Report Of A Birding Trip To

South Africa

from 13 July till 3 August 1996

Participants:

Roy de Haas Anja Nusse Chris Quispel Jan van der Laan



Leopard, 21 July 1996, Skukuza, Kruger NP, South Africa; © Roy de Haas/Agami.

Maps



- 01. Jan Smuts Airport, Johannesburg
- 02. Naboomspruit
- 03. Nylsvley Nature Reserve
- 04. Mosdene Private Nature Reserve
- 05. Pietersburg
- 06. Magoebaskloof
- 07. Debengeni Falls
- 08. Phalaborwa, Kruger NP
- 09. Punda Maria, Kruger NP
- 10. Pafuri, Kruger NP
- 11. Mashkiri Falls, Kruger NP
- 12. Mopani Rest Camp, Kruger NP
- 13. Engelhard Dam, Kruger NP

- 14. Skukuza Rest Camp, Kruger NP
- 15. Dullstroom
- 16. Mkuzi Game Reserve
- 17. St Lucia
- 18. Richard's Bay
- 19. Umlalazi Forest Nature Reserve
- 20. Dlinza Forest Nature Reserve
- 21. Entumeni Nature Reserve
- 22. Durban
- 23. Mooirivier
- 24. Ladysmith
- 25. Wakkerstroom
- 26. Dirkiesdorp

Introduction

Between July 12th and August 4th 1996 we (Roy de Haas, Anja Nusse, Chris Quispel and Jan van der Laan) made a trip to Transvaal and Natal (now officially called KwaZulu-Natal) in South-Africa by car. Our main purpose was to see as many endemic bird species as possible and try to see and photograph some of the spectacular bigger mammals like Leopard, Cheetah and Rhinoceros. In the evening we tried to enjoy the better South-African wines! The birding proved to be very good, although it can be better when visiting in another season (spring!). Travel was pleasant, the roads good and quiet, the traffic few and a good car made everything perfect. Weather was most of the time sunny, but at Kruger we experienced cool weather and rains and at Wakkerstroom frost at night. At Dullstroom we experienced dense fog, which did not allow any birding at all. People, either black or white, were very nice, helpful and nobody bothered us at all during these three weeks.

Itinerary

- **12 July** Flight with Air France from **Amsterdam** Schiphol to Orly Airport, **Paris**. After a three-hour break a Boeing 747 took us at night to South-Africa.
- 13 July Arrival at Jan Smuts Airport at Johannesburg, South-Africa. Somebody from the Car Rental Company was already waiting for us with the car (Toyota Camri) and after changing money and having no custom problems we went to Naboomspruit in Transvaal. Roads quiet and clean, weather sunny but not very warm and when looking at the trees, it became clear it was winter here! We first saw common birds like Indian Myna, Garden Bulbul, Cape Wagtail, Black-winged Kite, Fiscal Shrike, Blacksmith Lapwing, Grey-headed Gull and House Sparrows. At Naboomspruit we tried to find Nylsvlei, according to Hugh Chittenden's Top Birding Spots in Southern Africa, p 134, but there was no water enough to attract a lot of birds. We found a hotel in the centre of the village as described in the Lonely Planet and after that we did some birding in the surroundings. We saw e.g. Blackchested Snake-Eagle, Neddicky, White-browed Sparrow-Weaver, White-breasted Sunbird, Black Sunbird, Rufous-vented Warbler, Pearl-breasted Swallow, African Stonechat, Chinspot Batis, Common Grenadier, Pearl-spotted Owlet, Coqui Francolin, Crested Francolin, Swainson's Spurfowl, African Grey Hornbill, Red-billed Hornbill, Crimson-breasted Gonolek, Burchell's Glossy-Starling and Red-shouldered Glossy-Starling. Dinner at a nice family restaurant with good food and very good wine!
- Early morning we drove to Mosdene Private Nature Reserve (see Chittenden's Top Birding Spots in Southern Africa, p 134), but we had difficulties in finding suitable habitat. Everything was dry and water seemed to be always on the horizon. Interesting birds were Ostrich, Marsh Owl, Long-tailed Shrike, Lesser Striped Swallow, African Hawk-Eagle, Brown Snake Eagle, Cardinal Woodpecker, Greater Honeyguide, Kalahari Scrub-Robin, Burnt-neck Eremomela, Wailing Cisticola, Pale Flycatcher and Sulphur-breasted Bushshrike. A group of Baboons watched us from the bushes. Next we went to Nylsvlei Nature Reserve (see Chittenden p 134-135). This was an interesting spot, with many wetland species like Dabchick, Long-tailed (Reed) Cormorant, Grey Black-headed and Purple Heron; Yellow-billed Egret, Hamerkop, Glossy Ibis, African Spoonbill, White-backed Duck, Comb Duck, Red-billed Duck, Southern Pochard, Red-crested Pochard (escaped?), Black Crake, African Snipe, Pearl-spotted Owlet, African Palm Swift, Black-collared Barbet and Ashy Tit. We stayed till dark, had dinner in the hotel (vlek swyn!) and went to sleep early.
- After some early morning shopping we went north with a first stop at Pietersburg. According to Stephen Terblanche this was the spot for Short-clawed Lark. We found suitable habitat just outside Pietersburg and quickly found several savanne species like Northern Black Korhaan (aka Whitequilled Bustard), Temminck's Courser, Desert Cisticola and at least four Short-clawed Larks. From there we drove to the Magoebaskloof and Wood Bush Reserve. During this drive we saw our first

White-backed Vultures, African Harrier-Hawk, White-necked Ravens and Fiscal Flycatcher. First we went to the **Debengeni Falls**, where we saw interesting species like Dark-Chanting Goshawk, Wahlberg's Eagle, Purple-crested Lourie, Southern Boubou, Bokmakierie, Orange River White-Eye, Long-billed Crombec, Yellow-breasted Apalis, Greater Double-collared Sunbird, Swee Waxbill, Redbacked Mannakin, Cape Batis, Tawny-flanked Prinia and Long-tailed Wagtail. At **Troutman Lake Resort** we found a nice hotel, saw our first Cape Robin-Chat and had very good dinner. When leaving the restaurant, the Hadada Ibises were still on the tennis court (playing tennis or was it the wine?).

16 July

Early in the morning we went back to **Woodbush Reserve** and drove some miles on the **Forest Drive**. It was foggy and the treetops were shrouded in the mist. However, we managed to spot some very good species like Olive Woodpecker, Chorister Robin-Chat, Bearded Scrub Robin, Yellow-streaked Bulbul, Grey Cuckooshrike and probably the best bird of the entire trip, a pair of Black-fronted Bush Shrikes! At 10:00 hours we sadly had to leave the area to be in time in the Kruger Park. We drove via **Tazneen** to **Phalaborwa**, one of the gates of **Kruger National Park**. In Kruger we drove north to **Punda Maria**, where we made reservations for two nights. Interesting birds were Lappet-faced Vulture, African Fish Eagle, Martial Eagle, Tawny Eagle, Bataleur, Red-crested Bustard, Verreaux's Eagle Owl (on nest just inside the gate), Purple Roller, Black Cuckooshrike, Arrow-marked Babbler, Ground-scraper Thrush, Ashy Alseonax, Wattled and Greater Blue-eared Starling, Grey-headed Sparrow and Cinnamon-breasted Bunting. Furthermore we saw our first Burchell's Zebras, Giraffes and Elephants. At **Punda Maria** we had a good dinner and a good night sleep.

17 July

We woke up with the sound of rain and this proved to be the coldest and wettest day of the entire trip. We drove to **Pafuri** and tried to make the best possible. On our way near the **Mashikiri Well** we saw a Dickinson's Kestrel in a Baobab tree. Interesting birds at **Pafuri** were Woolly-neck Stork, Natal Francolin, White-headed Lapwing, Emerald-spotted Dove, Red-billed and Scimitar-billed Woodhoopoe, Wire-tailed Swallow, a lone White-throated Swallow, White-browed Robin-Chat (Heuglin's Robin), Red-capped Robin-Chat (Natal Robin), White-throated Robin-Chat, Bearded Scrub-Robin, Lesser Swamp Warbler, Green-capped Eremomela, Red-faced Cisticola, Tawny-flanked Prinia, African Paradise Flycatcher, Tropical Boubou, Meves's Glossy Starling, Yellow-throated Petronia, Spectacled Weaver, White-winged Widow-bird, Queen Whydah and African Golden-breasted Bunting. We searched in vain for Crowned Eagle and Narina Trogon. In the afternoon we drove back to **Punda Maria**, where again we had an excellent dinner and a good night sleep.

18 July

Today the weather cleared a little and sometimes the sun was visible, so again we headed for **Pafuri** to look for Narina Trogon amongst others. Beside the species mentioned yesterday we saw Little Banded Sparrow, African Goshawk, Double-banded Sandgrouse, African Green-Pigeon, Little Swift, Böhms Spinetail (the most peculiar bird and certainly one of the highlights of the entire trip!), Trumpeter Hornbill, Half-collared Kingfisher (only seen by Roy), Bennett's Woodpecker, Greyrumped Swallow, Southern Black Tit, Terrestrial Greenbul, White-browed Robin, Black-headed Oriole, Grey-backed Bleating Camaroptera, Wattle-eyed Flycatcher, Red-winged Starling and Northern Yellow White-eye. At noon we drove back to **Punda Maria** and through to **Mopani**, where we had booked for another three nights. On our way to **Mopani** we saw Burchell's Coucal, White-fronted Bee-eater, Tawny Eagle, Bataleur and Dickinson's Kestrel at **Balabala**. At **Mopani** we bought meat for barbecue, had a delicious dinner and the most beautiful sight of the stars, more than in the Northern Hemisphere. At night! had a bad dream about an elephant who was sleeping in our cottage so! woke up Chris to remove it! Sorry Chris...

