamvuna.

Vitaceae

Rhoicissus tridentata Bushman's Grape. Golden Gate.

Systematic List Number 2

Birds

Helmeted Guineafowl	Numida meleagris	Roadsides.
Grey-winged Francolin	Scleroptila afra	Sani.
Red-winged Francolin	Scleroptila levaillantii	Kamberg.
Shelley's Francolin	Scleoptila shelleyi	Spionkop.
Common Quail	Coturnix coturnix	Scattered records.
Spur-winged Goose	Plectropterus gambensis	Widespread.

Plectropterus gambensis Egyptian Goose Alopochen aegyptiaca Widespread and common.

African Black Duck Anas sparsa 1, Kamberg. Yellow-billed Duck Anas undulata Day 9. Black Stork Ciconia abdimii Day 5.

White Stork Ciconia ciconia Widespread, especially Underberg area.

African Sacred Ibis Threskiornis aethiopicus Widespread.

Near Giant's Castle, and Lesotho. Southern Bald Ibis Geronticus calvus

Hadada Ibis Bostrychia hagedash Common and widespread.

Western Cattle Egret Bubulcus ibis Widespread and reasonably common.

Black-headed Heron Ardea melanocephala Widespread singletons. Ardea purpurea Near Johannesburg. Purple Heron **Great Egret** Ardea alba Scattered records. Intermediate Egret Egretta intermedia Scattered records. Little Egret Egretta garzetta Scattered records.

Hamerkop Scopus umbretta At the N3 One Stop on the last day.

Reed Cormorant Microcarbo africanus Scattered records.

Secretarybird Sagittarius serpentarius West of Underberg, and en route to Giant's

Castle.

Black-winged Kite Elanus caeruleus Spionkop. Yellow-billed Kite Milvus aegyptius Widespread. Gypaetus barbatus Sani Top.

Bearded Vulture (Lammergeier)

Cape Vulture Gyps coprotheres Seen very closely as we approached

Underberg, and at Sani.

Golden Gate NP. Batelaur *Terathopius ecaudatus* Common (Steppe) Buzzard Buteo [buteo] vulpinus Widespread. Jackal Buzzard Buteo rufofuscus Widespread. Verreaux's Eagle 2 at Witsieshoek. Aquila verreauxii

Crowned Eagle Stephanoaetus coronatus Nesting, with young, at Munster.

Rock Kestrel Falco rupicolus Golden Gate.

Amur Falcon Falco amurensis Many fewer than there were a few years

ago in the Underberg area.

Striped Flufftail Sarothrura affinis Heard at Witsieshoek.

Black Crake Amaurornis flavirostra Seen by PGC, near Durban, before the tour

began.

Red-knobbed Coot Fulica cristata Scattered records. Grey Crowned Crane Port Edward and Day 6. Balearica regulorum

Blue Crane Grus paradiseus Lower Sani

Wattled Crane Grus carunculatus 3 near Giant's Castle

Common Buttonquail Turnix sylvaticus Umtamvuna. Blacksmith Lapwing Vanellus armatus Scattered records.

African Jacana Seen by PGC near Durban before the start Actophilornis africanus

of the tour.

Feral Pigeon Columba livia Towns, common and widespread.

Speckled Pigeon Columba guinea Widespread, seen most days.

African Olive Pigeon Columba arquatrix Afromontane forest, Giant's Castle.

Red-eyed Dove Streptopelia semitorquata Widespread and common.

Ring-necked Dove Streptopelia capicola Widespread and common.

Laughing DoveStreptopelia senegalensisWidespread.Knysna TuracoTauraco corythaixPort Edward.

Levaillant's Cuckoo *Clamator levaillantii* Heard at Underberg. Jacobin Cuckoo *Clamator jacobinus* Spionkop.

Dideric Cuckoo Chrysococcyx caprius 2 seen en route to Giant's Castle. Heard

at various sites.

Klaas's Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx klaas* Heard at various sites. Black Cuckoo *Cuculus clamosus* Heard at Giant's Castle.

