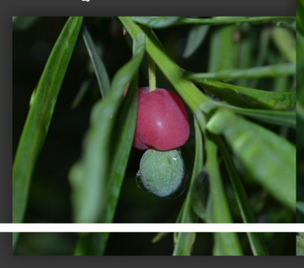
2018 TREES OF THE YEAR

Podocarpus elongatus (Aiton) L'Hér. ex Pers.

Family: Podocarpaceae **National tree nr**.: 15 **Common name**: Breede River yellowwood.

Usually a spreading shrub or small, rounded, evergreen tree up to 6 m high. The bark is smooth, grey to brown, sometimes peeling off in long narrow strips. The leaves are narrow, briefly elongated with sharp tips, grey-green and with visible white patches (stomata) on both sides. The leaves are spirally arranged and crowded at the ends of the branchlets. The flowering and fruiting structures, called cones (male and female), are borne on separate trees (dioecious). The male cones are about 25 × 3 mm and borne in clusters in the space between the base of the leaves and the stem (axillary clusters). The female cones are borne on a single, 2-lobed swollen tip, called the receptacle, about 10 × 10 mm, which turn crimson-red, appearing from January to May. One or two seeds are produced on each receptacle. The seeds are broadly elliptical (oval in shape), dark blue-green and about 7–10 mm long. They are eaten by small mammals and birds.











Afrocarpus falcatus (Thunb.) C.N.Page*

Family: Podocarpaceae **National tree nr**.: 16 **Common name**: Outeniqua yellowwood.

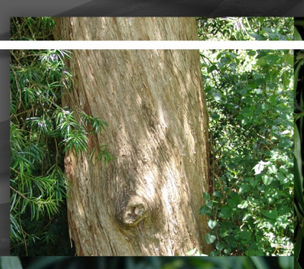
Medium to large tree, up to 45 m high. The bark peels off in flakes in round or rectangular patches. The leaves are spirally arranged, very narrow, elongated, somewhat sickle-shaped, twisted at the base, with sharp or roundish tips, blue to yellow-green, about 30–50 × 3–5 mm and with visible white patches (stomata) on both sides. The male and female flowering and fruiting structures (cones), occur on different trees. The male cones are borne singly or in small groups in the space between the base of the leaves and the stem (axillary clusters). They are brownish, occurring from September to May and are about 10 × 3 mm. The female cones are borne singly but not on a swollen tip. The seeds are globose, yellow, about 15 mm in diameter, appearing from December to January. The fruits are eaten by bats, bushpigs and fruit-eating birds .

Podocarpus henkelii Stapf ex Dallim. & A.B.Jacks.

Family: Podocarpaceae **National tree nr**.: 17 **Common name**: Henkel's yellowwood.

Evergreen medium to large tree, up to 30 m high. The trunk is large and can reach over 1 m in diameter. The bark is dark grey to pale grey-brown, peeling off in long strips. The leaves are spirally arranged and crowded at the ends of the branchlets, drooping, bright green to bluish green and glossy (shiny), long and slender, very narrowly egg-shaped (lanceolate-elliptic), tapering from about the middle to the sharp tip, 60–300 × 10–13 mm and with visible white patches (stomata) on the lower surface only. The male flowering structures, called cones, are borne singly or in small clusters, about 30 × 4 mm and pink. The female flowering and fruiting structures, called cones, are borne singly on a greenish tip (receptacle). The seed is large, round, about 25 mm in diameter, olive green to yellowish green when ripe.











Podocarpus latifolius (Thunb.) R.Br. ex Mirb.

Family: Podocarpaceae **National tree nr**.: 18 **Common name**: real yellowwood.

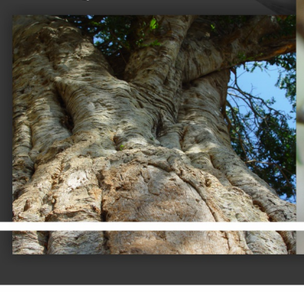
South Africa's national tree. Medium to large tree, up to 30 m high. The wood is yellow. The bark is greyish, peeling off in long strips. The leaves are spirally arranged and often crowded at the ends of the branchlets, held horizontally, narrowly elliptic, 60–150 × 5–13 mm, glossy dark green but dull bluish in some areas and with visible white patches (stomata) on the lower surface only, rarely few on the upper surface. The flowering structures (cones) are borne in the space between the base of the leaves and the stem (axillary). Male cones are borne singly or rarely in small groups, up to 50 × 5 mm, appearing from July to September. The female cones are borne singly on a thickened, fleshy, bright red, pink or reddish purple tip called the receptacle, about 10 mm long, from December to February. One or sometimes two seeds are produced. They are round, about 15 mm in diameter, blue-green, seldom tinged purplish. The sweet, ripe, berry-like receptacles are edible.

Boscia albitrunca (Burch.) Gilg & Gilg-Ben.