19 July

Early morning we heard a Lion roaring and this proved to be the only record we had the whole holiday! A Familiar Chat sat on the barbecue, living up his South-African name (spekvreter!). The weather was finally sunny and because I forgot my pair of glasses and fluid for my contact lenses in **Punda Maria** we drove back north. On our way a very nasty Elephant blocked the road for half an

hour, but finally he disappeared. We decided to check **Pafuri** first and this was a good move, since we found 4 Mottled Spinetails at the bridge over the **Luvuvhu River** and on our way back 5 Arnot's Chats! Other birds at **Pafuri** were another Böhm's Spinetail, Yellow Warbler, Martial Eagle, Gymnogene, Pearl-spotted Owlet, White-fronted Bee-eater, Sulphur-breasted Bush Shrike, Red-billed Buffalo Weaver and White-crowned Plover. At **Punda Maria** I collected my lost things and after observing a Scarlet-chested Sunbird we went south to **Mopani**. At **Balabala** we had our first Monotonous Lark, on our way to **Mopani** another Dickinson's Kestrel and just before **Mopani** Gabar Goshawk, White-headed Vulture and a Martial Eagle. Another male Elephant blocked the road, but we escaped just in time. In the evening after observing a Freckled Nightjar over the cottage, we barbecued again, but this was not as good as the day before, despite the crafty hands of our *maître de cuisine*, Roy de Haas and my pyromaniac abilities to build a good fire.

20 July

This day we drove around **Mopani**, **Letaba River** and the **Engelharddam** and it became the least productive day all: nothing special was found and nothing exciting happened. For Roy it was even much worse, since he did not see any new species. The best birds were Verreaux's Eagle, Little Banded Sparrowhawk or Shikra, Kittlitz's Plover, Collared Pratincole, Red Bishop, Saddle-billed Stork, Dickinson's Kestrel, Lappet-faced Vulture, African Hawk Eagle, Double-banded Sandgrouse, White-bellied and Marico Sunbirds, White Pelican and Red-backed Scrub-Robin (White-browed Robin). In the evening we had dinner in **Mopani** and when phoning to the Netherlands we learned a Semi-palmated Sandpiper was seen for two days, 10 kilometres from Roy and Anja's home. After hearing that I dreamt about the Semi-palmated Sandpiper almost every night, while Anja was dreaming about large male Elephants lurking before the car.

21 July

Today we drove from **Mopani** to **Skukuza**, in the south of Kruger Park and did some birding at regular stops. Near **Satara** we saw our only Cheetah, walking next to the car, paying no attention to us. Interesting birds were Woolly-necked Stork, Marabou, Saddle-billed Stork, Martial Eagle, Shelly's Francolin, Kori Bustard, White-fronted Plover, Cape Parrot, Burchell's Coucal, Ground Hornbills, Bearded Woodpecker, African (Grassveld) Pipit, Sabota's Lark, Bearded and Red-backed Scrub-Robin and Red-billed Quela. With 20 kilometres to go before **Skukuza** Roy suddenly discovered a large cat sitting at the side of the road: a male Leopard! We turned the car and made excellent pictures of this most beautiful animal. As the Cheetah seen earlier today, he paid no attention to us and leisurely he crossed the road and disappeared in the grass, the last we saw of him was the white tip of the tail. Now we had to hurry and we just made it before closing time in **Skukuza**. There we celebrated the sighting of Leopard with champagne and the best wine of the restaurant! With Roy's mobile telephone we phoned home and all had a good night sleep, although the curtains were prints of male Elephants...

22 July

In the morning in the river behind the cottage we discovered a pair of Water Thick-knees. In the camp itself we tried to get information about the two species of Rhinoceros and we spent the whole day looking for both in the surroundings of **Skukuza** and the **Sabie River**, without success and to make things even worse, we missed a Black Rhinoceros in minutes. Birds were not uncommon and some birds we saw were Martial Eagle, Black Crake, African Jacana, Double-banded Sandgrouse, Green Pigeon, Cape Parrot, Pearl-spotted Owl, Malachite, Pied and Brown Hooded Kingfisher, Yellow-fronted Tinker Barbet, Sombre Bulbul, Dusky, Paradise and Black Flycatcher, Helmeted Shrike and Masked Weaver. Again a nasty male Elephant tried to side-impact our car, but we escaped and another was chased away by a lorry. In the evening we heard a White-faced Owl behind our cottage in **Skukuza**, where we had dinner and sleep.

23 July

Today we left the park, taking the H3 in the park. From there we observed Black Sparrowhawk, Crested and Coqui Francolin, Red-crested Bustard, Green-spotted Dove, three species of Hornbills, Pied Crow, Dusky Flycatcher, Scarlet-chested Sunbird and Grey-headed Sparrow. We left at the

Malelane Gate. There we took the N4 and drove straight to **Dullstroom**. On our way just before **Waterval Boven** we discovered a flock of 7 Southern Bald Ibises, feeding on a rugby field. The weather was cooler now, since we were reaching higher altitudes. At noon we had an excellent lunch somewhere near **Waterval Boven**, with smoked trout and sandwiches, the local speciality. In the afternoon we reached **Dullstroom**. Immediately we did some birding in the surroundings before dark and had good species like Alpine Swift, Southern Ant-eating Chat, Mocking Chat, Buff-streaked Chat, Orange-throated Longclaw, Bokmakerie, Red-winged Starling, Yellow-rumped Whydah and Cape Bunting.

We took a nice hotel in **Dullstroom**, gained information about crane species like Wattled and Blue Crane, had dinner in a nice pub with a stuffed Bald Ibis and subsequently a very cold sleep.

24 July

We woke up early and went north to a small village called **De Burg**, where a Crane Sanctuary was with a pair of Wattled Cranes, but beside three wing-clipped Blue Cranes, it was too foggy and windy to search the area properly. We went back to Dullstroom for breakfast and after gaining some extra information about cranes we went back to De Burg, but it was even foggier, so we decided to leave and to go to Mkuzi in KwaZulu/Natal. Interesting birds at **Dullstroom** and **De Burg** were Great Crested Grebe, Dabchick or Little Grebe, Hamerkop, Yellow-billed Duck, Wattled Plover, Cape Crow, Pied Starling, African Rock Pigeon, Ant-eating Chat and Orange-throated Longclaw. The long drive to Mkuzi Game Reserve (via Belfast, Carolina, Ermelo, Piet Retief and Mkuzi) gave us Lappet-faced Vulture, Black-winged Kite, White-backed Vulture, Tawny Eagle, Little Swift, Cape Wagtail, Masked Weaver and Bokmakerie. We checked in the reserve itself and were just in time a get hold of a cottage. We bought food for the evening and did some birding behind the camp, with species like Grey Lourie, Pied, Brown-hooded and Striped Kingfisher, Crowned Hornbill, Black Sawwing Swallow, Kurrichane Thrush, White-throated, White-browed and Bearded Robin, Yellow-breasted Apalis, Chinspot Batis, Blue Waxbill and Melba Finch. Roy and Chris observed a group of Pied Mannikins, but Anja and I failed to find them. Just before preparing dinner, a girl from the camp came to ask at what time we wanted dinner. We replied we would cook ourselves, so she left smiling. Roy tried to start cooking, but could not find the stove and pots and pans, so we asked the girl if she wanted to do the cooking in the central kitchen of the camp! The dinner was very good and after hearing several Fierynecked Nightjars we went to sleep.

25 July

In the morning we took a walk in the Fig Forest, a walk for 3 kilometres and a good spot for the Narina Trogon. The entrance to the forest as very exciting, since we had to cross a wooden hanging bridge over a muddy river with invisible crocodiles. Interesting birds on our way to and in the Fig Forest were Crested Guineafowl, Brown-headed Parrots, Little Bee-eaters, Giant Kingfisher, Trumpeter Hornbill, White-eared Barbet, Golden-rumped Tinker Barbet, Flappet Lark, Red-capped Robin-Chat, White-throated, Bearded and White-browed Robin, Long-billed Crombec, Black-breasted Snake Eagle, Yellow-bellied Eremomela, Blue-mantled Flycatcher, Wattled-eyed Flycatcher, Yellowthroated Longclaw, Black-bellied Starling, Purple-banded Sunbird, Forest Weaver, Cape Weaver and Pink-throated Twinspot (at the spot of the Twinspot a saw an Elephant lurking, but I did not dare to tell my comrades, who believed Elephants were not in Mkuzi, but later we red in a newspaper Elephants were introduced a couple of days before we arrived!). We saw no Narina Trogon and no Green Coucal, birds we hoped to see, but at a break at the parking place of Fig Forest, a Crowned Eagle soared over our heads, very much to the delight of Roy and Anja, who never saw one, despite trips to Kenya and Gambia! From one of the hides of the Ensuma Pan we observed Goliath Heron, Lesser Flamingo, a lone Greater Flamingo, Spur-winged Goose, Black-bellied Korhaan, our only Cape Vulture (easy to recognise though!), Black-winged Stilts and Whiskered Terns. In the afternoon we went to the airstrip, were we saw Flappet Lark, Grassveld Pipit and Rudd's Apalis. In the evening we took a night trip and saw our only two Black Rhinoceros and other mammals like Spotted Hyena,

Large Spotted Genet and Thick-tailed Bushbaby. Birds like Spotted Thick-knees and Fiery-necked Nightjars and a self-improvised meal completed the day.

26 July

Early in the morning we heard a Spotted Eagle Owl behind our cottage. After a quick breakfast we went to **Fig Forest** again. We saw basically the same species as yesterday, but today we dared to identify difficult (for us) species like Black-backed Cisticola and Bushveld Pipit. Furthermore we saw Black-breasted Snake Eagle, Black Cuckooshrike, Black-crowned Tsachra and Red-billed Oxpecker and when we left the park a Streaky-headed Canary. A short stop at **St. Lucia** did not give us more new species and at **False Bay** we tried to look for Neergaard's Sunbird and Woodward's Batis, but failed to find any, but a few Grey Sunbirds made us happy again. We took a nice hotel (Marina Lodge) in **Richard's Bay** and after some drinks and a good meal, we spent the whole evening phoning birdwatchers and booked a sea trip at Durban for July 30th.