Red-chested Cuckoo Cuculus solitarius Seen at Giant's Castle, and an immature

lower Sani being fed by a Cape Robin-chat.

African Palm Swift Cypsiurus parvus On the coast. Tachymarptis melba Alpine Swift Scattered records. Common Swift Apus apus Scattered records. African Black Swift Apus barbatus Scattered records. Apus affinis Little Swift Scattered records. Apus horus Horus Swift Golden Gate. White-rumped Swift Apus caffer Golden Gate. Speckled Mousebird Colius striatus Scattered records.

Brown-hooded Kingfisher Halcyon albiventris Seen near Durban by PGC before the tour

began.

Malachite Kingfisher Corythornis cristata Day 6.

Half-collared Kingfisher Alcedo semitorquata Heard lower Sani. Common Scimitarbill Rhinopomastus cyanomelas Golden Gate.

White-eared Barbet Stactolaema leucotis Durban area, seen by PGC before the group

arrived.

Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird Pogoniulus bilineatus Calling at Port Edward.
Black-collared Barbet Lybius torquatus Port Edward area.

Brown-backed Honeybird Prodotiscus regulus Durban area, seen by PGC before the group

arrived.

Red-throated Wryneck Jynx ruficollis Golden Gate.

Ground Woodpecker Geocolaptes olivaceus On 2 days at Sani.

Cape Batis Batis capensis Day 3 lunch site and Giant's Castle.

Bokmakierie Telophorus zeylonus Scattered records.
Southern Boubou Laniarius ferrugineus Giant's Castle.
Common Fiscal Lanius collaris Widespread.
Black-headed Oriole Oriolus larvatus Scattered records.

Fork-tailed Drongo Dicrurus adsimilis Widespread in small numbers.

African Paradise Flycatcher Terpsiphone viridis A pair at Giant's Castle.

Cape Crow Corvus capensis Widespread and reasonably common.

Pied CrowCorvus albusWidespread.White-necked RavenCorvus albicollisWidespread.

Drakensberg Rockjumper Chaetops aurantius Seen very well at Sani, a pair, and

Witsieshoek, a female.

Grey Tit Parus afer Sani. Rufous-naped Lark Mirafra africana Spionkop.

Red-capped Lark Calandrella cinerea Lower Sani, with young.

African Red-eyed Bulbul Pycnonotus nigricans Golden Gate.

Dark-capped Bulbul Pycnonotus tricolor Widespread and common.

Brown-throated Martin Riparia paludicola Widespread.
Banded Martin Riparia cincta Scattered records.

Barn Swallow Hirundo rustica Widespread and common.

White-throated Swallow Hirundo albigularis Golden Gate.
Pearl-breasted Swallow Hirundo dimidiata Day 3.

Greater Striped Swallow Hirundo cucullata Widespread and common.

Lesser Striped SwallowHirundo abyssinicaScattered records.Rock MartinPtyonoprogne fuligulaWidespread.Common House MartinDelichon urbicumScattered records.Cape GrassbirdSphenoeacus aferSani and Giant's Castle.

Fan-tailed Grassbird Schoenicola brevirostris Umtamvuna.

Barratt's Warbler Bradypterus barratti Sani.

Lazy Cisticola Cisticola aberrans Giant's Castle.
Rattling Cisticola Cisticola chiniana Spionkop.

Wailing Cisticola Cisticola lais Common and widespread.

Levaillant's Cisticola Cisticola tinniens Widespread in wetter vegetation.

Croaking Cisticola Cisticola natalensis Port Edward.

Neddicky Cisticola fulvicapill A few records.

Zitting Cisticola Cisticola juncidis Scattered records.

Wing-snapping Cisticola Cisticola ayresii Widespread, displaying high.

Tawny-flanked Prinia Prinia subflava Umtamvuna.

Karoo Prinia Prinia maculosa Sani and Golden Gate.

Drakensberg Prinia Prinia hypoxantha Scattered records.

Bush Blackcap Lioptilus nigricapillus Seen well at Giant's Castle.