Family: Capparaceae **National tree nr**.: 122 **Common name**: shepherd's tree.

Small to medium tree, up to 7 m high. The tree is sturdy with a rounded crown. The bark is smooth and white or whitish grey. The leaves are grey-green and leathery, arranged in clusters, very narrowly upside-down egg-shaped to elliptic, 20–50 × 6–25 mm and have round tips. The flowers are small, yellowish green, scented (aromatic) and borne in groups in the space between the base of the leaves and the stem (axillary clusters). Flowers are borne from July to November. The fruit is a berry, yellowish or pink, globose (ball-shaped) and 10 mm in diameter. Fruiting time: October to December. It is a food source for various mammals such as giraffe, gemsbok and kudu, and also for birds. The roots of *Boscia albitrunca* are used as a substitute for coffee or chicory.







Attracts birds
Attracts insects
Medicinal use
Moderate water
Drought resistant
Frost-resistant
Requires full sun
Semi shade
Protected
Edible
Useful wood
Evergreen
Deciduous

* Synonym = ***Podocarpus falcatus*** (Thunb.) R.Br. ex Mirb.

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BRIZA

ARBORUM SILVARUMQUE CONSERVATIO SALUS MUNDI EST

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tree identification tags

Editing and design: SANBI Graphics & Editing 2018.

Boscia albitrunca (Burch.) Gilg & Gilg-Ben.

Common names: shepherd's tree; witgat (Afrikaans); mohlôpi (Sepedi); siphiso (siSwati); xukutsi (Xitsonga); motlhôpi (Setswana); muṱhobi (Tshivenda); umvithi (isiZulu).

Distribution and habitat
The shepherd's tree is widely distributed in the drier parts of southern Africa, where rainfall is low. It occurs in Limpopo, Gauteng, North-West, Free State, Northern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal. It is also found in Botswana, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

Meaning of name
Boscia – honours a French professor of agriculture, Louis A.G. Bosc (1777–1850).
albitrunca – means 'white stem', referring to the whitish stem of the species.

Ecology and uses
- Attracts various pollinators, such as mammals, birds and butterflies.
- Food source for various birds and mammals, such as giraffe, gemsbok and kudu.
- Medicinal and magical values.
- Host plant for butterfly larvae (family Pieridae, the whites).
- Infusion of leaves used to treat eye infection in cattle.
- Wood used for making household utensils.
- Roots are pounded to make porridge and beer, also used as a substitute for coffee or chicory.
- Root decoction is used to treat haemorrhoids.

As a garden tree
Boscia albitrunca is best propagated from shoot and root cuttings. The shepherd's tree is a hardy and drought-resistant tree.

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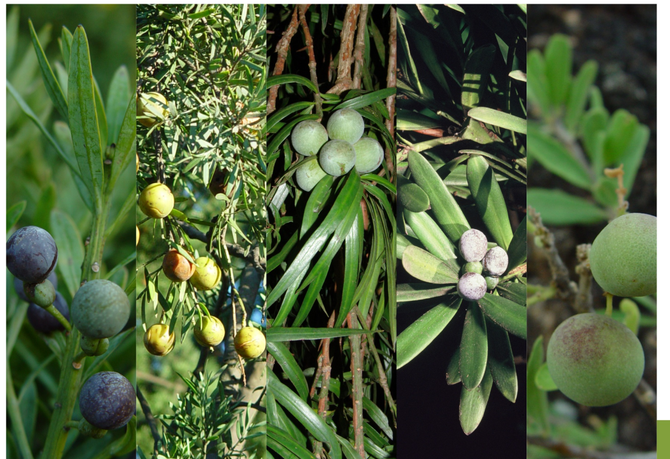
BRIZA

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tree identification tags

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2018
TREES OF THE YEAR





Trees are an essentially important part of our lives and our environment. Since the earliest time people have been dependent on trees for their survival and existence. Their value lies in their importance of supporting and sustaining biodiversity. They provide a habitat for a multitude of organisms, they give shade and shelter and are a source of food to countless microbial and animal consumers, therefore supporting whole ecosystems. We cannot imagine a world without trees!

Forests:
- Are the lungs of the earth and add O_2 to the atmosphere.
- Cover 31% of the total earth land area.
- Provide shelter to people and habitats to biodiversity.
- Are home to 80% of our terrestrial biodiversity.
- Are home to 300 million people around the world.
- Play a vital role in maintaining a stable global climate and environment.
- Are a source of food, medicine and clean water. Are used for production of wood and non-wood products.

Let's conserve and be aware of the importance of forests!

Afrocarpus falcatus (Thunb.) C.N.Page
(synonym = *Podocarpus falcatus* (Thunb.) R.Br. ex Mirb.)