27 July

In the morning we went birding in the vicinity of **Richard's Bay**, with our main goal the Lesser Jacana. A hide there was old and apparently re-decorated by local vandals. However, it was possible with some effort to watch birds from the roof of the hide and had good, but far-away views of Reed Cormorant, White Pelican, African Darter, Yellow-billed Duck, African Pygmy Goose, African Marsh Harrier, c 100 Collared Pratincoles, Whiskered and White-winged Terns, Croaking Cisticola, Lesser Swamp Warblers and Lesser Masked Weaver. Next we went to **Umlalazi Nature Reserve** (with a Long-crested Eagle along the N2), where we spent the rest of the afternoon, including a dive in the **Indian Ocean**. Interesting birds were Kelp Gull, Common Tern, Olive Sunbird, Yellow-throated Longclaw, Emerald Spotted Dove, Burnt-necked Eremomela and Yellow Weaver. No sign here of Lesser Jacana, Mangrove Kingfisher or Palmnut Vulture. In the evening we went back to the hide at **Richard's Bay**, where we saw a beautiful Black Sparrowhawk hunting and a nightjar we could not identify. In our hotel we did another load of phone-calls and made an appointment with Barry Amberton to go birding in Dlinza Forest next morning.

28 July

We rose up early to get in time in the Dlinza Forest at Eshowe. In Eshowe we had difficulties finding the forest, but a nice lady brought us to it and we saw Barry Amberton and Hamish Campbell waiting. They guided us through the forest and taught us a lesson in South African bird songs. Everywhere was a new species singing! Actually we were focusing on the Spotted Ground Thrush, but we heard or saw Scaly-throated Honeyguide, Grey Cuckooshrike, Chorister Robin, Black-headed Oriole, Golden-tailed Woodpecker, Bar-throated Apalis, Green-backed Bleating Camaroptera, Olive Bush Shrike, Lesser Double-collared Sunbird and the four highlights: first a singing Spotted Ground Thrush, which we could see singing after some effort, second a Narina Trogon, which responded to our tape and took a look what was going on, third a Green Malkoha (aka Green Coucal or Yellowbill), also showing itself beautifully after playing the tape for just a milli-second and fourth an African Emerald Cuckoo, singing from one of the higher trees. At the hide in the middle of the forest we waited for Green Twinspot, but we only heard their faint almost Goldcrest-like calls. When leaving the forest at the end of the morning we got a flat tire. Barry offered to bring it to a garage for repair and after changing it, he guided us to the museum of Eshowe, where a sleeping Spotted Eagle Owl was. Next we went to the other forest nearby, the Entumeni Nature Reserve. In that forest we searched for Brown Robin, which we finally found and another African Emerald Cuckoo. We left very satisfied, took a hotel in Eshowe, had good dinner and saw the Dutch Rowing Team ('Holland-Acht') getting a golden medal on the Olympics at Atlanta.

29 July

In the morning we went to **Dlinza Forest** again, but this time, only a tenth of the birds compared with yesterday were present, so we left for **Entumeni Nature Reserve**. There we waited from a vantage point for Delegorgue's Pigeon, which we saw after quitting the search! Other interesting birds were (both in Dlinza and Entumeni) were Purple-crested Lourie, Scaly-throated Honeyguide, Trumpeter Hornbill, Spotted Ground Thrush, Green-backed Bleating Camaroptera, Lazy Cisticola, Drakensberg

Prinia, Croaking Cisticola, Olive Bush Shrike, Lesser Double-crested Sunbird, Bronze and Magpie Mannikins. We collected our tire and we noticed Barry Amberton had paid for the repair. Thank you very much Barry! In the afternoon we drove to **Durban**. After a boring trip we checked in at the Holiday Inn, booked the pelagic trip for the next day and visited Sea World, where a Great White Shark was shown, caught a few years ago at the same spot were we had a swim two days before!

30 July

Today at 6:00 hours we went c 20 miles out into the **Indian Ocean** on a vessel called *Isle of Capri* with a sailor, whose name I forgot, but this day was the most exciting of the entire trip. Thousands of Cape Gannets, hundreds of White-chinned Petrels, c 30 Sooty Shearwaters, c 30 Indian Yellow-nosed Albatrosses, c 20 Brown Skuas, two Antarctic Prions, one Shy Albatross, Black-browed Albatross, CapePetrel and Wilson's Petrel and several porpoises and a distant whale! Chris did not take any motion-sickness pill and turned green instead. At 13:00 hours we returned at **Durban**, observed some Swift Terns and returned to our hotel for a short afternoon sleep. The rest of the day and evening we spent doing nothing, although on television we saw our Formula-1 driver, Jos Verstappen, crashing at the first turn. Well done, Jos!

31 July

In the morning at **Durban** we bought some presents for home and next we headed west to find the Wattled Cranes near **Mooirivier**. After a long winding road in a very beautiful landscape (snow-topped Drakensbergen on the horizon) we managed to find a pair of this beautiful bird (later we learned there was a wing-clipped pair in the same general area with a chick, but our birds were seen courting and photographs revealed both were unringed and unclipped, fortunately!). Also around in the same area (i.e. 28 kilometres west of Mooirivier) were Jackal Buzzard, Secretary Bird, Crowned Crane, Red-capped Lark, Buffy Pipit, Cape Crow, Levaillant's Cisticola and Red-throated Longclaw. In the afternoon we tried to find our last goal, the Blue Crane in the area north of **Estcourt** and **Ladysmith**. Near **Corenso** we found some Southern Bald Ibises, Temminck's Courser, Pied Crow and Red-winged Starling. At **Ladysmith** we checked in at a motel, where we saw Familiar Chat, Cape Wagtail and Cape Sparrow. We had dinner in a Pizza Restaurant with good wine and next a dreamless sleep without Elephants and Semi-palmated Sandpipers.

1 August

After breakfast we drove from Ladysmith via Newcastle and Volksrust to Wakkerstroom in Transvaal. North of Newcastle a Black Harrier crossed the road, the only one of the trip. In Wakkerstroom we checked in at the Weavers Nest. The Weavers Nest is run by a nice couple (Gene and Simon), who arranged a guide for us for the next day. Also we bought the Wakkerstroom Bird & Nature Guide by Warwick and Michele Tarboton. This proved to be a very good guide for the Wakkerstroom area. After a short lunch we drove along the Amersfoort Road, where a few days before a group of Blue Cranes was observed. Other interesting birds were Hottentot Teal, Cape Shoveler, Bald Ibis, Grey-winged Francolin, Swainson's Spurfowl, Blue Bustard, Grey-crowned Crane, Common Greenshank, Eastern Long-billed Lark, Spike-heeled Lark, Red-capped Lark, Pink-billed Lark (a group of c 15), Mountain Chat, Ant-eating Chat, Mocking Cliff Chat, Amethyst Sunbird, Masked Weaver and large flocks of Long-tailed Widows. In the evening we had an excellent dinner and a very good bottle of wine from the private collection of the owner, Simon.

2 August

Early in the morning John McAllister took us for a trip in the **Wakkerstroom** area. First we went looking at the **Zaaihoek Dam** for Ground Woodpecker (no luck), but we managed to find Cape Rock Thrush, Sentinel Rock Thrush, Buff-streaked Chat, Mountain Chat, Giant Kingfisher and Black-throated Canary (with no black throats, because they were in winter plumage!). Next we searched till noon for the elusive Rudd's Lark at private property, but John said it was too windy and they stayed tight at the ground invisible in the long grass. Other birds were Blue Bustard, Secretary Bird, Jackal Buzzard, Eastern Long-billed Lark, Spike-heeled Lark, Cape Bunting and Wing-snapping (Ayer's) Cisticola. At the **Weavers Nest** we had a short and quick lunch, before our final search for the Blue crane **north-east of Wakkerstroom**. We managed to find three of them on a corn field and later



another four near **Dirkiesdorp**. The last hours of daylight we spent looking for the White-bellied Korhaan, but we had to comfort ourselves with a Denham's (Stanley's Bustard!) Other 'goodies' were Spotted Thick-knees and a Marsh Owl ended this good day of birding. In the evening we were too tired to do some midnight owling.

3 August

Our final morning was spent at the **Over Langberg Area** (north of **Wakkerstroom**) for a desperate search for Rudd's and Botha's Lark. Between E7 en E6 (see Warwick and Michele Tarboton p 35) our attention was drawn by two small larks, with a small breast band, consisting of spots, a reddish pink thrush-like bill (not a seed-eater bill like Pink-billed Lark), which proved to be Botha's Larks! Other birds in that area were two Blue cranes, three Blue Bustards, Marsh Owl, Spike-heeled Lark, Eastern Long-billed Lark, Red-capped Lark, Ant-eating Chat and a rock thrush-species. Our final action was to play a tape of the Red-necked Wryneck in the garden of **Weavers Nest**. The poor bird responded immediately and was still calling when we left **Wakkerstroom** an hour later. Sorry Wryneck, not done! Via **Volksrust** and **Bethal** we moved to **Johannesburg**, found the **Jan Smuts Airport** without problems, parked the car and checked in and finally at last our reservations for seats with room for the long-legged was accepted. Thank you Air France! In the evening our plane left for **Paris**. In the plane I tried to sleep in vain and half-way there was lot of turbulence...

4 August

We made a stop-over in **Paris** in the morning and there I learned my credit card and other cards were lost or still in the plane. This being the only black spot of the holiday, but all things lost were returned in a couple of weeks, and when we arrived at **Amsterdam**, we realised we had a very good trip. South Africa is indeed worth another visit. The Semi-palmated Sandpiper however, was gone...

Suggested Reading

In South Africa several good identification guides and where-to-find guides are available. Personally, we like to use as many field guides as possible and in addition photographic guides. We used the following:

- SASOL's The Larger Illustrated Guide to Birds of Southern Africa (Sinclair, Hockey, Hayman & Arlott, 1996)
- Newman's Birds of Southern Africa 1991 Update (Kenneth Newman)
- South African Birds: a Photographic Guide (Sinclair & Davidson, 1990)
- Field Guide to the Birds of the Kruger Park (Sinclair & Whyte, 1991)

Also very useful are sound recordings, especially when you are not familiar with the songs. We used: South African Birds Sounds by Guy Gibbon (1991); a very useful box, containing 6 cassettes and a booklet.

Due to copyrights, we did not include site maps, but we strongly recommend the where-to-find guides, since they explain well the sites we visited. We used the excellent Top Birding Hot Spots in Southern Africa by Hugh Chittenden et al (1992).

Acknowledgements

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The Species Accounts

The order of *IOC World Bird List (v9.2) by Gill, F & D Donsker (Eds), 2019* is followed, but when the names were too different from the most commonly used names, the name in the new *'The Larger Illustrated Guide to the Birds of Southern Africa'* by Ian Sinclair and Phil Hockey (1996) is also given.

Amsterdam, January-June 1997.