Cape White-eye Zosterops capensis Scattered records.

Gurney's Sugarbird Promerops gurneyi Sani.

Common Myna Acridotheres tristis Around habitation.

Wattled Starling Creatophora cinerea Himeville.

European Starling Sturnus vulgaris Scattered records.
Black-bellied Starling Notopholia corrusca Durban area.

Pied Starling Lamprotornis bicolor Widespread and common.

Red-winged Starling Onychognathus morio Widespread and very common.

Olive Thrush Turdus olivaceus Widespread.

Cape Robin-chat Cossypha caffra Widespread and reasonably common.

African Stonechat Saxicola torquatus Widespread and common.

Buff-streaked Chat Campicoloides bifasciatus Sani, Golden Gate, Witsieshoek

Mountain WheatearOenanthe monticolaSani and Golden Gate.Sickle-winged ChatCercomela sinuataLesotho and Sani.Familiar ChatCercomela familiarisWitsieshoek.Ant-eating ChatMyrmecocichla formicivoraScattered records.Mocking Cliff ChatThamnolaea cinnamomeiventrisUmtamvuna.

Cape Rock Thrush Monticola rupestris Widespread in small numbers.

Sentinel Rock Thrush Monticola explorator Sani.

Fiscal Flycatcher Sigelus silens Giant's Castle.

Amethyst Sunbird Chalcomitra amethystina Port Edward area.

Malachite Sunbird Nectarinia famosa Widespread in small numbers.

Greater Double-collared Sunbird

Cinnyris afer Sani, Giant's Castle, etc.

House Sparrow Passer domesticus Widespread around habitation.

Cape Sparrow Passer melanurus Widespread.

Southern Grey-headed Sparrow Passer diffusus Scattered records.

Cape WeaverPloceus capensisWidespread.Southern Masked WeaverPloceus velatusCommon.

Yellow-crowned Bishop Euplectes afer Scattered records.

Southern Red Bishop Euplectes orix Widespread and reasonably common.

Yellow Bishop Euplectes capensis Scattered records. Fan-tailed Widowbird Euplectes axillaris Scattered records.

Red-collared Widowbird Euplectes ardens Widespread and reasonably common.

Long-tailed Widowbird Euplectes progne Widespread and common.

Swee Waxbill Coccopygia melanotis Sani.

Common Waxbill Estrilda astrild Scattered records. Lonchura cucullata Bronze Mannikin Scattered records. Pin-tailed Whydah Vidua macroura Widespread. Cape Wagtail Motacilla capensis Widespread. Cape Longclaw Macronyx capensis Kamberg. Yellow-throated Longclaw Umtamvuna. Macronyx croceus Anthus cinnamomeus African Pipit Scattered records.

Mountain Pipit Anthus hoeschi Lesotho.
African Rock Pipit Anthus crenatus Lesotho.
Short-tailed Pipit Anthus brachyurus Lower Sani.
Cape Canary Serinus canicollis Widespread.
Forest Canary Crithagra scotops Scattered records.

Yellow-fronted Canary Crithagra mozambica Spionkop.

Yellow Canary Crithagra flaviventris Scattered records.

Drakensberg Siskin Crithagra symonsi Sani.

Cape Bunting Emberiza capensis Sani and Golden Gate.

Golden-breasted Bunting Emberiza flaviventris Lower Sani.

Systematic List Number 3

Mammals

The nomenclature and systematic order follow 'Smither's Mammals of Southern Africa. A Field Guide', edited by Peter Apps, 2000 edition.

Sloggett's Ice Rat Otomys sloggetti Seen very closely at Sani Pass.

Four-striped Grass Mouse Rhabdomys pumilio Lower Sani 2023.

Rock Hyrax Procavia capensis Giant's Castle and Witsieshoek.

Porcupine *Hystrix africaeaustralis* Quills found.

Burchell's Zebra Equus burchelli Spionkop and Golden Gate.

Warthog Phacochoerus aethiopicus Spionkop 2019. Giraffe Giraffa camelopardalis Spionkop 2018.