Common names: Outeniqua yellowwood; outeniekwageelhout (Afrikaans); mogobagoba (Sepedi); umsonsti (siSwati); mufhanza (Tshivenda); umkhoba (isiXhosa); umsonti (isiZulu).

Distribution and habitat
Podocarpus elongatus is naturally confined to the winter rainfall region of the Western Cape. It occurs from the Vanrhynsdorp area in the north, through the Cederberg and Bokkeveld Mountains, to Swellendam in the south. It does not occur naturally in the Cape Peninsula. It grows on deep sandy soils and often along riverbanks and streams. It is endemic to southern Africa.

Meaning of name
Podocarpus – derived from the Greek *podo-*, meaning 'foot', and *karpos*, meaning 'fruit', in reference to the fleshy 'foot', the receptacle, on which the fruit of some species develops.
elongatus – means 'lengthened' in Latin.

Ecology and uses
- The Breede River yellowwood is pollinated by wind.
- Seeds are eaten and dispersed by small mammals and birds.
- Prefers sandy soil and grows along rivers and streams.
- Susceptible to damage by fire.
- Produces good timber.
- The wood has a darker reddish tinge than the other yellowwoods and has many more knots due to its gnarled, shrubby habit. In the past it was used mainly by wood-turners, chair-makers, and wagon-builders in the Cape (especially around Swellendam).

As a garden tree
The Breede River yellowwood can easily be propagated from seeds. Fresh seed must be sown into deep (100 mm) trays soon after harvesting in late summer to autumn and kept moist in shade. Keep seedlings in a semi-shaded area for at least two years before transplanting. The Breede River yellowwood can also be propagated by tip cuttings. It is tough and drought-resistant. It also makes a handsome medium-sized garden tree with an average growth rate.

Podocarpus elongatus (Aiton) L'Hér. ex Pers.

Common names: Breede River yellowwood; breeriviergeelhout (Afrikaans).

Distribution and habitat
Podocarpus elongatus is naturally confined to the winter rainfall region of the Western Cape. It occurs from the Vanrhynsdorp area in the north, through the Cederberg and Bokkeveld Mountains, to Swellendam in the south. It does not occur naturally in the Cape Peninsula. It grows on deep sandy soils and often along riverbanks and streams. It is endemic to southern Africa.

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Podocarpus henkelii Stapf ex Dallim. & A.B.Jacks.

Common names: Henkel's yellowwood; henkelgeelhout (Afrikaans); umsonti (isiXhosa); umsonti (isiZulu).

Distribution and habitat
Podocarpus henkelii is distributed from the Eastern Cape Province to KwaZulu-Natal. It occurs abundantly in moist inland forest, mostly common in montane forest of the northern KwaZulu-Natal Drakensberg.

Meaning of name
Podocarpus – derived from the Greek *podo-*, meaning 'foot', and *karpos*, meaning 'fruit', in reference to the fleshy 'foot', the receptacle, on which the fruit of some species develops.
henkelii – named after Dr J.S. Henkel (1871–1962), a conservationist of forests in the then Cape and Natal provinces, later director of forestry in Zimbabwe. He was the first to recognise this as a distinct species and not a variety of *Podocarpus latifolius*.

Ecology and uses
- Seeds are dispersed by birds.
- Preferred nesting sites of the Cape Parrot (*Poicephalus robustus*).
- Seed kernels are a major source of food for the Cape Parrot.

As a garden tree
Henkel's yellowwood can be propagated by seeds, but are susceptible to fungal disease. Seeds take two months to germinate, however, this process can be shortened by placing seed trays on bottom-heated benches. It grows well in deep and moist, sandy or loamy soil.

Podocarpus latifolius (Thunb.) R.Br. ex Mirb.

Common names: real yellowwood; opregte geelhout (Afrikaans); mogobagoba (Sepedi); umsonsti (siSwati); muhovho-hovho (Tshivenda); umchenya (isiXhosa); umkhoba (isiZulu).

South Africa's national tree

Distribution and habitat
Podocarpus latifolius naturally grows in the mountainous areas and forests in the southern, eastern and northern parts of South Africa, through to Zimbabwe and further north. It occurs on rocky hillsides and mountain slopes.

Meaning of name
Podocarpus – derived from the Greek *podo-*, meaning 'foot', and *karpos*, meaning 'fruit', in reference to the fleshy 'foot', the receptacle, on which the fruit of some species develops.
latifolius – means 'broad leaves'.

Ecology and uses
- Ripe receptacles are eaten by birds and mammals.
- Wood was used for floors in the old Cape homesteads, also for making furniture, coffins and wagons.
- In times past the South African Railways used the timber to make railway sleepers.

As a garden tree
Real yellowwood can be propagated from seeds. Clean seeds after harvesting and sow in a mixture of sand and compost. Seedlings must be transplanted with great care to avoid damaging the taproot. Its growth rate is rather slow, but faster growth can be encouraged with good soil, water and shelter. It is frost tolerant.