Alkmaar, September 2019 (update on taxonomy).

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001. Ostrich - Struthio camelus

14-07 ca. 20 Mosdene Private Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

002. Helmeted Guineafowl - Numida meleagri

Common throughout the whole country.

003. Crested Guineafowl - Guttera pucherani

25-07 10 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

26-07 c 10 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

c 15 False Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

004. Coqui Francolin - Francolinus coqui

13-07 c 10 Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

23-07 2 between Skukuza and Malelane Gate, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

005. GREY-WINGED FRANCOLIN - Francolinus africanus

01-08 5 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

006. Shelley's Francolin - Francolinus shelleyi

21-07 3 25 km before Skukuza Camp, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

007. Crested Francolin - Francolinus sephaena

Common at Naboomspruit (Transvaal), Kruger National Park (Transvaal) and Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

008. Natal Spurfowl - Francolinus natalensis

17-07 c 20 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

18-07 c 10 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

19-07 c 10 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

23-07 2 Dullstroom (Transvaal).

24-07 1 Dullstroom (Transvaal).

009. Swainson's Spurfowl (Swainson's Francolin) - Francolinus swainsonii

Common in Kruger National Park (Transvaal); outside Kruger only seen at Wakkerstroom (Transvaal), where it was relatively common.

010. White-faced Whistling-Duck (White-faced Duck) - Dendrocygna viduata

14-07	c 100	Nylsvlei Nature	Reserve, I	Naboomspruit	(Transvaal).
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21-07 c 15 between Mopani and Satara, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

25-07 c 75 Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

26-07 c 50 Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

011. Fulvous Whistling-Duck (Fulvous Duck) - Dendrocygna bicolor

14-07 c 50 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

31-07 c 25 28 km west of Mooi Rivier (Kwazulu-Natal).

012. White-backed Duck - Thalassornis leuconotus

14-07 c 20 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

27-07 2 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

013. Spur-winged goose - Plectropterus gambensis

14-07 3 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

25-07 c 100 Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

02-08 4 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

014. Comb Duck (Knob-billed Duck) - Sarkidiornis melanotos

14-07 c 25 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

015. Egyptian Goose - Alopochen aegyptiacus

Common throughout the country; even in the most remote corners, they kept on surprising you!

016. African Pygmy-goose (Pygmy Goose) - Nettapus auritus

27-07 c 10 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

017. Hottentot Teal - Anas hottentota

13-07 2 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

14-07 1 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

01-08 7 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

018. Cape Shoveler - Anas smithii

01-08 4 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

019. Yellow-billed Duck - Anas undulata

23-07 5 Dullstroom (Transvaal).

24-07 c 20 Dullstroom (Transvaal).

27-07 c 10 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

31-07 c 10 28 km west of Mooi Rivier (Kwazulu-Natal).

01-08 c 20 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

02-08 c 15 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

020. Red-billed Duck (Red-billed Teal) - Anas erythrorhyncha

13-07 c 10 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

14-07 c 20 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

021. Red-crested Pochard - Netta rufina

14-07 1 (male) Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

We are not familiar with the status of this species, it could very well be an escape.

022. Southern Pochard - Netta erythrophthalma

14-07 c 20 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

02-08 2 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

023. Fiery-necked Nightjar - Caprimulgus pectoralis

- 24-07 c 5 (calling) Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 25-07 2 (also one seen) during night drive, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

024. Freckled Nightjar - Caprimulgus tristigma

- 20-07 1 (female) Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 21-07 1 Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- ----. Nightjarspec. Caprimulgus sp.
 - 27-07 1 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

025. Mottled Spinetail - Telacanthura ussheri

- 19-07 4 Luvuvhu River, Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal); easy to identify by the two white belly patches, cf Sinclair, Hocky and Hayman (1996).
- 026. Böhm's Spinetail Neafrapus boehmi
 - 18-07 4 Pafuri (1 km west of the picnic site), Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
 - 19-07 1 Pafuri (1 km west of the picnic site), Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 027. African Palm-Swift Cypsiurus parvus
 - 14-07 c 25 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Kwazulu-Natal).
 - 18-07 c 5 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal); also on 19-07.
 - 21-07 c 10 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
 - 23-07 c 10 Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
 - 24-07 c 5 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 028. Alpine Swift Apus melba
 - 23-07 c 25 near Nelspruit (Transvaal).
 - 01-08 3 Volksrust (Transvaal).
- 029. African Black Swift Apus barbatus
 - 14-07 c 5 Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
 - 15-07 2 Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 030. Little Swift Apus affinis
 - 16-07 c 20 Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
 - 17-07 c 100 Luvuvhu River, Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal); also on 18-07 and 19-07.
 - 22-07 c 10 Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
 - 23-07 c 10 Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
 - 24-07 1 just before Ermelo (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 031. Purple-crested Turaco Tauraco porphyreolophus.
 - 15-07 1 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).
 - 25-07 1 Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
 - 28-07 4 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).
 - 29-07 3-4 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

032. Grey Go-away-bird (Grey Lourie) - Corythaixoides concolor

Common, seen almost daily throughout the whole country.

033. Kori Bustard - Ardeotis kori

21-07 3 between Mopani and Satara, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

034. Denham's Bustard (Stanley's Bustard) - Neotis denhami

02-08 1 near Dirkiesdorp (Transvaal).

035. BLUE BUSTARD (BLUE KORHAAN) - Eupodotis caerulescens

01-08
02-08
02-08
Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).
03-08
Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

036. Red-crested Bustard (Red-crested Korhaan) - Lophotis ruficrista

16-07 3 between Phalaborwa Gate and Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

21-07 1 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

23-07 1 between Skukuza and Malelane Gate, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

037. Northern Black Korhaan - Afrotis afraoides

15-07 3 (2 seen, 1 heard) Pietersburg (Transvaal).

038. Black-bellied Bustard - Lissotis melanogaster

25-07 1 (female) Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

039. Burchell's Coucal - Centropus burchelli

18-07
 Babalala, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
 23-07
 Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
 26-07
 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

040. Green Malkoha (Green Coucal) - Ceuthmochares australis

28-07 1 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal); what a bird!

041. African Emerald Cuckoo - Chrysococcyx cupreus

28-07 1 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

1 Entumeni Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

042. Double-banded Sandgrouse - Pterocles bicinctus

18-07
 1 between Pafuri and Maputo, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
 20-07
 4 surroundings of Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

21-07 6 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

22-07 4 surroundings of Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

23-07 2 between Skukuza and Malelani Gate, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

043. Rock Dove - Columba livia

Seen in urban and suburban areas.

044. Speckled Pigeon (Rock Pigeon) - Columba guinea

24-07 1 De Burg, north of Dullstroom (Transvaal).

02-08 5 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

045. Eastern Bronze-naped Pigeon (Delegorgue's Pigeon) - Columba delegorguei

29-07 1 Entumeni Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

046. Mourning Collared-Dove (African Mourning Dove) - Streptopelia decipiens

Fairly common, first identified at Letaba, Kruger National Park; not much attention was paid to doves.

047. Red-eyed Dove - Streptopelia semitorquata

Common throughout the whole country.

048. Ring-necked Dove (Cape Turtle Dove) - Streptopelia capicola

Common throughout the whole country.

049. Laughing Dove - Streptopelia senegalensis

The most common dove throughout the whole country.

050. Emerald-spotted Wood Dove (Green-spotted Dove) -Turtur chalcospilos

17-07	1	Dafuri	Kruger	National	Dark /	Transvaal	l· also on	18-07 and	10_07
1/-0/	4	Paluli.	Niugei	INALIOHAI	Parki	i i ai isvaai.	i. aiso oii	1 TO-01 GIIC	1 19-07.

21-07 c 10 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

22-07 c 5 around Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

23-07 1 near Malelani Gate, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

25-07 c. 5 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

27-07 c 10 Umlalazi (Kwazulu-Natal).

051. Namaqua Dove - Oena capensis

Fairly common in Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

052. African Green-Pigeon - Treron calvus

18-07 2	2 Pafuri,	Kruger I	National	Park (1	「ransvaal)	١.
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2 south of Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

19-07 2 Luvuvhu River, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

22-07 4 around Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

27-07 6 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

053. Black Crake - Amaurornis flavirostra

14-07 2 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

21-07 1 (imm.) near Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

22-07 4 from a hide near Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

27-07 4 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

054. African Swamphen - Porphyrio madagascariensis

14-07 ca. 10 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

02-08 ca. 10 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

055. Common Moorhen - Gallinula chloropus

14-07 1 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

01-08 4 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

02-08 5 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

056. Red-knobbed Coot - Fulica cristata

Common in suitable habitat, for example Nylsvlei Nature Reserve (Transvaal), Kruger National Park (Transvaal), Richard's bay (Kwazulu-Natal) and Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

057. Grey-crowned Crane (Southern Crowned Crane) - Balearica regulorum

31-07 4 28 km west of Mooi Rivier (Kwazulu-Natal).

01-08 5 Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

058. Wattled Crane - Grus carunculatus

31-07 2 28 km west of Mooi Rivier (Kwazulu-Natal). Well seen, though from a distance.

059. Blue Crane - Grus paradisea

02-08 3 c 30 km north-east of Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

4 near Dirkiesdorp (Transvaal).

03-08 2 Langberg Area, north of Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

060. Little Grebe - Tachybaptus ruficollis

14-07 c 25 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

15-07 3 between Naboomspruit (Transvaal) and Pietersburg (Transvaal).

21-07 c 25 (in total) between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

24-07 c 20 Dullstroom (Transvaal).

27-07 c 30 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

01-08 c 10 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal); also on 02-08.

061. **Great Crested Grebe** - Podiceps cristatus

14-07 2 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

23-07 c 10 surroundings of Dullstroom (Transvaal).

24-07 2 Dullstroom (Transvaal).

062. Greater Flamingo - Phoenicopterus ruber

25-07 1 Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

063. Lesser Flamingo - Phoenicopterus minor

25-07 17 Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

064. Water Thick-knee (Water Dikkop) - Burhinus vermiculatus

21-07 2 in river behind Skukuza Camp, Kruger NP (Transvaal).

065. Spotted Thick-knee (Spotted Dikkop) - Burhinus capensis

23-07 7 (during night-drive) Mkuzi NP (Kwazulu-Natal).