Black Wildebeest Connochaetes gnou Seen well at Golden Gate and Kamberg.

Blue WildebeestConnochaetes taurinusSpionkop 2019.Red HartebeestAlcelaphus buselaphusGolden Gate.TsessebeDamaliscus lunatusSpionkop.

Blesbok Damaliscus pygargus phillipsi Widespread and often numerous. Giant's

Castle, Spionkop, Golden Gate.

Common DuikerSylvicapra grimmiaUnderberg 2019.SpringbokAntidorcas marsupialisGolden Gate.KuduTragelaphus strepsicerosSpionkop.ImpalaAepyceros melampusSpionkop.SteenbokRaphicerus campestrisDay 8, 2019.

Grey Rhebuck Pelea capreolus Sani, and Witsieshoek.

Common ReedbuckRedunca arundinumUmtamvuna.ElandTaurotragus oryxGolden Gate.Black-backed JackalCanis mesomelasGolden Gate.Yellow MongooseCynictis penicillataSpionkop.Water MongooseAtilax paludinosusSign, Sani.

Chacma Baboon Papio cynocephalus ursinus Scattered records, e.g. Golden Gate, Sani,

Witsieshoek.

Vervet Monkey *Cercopithecus aethiops* Port Edward area 2019.

Bat spp. Several seen but unidentified.

Systematic List Number 4 Amphibians and Reptiles

Painted Reed Frog Hyperolius marmoratus Umtamvuna 2019.

Common PlatannaXenopus laevisSani.Common River FrogAmietia angolensisHimeville.Drakensberg River FrogAmietia dracomontanaLesotho.Maluti River FrogAmietia umbraculataLesotho.

Toad sp. Larvae in Lesotho. Luminous spot!

Variable Skink Trachylepis varia Scattered records.

Striped Skink Trachylepis striata Scattered records, e.g. Witsieshoek lodge. Drakensberg Crag Lizard Pseudocordylus melanotus Common at Witsieshoek, also Sani Top.

Southern Rock Agama Agama atra Sani.

Systematic List Number 5

The standard work is 'Pennington's Butterflies of Southern Africa' second edition 1994, edited by Pringle et al. The excellent and much more portable 'Field Guide to Butterflies of South Africa', by Steve Woodhall, Struik 2005 was used in the field. Second edition now published. I have included foodplant (FP) details. Species added to the list in 2023 are annotated 2023. Of course all species with no year annotation were also seen this year.

Butterflies

Papilionidae Papilio demodocus	Citrus Swallowtail	Munster. FP: citrus, <i>Toddalia asiatica</i> , <i>Calodendrum capense</i> , <i>Zanthoxyllum</i>
capense,		
Papilio echerioides	White-banded Swallowtail	Foeniculum vulgare, etc. etc. Giant's Castle Forest 2023. FP: Clausena anisata, Vepris lanceolata, Zanthoxylum capense
Papilio nireus lyaeus	Green-banded Swallowtail	Durban (PGC). FP: citrus, Calodendrum capense, Clausena anisata, Toddalia
asiatica,		Zanthamilum agnanga ata
		Zanthoxylum capense, etc.
Pieridae		
Pontia helice	Meadow White	Spionkop. Numerous at Golden Gate. FP: <i>Heliophila</i> spp. and other crucifers.
Mylothris agathina	Common Dotted Border	Several at Giant's Castle. FP: <i>Tapinanthus</i> oleifolius, <i>Ximenia caffra</i> , <i>Osyris</i> lanceolata, <i>Colpoon compressum</i> etc.
Belenois aurota	Pioneer Caper White	Durban area (PGC). FP: Capparidaceae.
Colias electo	African Clouded Yellow	Lesotho 2023. FP: legumes.
Catopsilia florella	African Migrant	Widespread. FP: Senna spp.
Eurema hecabe solifera	Common Grass Yellow	A few records. FP: <i>Hypericum aethiopicum</i> and <i>Chamaecrista mimosoides</i> .
Eurema brigitta	Broad-bordered or Small Grass Yellow	Scattered records. FP: <i>Hypericum aethiopicum</i> and <i>Chamaecrista mimosoides</i> .
Eurema desjardinsii marshalli Chamaecrista mimosoides.		Angled Grass Yellow Port Edward. FP:
Lycaenidae Miletinae		
Lachnocnema durbani	a woolly legs	A female at Spionkop, 2019. Larval food: Homoptera.
Lycaeninae		
Leptomyrina lara	Cape Black-eye	A few at Golden Gate, 2019. FP: Cotyledon orbiculata.
Axiocerses tjoane tjoane	Common Scarlet	Spionkop, 2019. FP: Acacia spp.
Aloeides rileyi	Riley's Copper	Golden Gate 2019. A Drakensberg endemic.
Aloeides penningtoni	Pennington's Copper	Sani, 2019.
Aloeides aranda	Aranda Copper	Red Desert and Golden Gate, 2019.

FP: Aspalathus. Aloeides maluti Maluti Copper Golden Gate, 2019. A Drakensberg endemic. Aloeides swanepoeli Swanepoel's Copper Spionkop, 2019. Chrysoritis chrysaor **Burnished Opal** Witsieshoek. FP: Tylecodon paniculatus, Cotyledon orbiculata, Acacia karoo, Searsia spp. Natal Opal Chrysoritis natalensis Umtamvuna 2023. FP: Cotyledon orbiculata, Ostium incanum, Osteospermum moniliferum. Anthene definita Common Hairtail Giant's Castle 2019. Polyphagous. Anthene amarah Several at Spionkop. FP: *Acacia* spp. Black-striped Hairtail Leptotes pirithous/brevidentatus Common/Short-toothed Blue Only distinguishable by dissection. Polyphagous. Cacyreus tespis Water Bronze Giant's Castle riverside. FP: Geranium spp. and Pelargonium spp. Geranium Bronze Witsieshoek. Cacyreus marshalli FP: Geranium spp. and Pelargonium spp. Long-tailed Blue Widespread. FP: Fabaceae. Lampides boeticus Giant's Castle. FP: Alchemilla capensis. Harpendyreus noquasa Marsh Blue Lepidochrysops variabilis Variable Blue Golden Gate. FP: Selago spp., Becium spp., Salvia spp. Lepidochrysops ketsi Ketsi Blue Several at Umtamvuna. FP: Selago spp. A leucomacula very local endemic. Eicochrysops hippocrates Durban area (PGC). FP: Polygonaceae. White-tipped Ash Blue Actizera lucida 2+ Port Edward area, and Golden Gate, Rayed Blue 2019. FP: Oxalis spp., Argyrolobium sp., Rhynchosia spp., Crotalaria lanceolata. A few records. FP: Tribulus terrestris, Zizeeria knysna Sooty Blue **Oxalis** spp., Amaranthus deflexus, A.viridis, Medicago sativa, Zornia spp. Azanus ubaldus Velvet-spotted Blue Topaz-spotted Blue Spionkop. FP: Acacia spp. Azanus jesous Azanus natalensis Natal Spotted Blue Port Edward. FP: Acacia spp. Azanus moriqua Thorn-tree Blue Spionkop and Umtamvuna. FP: Acacia sp. Scattered records. FP: Phaulopsis imbricata, Zizula hylax Gaika Blue Ruellia spp., Justicia spp., Oxalis corniculata, etc. Nymphalidae Danainae African Monarch Danaus chrysippus Widespread and locally common. FP: Asclepiadaceae. Amauris echeria Chief Giant's Castle forest 2023.

FP: Asclepiadaceae.