02-08 2 (at dusk) Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

066. Black-winged Stilt - Himantopus himantopus

- 15-07 2 between Pietersburg and Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 21-07 2 surroundings of Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 25-07 4 or 5 Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

067. Blacksmith Lapwing (Blacksmith Plover) - Vanellus armatus

Common, seen almost daily in every short-grass habitat and along roadsides.

068. White-crowned Lapwing - Vanellus albiceps

- 17-07 4 Luvuvhu River, Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 18-07 5 Luvuvhu River, Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 3 Luvuvhu River, Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

069. Crowned Lapwing (Crowned Plover) - Vanellus coronatus

Common, seen almost daily in every short-grass habitat.

070. African Wattled Lapwing (Wattled Plover) - Vanellus senegallus

- 24-07 1 Dullstroom (Transvaal).
- 26-07 1 Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

071. Kittlitz's Plover - Charadrius pecuarius

- 20-07 3 surroundings of Mopani, Kruger National park (Transvaal).
- 25-07 2 Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 26-07 3 Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

072. Three-banded Plover - Charadrius tricollaris

- 18-07 1 Luvuvhu River, Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 2 Luvuvhu River, Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 21-07 1 surroundings of Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 1 surroundings of Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 26-07 2 Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 27-07 c 5 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

073. White-fronted Plover - Charadrius marginatus

21-07 1 surroundings of Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

074. African Jacana - Actophilornis africanus

Common in the wetland areas, with total up to 10-25 birds.

075. African Snipe - Gallinago nigripennis

14-07 2 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Kwazulu-Natal).

076. Common Sandpiper - Actitis hypoleucos

- 26-07 1 Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 27-07 1 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

077. Common Greenshank - Tringa nebularia

01-08 1 Amersfoort Road, Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

02-08 1 Over Langberg Area, Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

078. Temminck's Courser - Cursorius temminckii

15-07 4 Pietersburg (Transvaal).

31-07 4 near Corenso (Kwazulu-Natal).

079. Collared Pratincole (Red-winged Pratincole) - Glareola pratincola

20-07 1 surroundings of Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

27-07 c 100 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

080. Grey-headed Gull - Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus

First seen at Johannesburg (Transvaal) on July 13th. Later only on the coast of Natal, where it was common.

081. Kelp Gull - Larus dominicanus

Common along the coast of the Indian Ocean (Kwazulu-Natal).

082. Great Crested-Tern - Sterna bergii

29-07 1 from the hotel window, Durban (Kwazulu-Natal).

30-07 c 20 Durban (Kwazulu-Natal).

083. Common Tern - Sterna hirundo

27-07 c 10 Indian Ocean at Umlalazi (Kwazulu-Natal).

084. Whiskered Tern - Chlidonias hybrida

25-07 c 20 Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

27-07 c 50 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

085. White-winged Tern - Chlidonias leucopterus

27-07 3 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

086. Brown Skua (Subantarctic Skua) - Catharacta antarcticus

30-07 c 10 during pelagic trip from Durban (Kwazulu-Natal).

087. Wilson's Storm-Petrel - Oceanites oceanicus

30-07 1 during pelagic trip off Durban (Kwazulu-Natal).

088. Black-browed Albatross - Thalassarche melanophris

30-07 1 (imm.) during pelagic trip off Durban (Kwazulu-Natal).

089. Shy Albatross - Thalassarche cauta

30-07 1 (imm.) during pelagic trip off Durban (Kwazulu-Natal).

090. Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross – Thalassarche carteri

30-07 c 30 during pelagic trip off Durban (Kwazulu-Natal).

The Yellow-nosed Albatross is now split into two species, Atlantic Yellow-nosed *T chlororhynchos* and Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross *T carteri*.

091. Cape (Pintado) Petrel - Daption capense

30-07 1 during pelagic trip off Durban (Kwazulu-Natal).

092. Antarctic Prion - Pachyptila desolata

30-07 2 during pelagic trip off Durban (Kwazulu-Natal).

093. White-chinned Petrel - Procellaria aequinoctialis

30-07 500-1000 during pelagic trip off Durban (Kwazulu-Natal).

094. Sooty Shearwater - Ardenna griseus

30-07 c 30 during pelagic trip off Durban (Kwazulu-Natal).

095. Yellow-billed Stork - Mycteria ibis

14-07	c 10	Nylsvlei Nature Reserve (Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
25-07	c 10	Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

26-07 c 20 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

096. Woolly-necked Stork - Ciconia episcopus

17.07	_	D-f:	1/ m m A I a	-+:I D-	rk (Transvaal	١.
17-07	5	Paturi.	Kruger Na	anonai Pa	urk urransvaar	١.

21-07 5 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

26-07 c 5 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

27-07 1 Umlalazi (Kwazulu-Natal).

28-07 2 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

2 Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

29-07 5 (2 on a soccer pitch) Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

097. Saddle-billed Stork - Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis

20-07 1 Letaba River, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

21-07 2 (pair) between Satara and Tshokwane, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

098. Marabou Stork - Leptoptilos crumeniferus

21-07 6 behind Satara Camp, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

099. Cape Gannet - Morus capensis

29-07 3 from the hotel window, Durban (Kwazulu-Natal).

30-07 c 2000 during the pelagic trip off Durban (Kwazulu-Natal).

31-07 1 from the hotel window, Durban (Kwazulu-Natal).

100. Reed Cormorant - Phalacrocorax africanus

Seen regularly in good numbers throughout the whole country in suitable habitat.

101. White-breasted Cormorant - Phalacrocorax lucudus

18-07 c 10 Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).



25-07	c 20	Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
26-07	c 20	Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
28-07	c 25	Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).
01-08	c 5	Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).
02-08	1	Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

102. African Darter - Anhinga rufa

First seen at Mopani, Kruger National park. After that regularly observed at all wetland sites in Transvaal and Kwazulu-Natal.

103. African Sacred Ibis - Threskiornis aethiopicus

Only seen in wetland areas, like Naboomspruit (Transvaal), Kruger National Park (Transvaal), Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal) and Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal), with daily total up to c 25 birds.

104. SOUTHERN BALD IBIS - Geronticus calvus

23-07	7	on a rugby field, just before Waterval Boven (Transvaal).
31-07	4	near Corenso (Kwazulu-Natal).
01-07	2	Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).
02-07	11-12	Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

105. Hadada Ibis - Bostrychia hagedash

Common, observed at almost every place, from tennis courts to hotel windows!

106. Glossy Ibis - Plegadis falcinellus

In wetland areas, like Naboomspruit (Transvaal), Kruger National Park (Transvaal), Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal) and Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal), with daily total up to c 25-50 birds.

107. African Spoonbill - Platalea alba

Also only seen in wetland areas, like Naboomspruit (Transvaal), Kruger National Park (Transvaal), Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal) and Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal), with daily total up to c 25 birds.

108. Black-crowned Night-Heron - Nycticorax nycticorax

14-07	c 20	Nylsvlei Nature Reserve (Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
01-08	c 5	Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

109. Striated Heron - Butorides striatus

21-07	2	between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
22-07	1	along Sabie River, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

110. Squacco Heron - Ardeola ralloides

14-07	c 10	Nylsvlei Nature Reserve (Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
27-07	2	Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).
02-08	1	Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

111. Western Cattle Egret - Bubulcus ibis

Common, especially in Kruger National Park and in the coastal areas of Kwazulu-Natal.

112. Grey Heron - Ardea cinerea

Seen regularly throughout the whole country in suitable habitat.

113. Black-headed Heron - Ardea melanocephala

The first species of the holiday and fairly commonly observed throughout the whole country.

114. Goliath Heron - Ardea goliath

- 25-07 3 Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 26-07 2 Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

115. Purple Heron - Ardea purpurea

- 14-07 c 30 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 27-07 c 5 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 02-08 1 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

116. Great Egret - Ardea alba

Seen regularly in good numbers throughout the whole country in suitable habitat.

117. Yellow-billed Egret - Ardea brachyrhyncha

- 14-07 c 10 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve (Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 18-07 c 5 Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 21-07 c 5 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 23-07 2 Dullstroom (Transvaal).
- 27-07 2-3 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 29-07 1 on our way to Durban from Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 30-07 1 between Durban (Kwazulu-Natal) and Pietermaritzburg (Kwazulu-Natal).

118. Little Egret - Egretta garzetta

Seen regularly in fairly good numbers throughout the whole country in suitable habitat.

119. Hamerkop - Scopus umbretta

Regularly observed throughout the country, especially in the wetter areas.

120. Great White Pelican - Pelecanus onocrotalus

- 20-07 4 surroundings of Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 25-07 4 Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 26-07 18 Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

121. Pink-backed Pelican - Pelecanus rufescens

25-07 1 Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

122. Secretarybird - Sagittarius serpentarius

- 16-07 1 c 10 Km west of Phalaborwa (Transvaal).
- 31-07 1 28 Km west of Mooi Rivier (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 02-08 2 Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

123. Black-winged Kite - Elanus caeruleus

Common, seen almost daily and most common along roadsides.

124. African Harrier-Hawk (Gymnogene) - Polyboroides typus

- 15-07 1 (imm.) c 20 Km east of Pietersburg (Transvaal).
- 19-07 1 (adult) Luvuvhu River, Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

125. White-backed Vulture - Gyps africanus

Fairly common in Transvaal. Most common in Kruger National Park (Transvaal). In Kwazulu-Natal only seen in Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

126. Cape Vulture - Gyps coprotheres

25-07 1 Ensuma Pan, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

127. White-headed Vulture - Trigonoceps occipitalis

- 19-07 2 between Punda Maria and Pafuri (Kruger National Park)
- 25-07 1 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

128. Lappet-faced Vulture - Torgos tracheliotus

- 16-07 3 between Phalaborwa Gate and Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 2 between Punda Maria and Pafuri (Kruger National Park)
- 20-07 2 surroundings of Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 21-07 3 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 1 Skukuza, Kruger National park (Transvaal).
- 24-07 1 before Mkuzi (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 25-07 3 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal

129. Black-chested Snake Eagle - Circaetus pectoralis

- 13-07 1 along the 520 between Nylstroom (Transvaal) and Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 18-07 1 between Punda Maria and Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 26-07 1 Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

130. Brown Snake Eagle - Circaetus cinereus

14-07 1 Mosdene Private Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

131. Bateleur - Terathopius ecaudatus

Fairly common in Kruger National Park (Transvaal) with daily totals up to 10 birds.

132. Crowned Eagle - Stephanoaetus coronatus

25-07 1 soaring above the parking place of Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

133. Martial Eagle - Polemaetus bellicosus

- 16-07 2 between Phalaborwa and Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National park (Transvaal).
- 21-07 2 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 1 Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

134. Long-crested Eagle - Lophaetus occipitalis

27-07 1 (on a telegraph pole) along the N2 just before Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

31-07 1 near Rosetta, Mooi Rivier area (Kwazulu-Natal).

135. Wahlberg's Eagle - Hieraaetus wahlbergi

15-07 1 (dark phase) Debenjeni Falls, Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).

Although this is a summer visitor, it was well observed to be very sure of the identification.

136. Tawny Eagle - Aquila rapax

Fairly common in Kruger National Park (Transvaal), with daily totals up to 10 birds. Outside Kruger National Park only one bird seen just before Mkuzi (Kwazulu-Natal). Raptors were very scarce in the South Africa.

137. Verreaux's Eagle - Aquila verreauxii

20-07 2 surroundings of Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

138. African Hawk-Eagle - Aquila spilogaster

14-07 2 Mosdene Private Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

16-07 1 (exact place not noted) Kruger national Park (Transvaal).

20-07 1 surroundings of Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

139. Gabar Goshawk - Micronisus gabar

19-07 2 north of Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

140. Dark Chanting-Goshawk - Melierax metabates

15-07 2 Debenjeni Falls, Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).

141. African Goshawk - Accipiter tachiro

18-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

142. Shikra - Accipiter badius

18-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

20-07 1 surroundings of Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

143. Black Goshawk - Accipiter melanoleucus

23-07 1 between Skukuza and Malelane Gate, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

27-07 1 (hunting swallows at dusk), Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

144. African Marsh Harrier - Circus ranivorus

27-07 1 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

145. Black Harrier - Circus maurus

01-08 1 crossing the road before our car, north of Newcastle (Kwazulu-Natal).

146. Jackal Buzzard - Buteo rufofuscus

31-07 1 near Rosetta, Mooi Rivier area (Kwazulu-Natal).

02-08 2 Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

147. Southern White-faced Owl - Ptilopsis granti (aka Otus leucotis)

22-07 1 (heard) Skukuza Camp, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

148. Spotted Eagle-Owl - Bubo africanus

- 26-07 1 (heard) Mkuzi Camp, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 28-07 1 (seen) behind the Museum, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

149. Verreaux's Eagle-Owl (Giant Eagle Owl) - Bubo lacteus

16-07 1 (on nest) 1 km after the Phalaborwa Gate, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

150. Pearl-spotted Owlet (Pearl-spotted Owl) - Glaucidium perlatum

- 13-07 2 Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 14-07 4 surroundings Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 19-07 3 between Pafuri and Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 1 around Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

151. Marsh Owl - Asio capensis

- 13-07 3 Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 02-08 2 near Dirkiesdorp (Transvaal).
- 03-08 4 north of Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

152. Speckled Mousebird - Colius striatus

Common, seen almost daily in good numbers at Naboomspruit, Kruger National Park (Transvaal), Mkuzi Game Reserve, Dlinza Forest in Eshowe and Ladysmith (Kwazulu-Natal).

153. Red-faced Mousebird - Urocolius indicus

16-07 4 between Phalaborwa Gate and Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal) after this observation we did not pay much attention to mousebirds anymore.

154. Narina Trogon - Apaloderma narina

28-07 1 (male) calling and beautifully seen, Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

155. African Hoopoe - Upupa africana

- 15-07 1 Pietersburg (Transvaal).
- 16-07 4 Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 17-07 1 between Pafuri and Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 18-07 1 between Punda Maria and Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 2 near Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 25-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 26-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 31-07 2 c 20 km west of Mooi Rivier (Kwazulu-Natal).

156. Green Wood Hoopoe (Red-billed Woodhoopoe) - Phoeniculus purpureus

- 17-07 5 or 6 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 21-07 c 10 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 23-07 c 5 Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).



24-07	c 5	Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
25-07	c 10	Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
26-07	c 5	between Mkuzi and Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

157. Common Scimitarbill (Greater Scimitar-bill) - Rhinopomastus cyanomelas

17-07	c 10	Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
18-07	c 10	Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
	c 10	between Punda Maria and Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
21-07	c 10	between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
24-07	c 5	Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
26-07	c 5	between Mkuzi and Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

158. Southern Ground Hornbill (Ground-Hornbill) - Bucorvus leadbeateri

21-07 4 between Mopani and Satara, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

159. Southern Red-billed Hornbill - Tockus erythrorhynchus

The most common hornbill, seen almost daily, especially at Naboomspruit (Transvaal), Kruger National Park (Transvaal) and Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

160. Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill - Tockus leucomelas

The second most common hornbill, seen almost daily at Naboomspruit (Transvaal), Kruger National Park (Transvaal) and Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

161. Crowned Hornbill - Lophoceros alboterminatus

24-07	2	Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
25-07	1	Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
28-07	1	Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

162. African Grey Hornbill (Grey Hornbill) - Lophoceros nasutus

The third most common hornbill, seen almost daily the same locations as Southern Red-billed and Southern Yellow-billed Hornbills.

163. Trumpeter Hornbill - Bycanistes bucinator

22-07	3	Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
25-07	c 10	Fig Forest, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
26-07	c 10	Fig Forest, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
27-07	5	Umlalazi (Kwazulu-Natal).
28-07	c 10	Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).
29-07	c 5	Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

164. Purple Roller - Coracias naevius

Fairly common in Kruger National Park (Transvaal), with daily total up to 4 birds.

165. Lilac-breasted Roller - Coracias caudatus

Common at Naboomspruit (Transvaal), in Kruger National Park (Transvaal) and 1-3 in the Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

166. Brown-hooded Kingfisher - Halcyon albiventris

14-07	4	Nylsvlei Nature	Reserve.	Naboomspru	iit (Transvaal).
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- 15-07 1 Troutman Lake Resort (Transvaal).
- 18-07 4 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 21-07 1 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 c 10 Skukuza and surroundings, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 25-07 c 10 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 26-07 1 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 27-07 1 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

167. Striped Kingfisher - Halcyon chelicuti

- 24-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 25-07 c 5 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 26-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

168. Malachite Kingfisher - Alcedo cristata

- 14-07 1 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 21-07 1 Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 2 near Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

169. Half-collared Kingfisher - Alcedo semitorquata

18-07 1 (only seen by Roy) Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

170. Giant Kingfisher - Megaceryle maxima

- 25-07 1 Fig Forest, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 02-08 1 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

171. Pied Kingfisher - Ceryle rudis

Fairly common, seen almost daily in good numbers everywhere where some water was available.

172. Little Bee-eater - Merops pusillus

25-07 3 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

173. White-fronted Bee-eater - Merops bullockoides

- 18-07 4 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 2 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
 - 3 Shingwedzi River, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 21-07 1 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 c 10 Skukuza and surroundings, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

174. White-eared Barbet - Stactolaema leucotis

- 25-07 3 Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 26-07 2 Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 27-07 3 Umlalazi Nature Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 28-07 3 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

175. Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird (Golden-rumped Tinker Barbet) - Pogoniulus bilineatus

- 25-07 1 Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 26-07 3 Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 27-07 1 Umlalazi Nature Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

176. Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird (Yellow-fronted Tinker Barbet) - Pogoniulus chrysoconus

22-07 1 Nursery near Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

177. Acacia Pied Barbet - Tricholaema leucomelas

- 14-07 1 surroundings Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 16-07 1 20 km east of Phalaborwa Gate, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 21-07 3 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

178. Black-collared Barbet - Lybius torquatus

- 14-07 1 surroundings Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 18-07 4 Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 1 Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 24-07 1 Dullstroom (Transvaal).

179. Crested Barbet - Trachyphonus vaillantii

- 13-07 2 surroundings Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 14-07 1 surroundings Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 16-07 2 20 km east of Phalaborwa Gate, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 17-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 c 10 between Mopani and Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 21-07 3 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

180. Scaly-throated Honeyguide - Indicator variegatus

- 28-07 c 5 (heard singing) Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 29-07 c 3 (heard singing) Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

181. Greater Honeyguide - Indicator indicator

- 13-07 3 Mosdene Private Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 15-07 1 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).

182. Rufous-necked Wryneck - Jynx ruficollis

03-08 1 (responding on tape) Weavers Nest, Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

183. Bennett's Woodpecker - Campethera bennettii

- 18-07 1 Luvuvhu River, Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 20-07 1 (female) Letaba, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

184. Golden-tailed Woodpecker - Campethera abingoni

- 13-07 1 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 28-07 2 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

185. Bearded Woodpecker - Dendropicos namaquus

21-07 1 (female) between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

186. Cardinal Woodpecker - Dendropicos fuscescens

- 14-07 1 Mosdene Private Nature Reserve (Transvaal).
- 18-07 2 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

187. Olive Woodpecker - Dendropicos griseocephalus

- 16-07 2 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).
- 17-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 28-07 1 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal); also on 29-07.

188. Lesser Kestrel - Falco naumanni

13-07 1 along the 520 between Nylstroom (Transvaal) and Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

189. Common Kestrel - Falco tinnunculus

- 31-07 2 28 Km west of Mooi Rivier (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 02-08 2 Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).
- 03-08 2 on our way to Johannesburg (Transvaal).

190. Dickinson's Kestrel - Falco dickinsoni

- 17-07 1 Mazanje, between Punda Maria and Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 18-07 1 Babalala rest area, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 1 between Punda Maria and Mopani Kruger, National Park (Transvaal).
- 20-07 1 surroundings of Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

191. Brown-necked Parrot (Cape Parrot) - Poicephalus robustus

- 21-07 1 25 km before Skukuza Camp, Kruger NP (Transvaal).
- 22-07 3 surroundings of Skukuza, Kruger NP (Transvaal).

192. Brown-headed Parrot - Poicephalus cryptoxanthus

25-07 c 10 at start of Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal); also on 26-07.

193. Cape Batis - Batis capensis

- 15-07 4-5 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).
- 16-07 1 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).
- 21-07 1 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 28-07 1 (male) Entumeni Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

194. Chinspot Batis - Batis molitor

- 13-07 c 5 Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 14-07 1 Mosdene Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 17-07 2 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal); also on 18-07.
- 19-07 4 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 c 5 Nursery, Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 24-07 3 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

25-07 c 10 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

26-07 3 Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

195. Black-throated Wattle-eye - Platysteira peltata

18-07 1 (male) Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

25-07 1 Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

196. Black-fronted Bushshrike - Telophorus nigrifrons

15-07 2 (pair chasing each other) Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal). Well seen! My favourite...