Satyrinae

Bicyclus safitza Common Bush Brown Port Edward. FP: Grasses. Aeropetes tulbaghia Table Mountain Beauty or Scattered records, e.g. Golden Gate, Sani, Mountain Pride Witsieshoek. FP: Grasses. **Bush Beauty or Forest Beauty** Giant's Castle. FP: Grasses. Paralethe dendrophilus Cassionympha cassius Rainforest Brown Port Edward and Giant's Castle. FP: Grasses. Dark Speckled Widow Lesotho 2023. FP: Grasses. Serradinga bowkeri Pseudonympa gaika Gaika Brown Sani Top. FP: Grasses. Pseudonympha magoides False Silver-bottom Brown Golden Gate. FP: Grasses. Pseudonympha varii Vari's Brown Golden Gate. Pseudonympha machacha Machacha Brown A few high altitude records, e.g. Sani. FP: Grasses. Stygionympha scotina Eastern Hillside Brown South African side of Sani, and Witsieshoek. FP: Grasses. Wichgraf's Brown Stygionympha wichgrafi grisea Umtamvuna 2019. Very local endemic subspecies. Heliconiinae Garden Acraea Common at Giant's Castle. Sani South Acraea horta African border post. Golden Gate. FP: Kiggelaria africana and Passiflora spp. DancingTelchinia Port Edward 2023. FP: Hermannia spp., Telchinia serena Triumfetta spp. Yellow-banded Telchinia Port Edward 2023. FP: *Hermannia* spp. Telchinia cabira Umtamvuna. FP: Hybanthus capensis. Pardopsis punctatissima Polka Dot Charaxinae Charaxes brutus natalensis White-barred Charaxes Durban area (PGC). FP: Melia azederach, Trichilia spp., Turraea floribunda, Ekebergia capensis. Pondo Charaxes Umtamvuna 2023. FP: Philenoptera Charaxes pondoensis sutherlandii, Millettia grandis. Biblidinae Sevenia morantii Morant's Tree Nymph Durban area (PGC). Spotted Joker Spionkop. FP: Tragia glabrata and Byblia ilithyia Dalechampis capensis. Nymphalinae Variable Diadem Hypolimnas anthedon wahlbergi Durban area (PGC). FP: Laportea peduncularis, Urera spp. Catacroptera cloanthe Pirate Golden Gate. FP: Acanthaceae. f.natalensis, Giant's Castle. FP: Precis octavia sesamus Gaudy Commodore Plectranthus spp., Rabdosiella calycina, Pycnostachys spp.

Junonia natalica

Brown Pansy

Port Edward 2023. FP: Barleria spp.,

Dychoriste depressa, Asystasia

gangetica, Phalopsis imbricata.

Junonia hierta cebrene Yellow Pansy Scattered records, e.g. Spionkop.

FP: Acanthaceae.

Junonia oenone Blue Pansy Munster etc. 2018. FP: Acanthaceae.

Vanessa cardui Painted Lady 1 at Witsieshoek 2019. FP: Asteraceae, etc.

Hesperiidae

Pyrginae

Sarangesa motozi Forest Elfin Durban area (PGC). FP: Dicliptera hensii. Spialia diomus ferax Common Sandman Golden Gate 2019. FP: Hermannia spp.,

Hibiscus aethiopicus, Pavonia burchellii,

Sida spp.

Spialia spio Mountain Sandman Spionkop and Giant's Castle 2019.

FP: Hermannia spp., Hibiscus spp.,

 $La vatera\ arborea, Sida\ {\rm spp.}, Trium fetta\ {\rm spp.}$

Sani and Golden Gate, seen too briefly to

allow positive identification.

Hetropterinae

Spialia spp.

Metisella malgacha Grassveld Sylph Common at Witsieshoek, also Sani and

Giant's Castle. FP: Ehrharta erecta.

Hesperiinae

Kedestes mohozutza Fulvous Ranger or Harlequin A fine species, Port Edward.

Skipper

Kedestes chaca Shaka's Ranger or Shaka's This fine species was seen at Himeville

Skipper Nature Reserve 2019.

Kedestes wallengrenii White-streaked Ranger Giant's Castle 2023.

sandman species

Borbo sp. a swift Port Edward.

Gegenes niso niso Common Hottentot Skipper A few records, 2019. FP: Grasses.

Afrogegenes letterstedti Brown Dodger