197. Olive Bushshrike - Telophorus olivaceus

28-07 1 (heard singing) Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal); also on 29-07

198. Orange-breasted Bushshrike - Telophorus sulfureopectus

14-07 1 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

17-07 3 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

18-07 2 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

19-07 2 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

25-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

199. Bokmakierie - Telophorus zeylonus

15-07 1 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).

23-07 2 Dullstroom (Transvaal).

24-07 1 Belfast (Transvaal).

200. Three-streaked Tchagra - Tchagra jamesi

16-07 1 c 20 Km east of Phalaborwa Gate, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

17-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

18-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

19-07 c 5 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

21-07 2 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

22-07 2 Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

201. Black-crowned Tchagra - Tchagra senegalus

18-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

21-07 3 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

22-07 2 Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

26-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

202. Black-backed Puffback - Dryoscopus cubla

16-07 1 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).

17-07 2 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

18-07 c 10 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

19-07 c 10 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

26-07 1 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

27-07 2 Umlalazi (Kwazulu-Natal).

28-07 c 5 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

203. Tropical Boubou - Laniarius aethiopicus

17-07 c 15 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

18-07 c 10 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal); also on 19-07

204. Southern Boubou - Laniarius ferrugineus

15-07 1 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).

28-07 1 (heard singing) Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

205. Crimson-breasted Shrike - Laniarius atrococcineus

13-07 1 near the entrance of the Mosdene Private Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

14-07 5 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

206. Brubru - Nilaus afer

16-07 1 c 20 Km east of Phalaborwa Gate, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

25-07 c 5 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

28-07 1 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

207. White-crested Helmetshrike - Prionops plumatus

22-07 c 10 (scattered over two flocks) surroundings of Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

25-07 c 10 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal); also on 26-07.

208. Grey Cuckooshrike - Coracina caesia

16-07 2 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).

28-07 2 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

209. Black Cuckooshrike - Campephaga flava

16-07 1 (female) 20 km east of Phalaborwa Gate, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

26-07 1 (female) Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

210. Southern White-crowned Shrike - Eurocephalus anguitimens

13-07 c 10 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

14-07 c 40 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

16-07 c 10 between Phalaborwa and Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

211. Magpie Shrike - Lanius melanoleucus

Common in the surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal) and Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

212. Southern Fiscal - Lanius collaris

Very common, seen daily in every habitat (expect during the pelagic trip).

213. Black-headed Oriole - Oriolus larvatus

15-07 1 between Naboomspruit (Transvaal) and Pietersburg (Transvaal).

17-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

18-07 2 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

19-07	2	Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
28-07	c 10	Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).
	c 10	Entumeni Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).
29-07	1	Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).
	1	Entumeni Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

214. Common Square-tailed Drongo - Dicrurus ludwigii

First seen in Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal). Later we found this bird to be common in forested areas.

215. Fork-tailed Drongo - Dicrurus adsimilis

Common to very common throughout the whole country.

216. Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher - Trochocercus cyanomelas

25-07 1 Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

217. African Paradise Flycatcher - Terpsiphone viridis

17-07	3	(2 males) Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
18-07	2	Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
22-07	1	Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
25-07	c 10	Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
26-07	4	Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

218. Cape Crow - Corvus capensis

24-07	1	De Burg, Dullstroom (Transvaal).
31-07	4	Mooi Rivier surroundings (Kwazulu-Natal).
01-08	3	Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).
02-08	2	Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

219. Pied Crow - Corvus albus

Seen regularly throughout the country.

220. White-necked Raven - Corvus albicollis

15-07 2 c 20 Km east of Pietersburg (Transvaal); strange enough, this was the only record!

221. Southern Black Tit - Melaniparus niger

18-07	1	Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
19-07	3	Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
25-07	c 10	Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal); also on 26-07
28-07	1	Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

222. Ashy Tit - Melaniparus cinerascens

14-07 1 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

223. Grey Penduline Tit - Anthoscopus caroli

25-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

224. Spike-heeled Lark - Chersomanes albofasciata

01-08	4	Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).
02-08	4	Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).
03-08	c 10	Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

225. Short-clawed Lark - Certhilauda chuana

15-07 4 (very well seen and photographed) Pietersburg (Transvaal).

226. Eastern Long-billed Lark - Certhilauda semitorquata (infelix?)

01-08	1	Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).
02-08	1	Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

03-08 1 Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal); different birds, in different areas.

This species is no split into four different species: Cape Long-billed Lark *C curvirostris*, Agulhas Lobg-billed Lark *C brevirostris*, Eastern Long-billed Lark *C semitorquata* and finally, Benguela Long-billed lark *C benguelensis*.

227. Sabota Lark - Mirafra sabota

13-07	c 10	around Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
14-07	c 10	around Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
18-07	1	between Pafuri and Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
21-07	c 5	between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
22-07	c 5	surroundings of Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

228. Rufous-naped Lark - Mirafra africana

14-07

1 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

229. Flappet Lark - Mirafra rufocinnamomea

25-07	1	hefore Fig	Forest trail	Mkuzi Game	Reserve	(Kwazulu-Natal).
23-07		Deloterig	ruiest tiali,	, ivikuzi Gaille	neseive i	(Nwazulu-ivalai).

2 airstrip, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

25-07 3 between the camp and Fig Forest trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

230. Monotonous Lark - Mirafra passerina

19-07 1 Babalala, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

231. BOTHA'S LARK - Spizocorys fringillaris

03-08 2 Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

This species only occurs in short, heavily grazed or burnt-over areas and these birds walked in such a black burnt-over area. Identified on bill shape, pinkish-red bill and spotted breast band.

232. Pink-billed Lark - Spizocorys conirostris

01-08 c 15 (one pair and one flock) Amersfoort Road, Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

233. Red-capped Lark - Calandrella cinerea

31-07 2 at the Wattled Crane spot, west of Mooi Rivier (Kwazulu-Natal).

Common in the Wakkerstroom area, with daily totals up to 30 individuals.

234. Common Bulbul (Black-eyed Bulbul) - Pycnonotus barbatus

Common, seen in almost every area with suitable habitat

235. Sombre Greenbul - Andropadus importunus

- 22-07 3 surroundings of Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 23-07 1 surroundings of Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 26-07 1 Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

236. Yellow-bellied Greenbul - Chlorocichla flaviventris

- 16-07 3 20 Km east of Phalaborwa Gate, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 17-07 2 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 18-07 c 5 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 3 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 24-07 4-5 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 25-07 5-6 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 26-07 3-4 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 28-07 2 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

237. Terrestrial Brownbul - Phyllastrephus terrestris

- 18-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 28-07 2 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 29-07 4 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

238. Yellow-streaked Greenbul - Phyllastrephus flavostriatus

- 16-07 1 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).
- 28-07 1 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

239. Black Saw-wing - Psalidoprocne holomelas

24-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

240. Grey-rumped Swallow - Pseudhirundo griseopyga

- 18-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 21-07 c 10 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 c 10 surroundings of Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

241. Brown-throated Martin - Riparia paludicola

Seen almost daily, being the most common swallow-species

242. White-throated Swallow - Hirundo albigularis

17-07 1 (Anja only, seen in the flock of Wire-tailed's) Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

243. Wire-tailed Swallow - Hirundo smithii

- 17-07 4 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 c 10 surroundings of Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

244. Pearl-breasted Swallow - Hirundo dimidiata

- 13-07 c 5 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 18-07 c 10 between Punda Maria and Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

245. Rock Martin - Ptyonoprogne fuligula

Seen almost daily, being the most common swallow-species next Brown-throated Martin.

246. Lesser Striped Swallow - Cecropis abyssinica

- 14-07 2 c 10 Km north of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 17-07 2 Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 18-07 c 10 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 24-07 c 5 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 25-07 c 5 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

247. Mosque Swallow - Cecropis senegalensis

16-07	2	exact location not noted) Kruger National Park (Transvaal).	
10-07	_	znaci iocation noi notcu) niugei mationai rain (mansvaan).	

- 18-07 c 10 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 c 10 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 21-07 c 20 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 27-07 c 20 (most probably C. semirufa) Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

248. Long-billed Crombec - Sylvietta rufescens

- 14-07 2 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 15-07 1 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).
- 17-07 2 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 18-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 25-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 26-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

249. Lesser Swamp Warbler - Acrocephalus gracilirostris

- 17-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 27-07 5 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

250. African Yellow Warbler (Yellow Flycatcher-Warbler) - Iduna natalensis

18-07 2 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

251. Red-faced Cisticola - Cisticola erythrops

- 17-07 5 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 18-07 4-5 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

252. Lazy Cisticola - Cisticola aberrans

29-07 2 Entumeni Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

253. Rattling Cisticola - Cisticola chinianus

14-07 c 5 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

254. Wailing Cisticola - Cisticola lais

14-07 1 Mosdene Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

02-08 1 Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

255. Rufous-winged Cisticola (Black-backed Cisticola) - Cisticola galactotes

26-07 c 10 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

256. Levaillant's Cisticola - Cisticola tinniens

31-07 2 c 20 Km west of Mooi Rivier (Kwazulu-Natal).

257. Croaking Cisticola - Cisticola natalensis

27-07 1 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

29-07 1 Entumeni Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

258. Neddicky - Cisticola fulvicapillus

13-07 1 Nylstroom (Transvaal).

259. Zitting Cisticola (Fan-tailed Cisticola) - Cisticola juncidis

14-07 c 20 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

02-08 4 north-east of Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

260. Desert Cisticola - Cisticola aridulus

15-07 2 Pietersburg (Transvaal).

261. Wing-snapping Cisticola (Ayres' Cisticola) - Cisticola ayresii

02-08 1 (heard) Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

262. Tawny-flanked Prinia - Prinia subflava

First seen in Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal). Later this proved to be the most common Prinia. It was for us, Europeans difficult to identify Prinias and Cisticolas, because they did not call or sing as much as in spring!

263. Black-chested Prinia - Prinia flavicans

14-07 2 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

15-07 1 Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

264. DRAKENSBERG PRINIA - Prinia hypoxantha

29-07 2 Entumeni Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

265. Bar-throated Apalis - Apalis thoracica

28-07 2 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

266. Rudd's Apalis - Apalis ruddi

25-07 2 Airstrip, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

267. Yellow-breasted Apalis - Apalis flavida

18-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

19-07	1	Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
13-07		raiuii, Niugei Natiollai raik (IIIalisvaai).

- 22-07 1 surroundings of Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 24-07 c 10 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 25-07 c 10 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

268. Green-backed Camaroptera (Green-backed Bleating Warbler) - Camaroptera brachyura

- 28-07 2 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).
 - 2 Entumeni Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 29-07 1 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

269. Grey-backed Camaroptera (Grey-Backed Bleating Warbler) - Camaroptera brevicaudata

- 18-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 270. Yellow-bellied Eremomela Eremomela icteropygialis
 - 25-07 4 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
 - 26-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

271. Greencap Eremomela - Eremomela scotops

- 17-07 3 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 18-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

272. Burnt-neck Eremomela - Eremomela usticollis

- 14-07 1 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 27-07 1 Umlalazi (Kwazulu-Natal).

273. Arrow-marked Babbler - Turdoides jardineii

- 15-07 1 c 20 Km east of Phalaborwa Gate, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 17-07 c 5 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 18-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 c 10 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 1 surroundings of Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 23-07 1 surroundings of Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

274. Chestnut-vented Warbler (Rufous vented Tit-babbler) - Sylvia subcaerulea

- 13-07 1 Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 14-07 c 10 Mosdene Private Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 15-07 2 Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

275. Orange River White-eye (Cape White-eye) - Zosterops pallidus

First seen in Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal). Common in wooded areas.

276. Northern Yellow White-eye - Zosterops senegalensis

- 18-07 4 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 c 10 Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

277. Common Myna - Acridotheres tristis (introduced)

- 13-07 c 10 Johannesburg (Transvaal).
- 26-07 c 30 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal); also on 27-07

278. Wattled Starling - Creatophora cinerea

- 16-07 3 between Phalaborwa Gate and Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 18-07 1 between Pafuri and Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 c 50 between Punda Maria and Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 c 25 surroundings of Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 24-07 c 50 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

279. Black-bellied Starling - Notopholia corruscus

25-07 3 (the first and last time with certainty) Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

280. Cape Starling (Red-shouldered Glossy-Starling) - Lamprotornis nitens

Common, seen almost daily in good numbers especially at Naboomspruit (Transvaal) and the Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

281. Greater Blue-eared Starling - Lamprotornis chalybaeus

Only observed in the Kruger National Park. We didn't put much effort in identifying these nice birds though.

282. Meves's Starling (Long-tailed Glossy-Straling) - Lamprotornis mevesii

17-07 c 20 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal); also on 18-07 and 19-07.

283. Burchell's Glossy-Starling - Lamprotornis australis

Only observed at Naboomspruit (Transvaal) and Kruger National Park (Transvaal), where it was fairly common.

284. PIED STARLING - Spreo bicolor

- 24-07 c 10 De Berg, north of Dullstroom (Transvaal).
- 31-07 c 4 between Mooi Rivier (Kwazulu-Natal) and Estcourt (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 01-08 c 50 Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal); also on 02-08 and 3-08.

285. Red-winged Starling - Onychognathus morio

18-07	c 10	between Pafuri and Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
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- 23-07 2 Dullstroom (Transvaal).
- 28-07 2 Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 29-07 2 Durban (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 30-07 c 10 Durban (Kwazulu-Natal); also on 31-07.

286. Red-billed Oxpecker - Buphagus erythrorhynchus

16-07	2	(on a Burchell's Zebra) between Phalaborwa Gate and Punda Maria, Kruger National
		Park (Transvaal).

- 18-07 2 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 2 (one on a Zebra, one on a Giraffe) between Punda Maria and Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

26-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

287. Spotted Ground-Thrush - Geokichla guttata

28-07 2 (beautifully seen) Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

29-07 2 or 3 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

288. Groundscraper Thrush - Turdus litsipsirupa

- 16-07 2 Phalaborwa (Transvaal).
- 22-07 1 Sabie River near Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 23-07 1 on a rugby field, just before Waterval Boven (Transvaal).

289. Kurrichane Thrush - Turdus libonyanus

- 14-07 1 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 16-07 1 (exact location not noted) Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 17-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 18-07 2 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 3 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 1 surroundings of Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal); also on 23-07.
- 24-07 1 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 26-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 28-07 1 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

290. Olive Thrush - Turdus olivaceus

- 14-07 1 Nylsvlei Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 28-07 1 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

291. Bearded Scrub Robin (Eastern Bearded Robin) - Cercotrichas quadrivirgata

- 16-07 1 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).
- 17-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 2 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 24-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 25-07 1 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 26-07 1 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

292. Kalahari Scrub Robin - Cercotrichas paena

13-07 3 Mosdene Private Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

293. White-browed Scrub Robin - Cercotrichas leucophrys

- 18-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 3 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 20-07 1 surroundings of Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 21-07 1 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 1 surroundings of Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 24-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal); also on 25-07 and 26-07.

294. Brown Scrub Robin - Cercotrichas signata

28-07 2 (one seen, one heard) Entumeni Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

295. Southern Black Flycatcher - Melaenornis pammelaina

- 22-07 1 Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 1 (another) Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 26-07 1 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

296. Pale Flycatcher (Mouse-coloured Flycatcher) - Melaenornis pallidus

- 14-07 c 10 Mosdene Nature Reserve, Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 25-07 1 Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

297. Marico Flycatcher - Melaenornis mariquensis

- 13-07 c 5 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 14-07 c 25 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 21-07 2 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

298. Fiscal Flycatcher - Melaenornis silens

- 15-07 2 c 20 Km east of Pietersburg (Transvaal).
- 16-07 1 between Phalaborwa Gate and Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 26-07 2 Mkuzi (Kwazulu-Natal).

299. Ashy Flycatcher (Blue-grey Flycatcher) - Muscicapa caerulescens

- 16-07 2 between Phalaborwa Gate and Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 17-07 c 10 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 18-07 2 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 26-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

300. African Dusky Flycatcher - Muscicapa adusta

- 22-07 1 Nursery, Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 23-07 1 Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 24-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 25-07 c 5 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 25-07 1 Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

301. Cape Robin-Chat (Cape Robin) - Cossypha caffra

- 15-07 2 Troutman Lake Resort (Transvaal).
- 16-07 1 Troutman Lake Resort (Transvaal).
- 02-08 1 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

302. White-throated Robin-Chat - Cossypha humeralis

- 17-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 24-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 25-07 1 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

303. White-browed Robin-Chat (Heuglin's Robin) - Cossypha heuglini

- 17-07 2 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 18-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

304. Red-capped Robin-Chat (Natal Robin) - Cossypha natalensis

- 17-07 1 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 25-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 26-07 2 Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

305. Chorister Robin-Chat - Cossypha dichroa

- 16-07 2 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).
- 28-07 8 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal); next day none!

306. Cape Rock Thrush - Monticola rupestris

02-08 1 (male) Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

307. SENTINEL ROCK THRUSH - Monticola explorator

02-08 4 (1 male, 3 females) Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

308. African Stonechat - Saxicola torquatus

- 13-07 c 5 Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 14-07 c 10 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 16-07 2 Magoebaskloof (Transvaal).
- 27-07 2 Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).
 - 2 Umlalazi (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 28-07 2 Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 01-08 c 10 Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).
- 02-08 c 10 (other individuals in a different area) Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

309. BUFF-STREAKED CHAT - Campicoloides bifasciata

- 23-07 4 (2 pairs) Dullstroom (Transvaal).
- 02-08 3 (2 males, 1 female) Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

310. Mocking Cliff Chat - Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris

- 23-07 2 (pair) Dullstroom (Transvaal).
- 01-08 1 between Amersfoort (Kwazulu-Natal) and Volksrust (Transvaal).

311. Ant-eating Chat (Southern Anteater-Chat) - Myrmecocichla formicivora

- 23-07 1 just before Dullstroom (Transvaal).
- 24-07 1 Dullstroom (Transvaal).
- 01-08 c 15 Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).
- 02-08 c 30 Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).
- 03-08 c 10 Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

312. Mountain Wheatear - Myrmecocichla monticola

23-07 1 (male) Dullstroom (Transvaal).

- 01-08 2 Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).
- 02-08 2 (others) Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

313. Arnot's Chat - Myrmecocichla arnotti

19-07 5 (2 males, 2 females and 1 juv.) at the junction of S59 and S60, c 15 Km east of Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

314. Familiar Chat - Oenanthe familiaris

- 19-07 1 Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 31-07 1 Ladysmith (Kwazulu-Natal).

315. Collared Sunbird - Hedydipna collaris

- 15-07 2 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).
- 25-07 c 20 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal); also on 26-07.
- 27-07 c 5 Umlalazi (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 28-07 c 10 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal); also on 29-07.
 - c 10 Entumeni Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal); also on 29-07.

316. Olive Sunbird - Cyanomitra olivacea

- 27-07 1 Umlalazi (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 28-07 1 (heard) Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 29-07 1 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

317. Grey Sunbird - Cyanomitra veroxii

- 26-07 2 False Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 28-07 2 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

318. Amethyst Sunbird (African Black Sunbird) - Chalcomitra amethystina

- 13-07 3 (2 males, 1 female) Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 16-07 1 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).
- 18-07 2 Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 3 Nursery, Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 01-08 1 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

319. Scarlet-chested Sunbird - Chalcomitra senegalensis

- 19-07 1 (male) Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 2 Nursery, Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 23-07 1 Malelane Gate, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 24-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 26-07 3 False Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

320. Southern Double-collared Sunbird - Cinnyris chalybeus

- 28-07 2 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).
 - 1 Entumeni Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 29-07 2 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

321. GREATER DOUBLE-COLLARED SUNBIRD - Cinnyris afer

- 15-07 c 15 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).
- 16-07 1 Troutman Lake Resort (Transvaal).
 - c 5 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).

322. Marico Sunbird - Cinnyris mariquensis

- 14-07 2 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 20-07 c 5 surroundings of Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 22-07 2 Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 24-07 1 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

323. Purple-banded Sunbird - Cinnyris bifasciatus

- 25-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 26-07 2 (others) Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 27-07 1 Umlalazi (Kwazulu-Natal).

324. White-bellied Sunbird - Cinnyris talatala

The most common sunbird, seen almost daily. Especially common in Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

325. House Sparrow - Passer domesticus

Even here in urban habitat!

326. Cape Sparrow - Passer melanurus

- 31-07 c 10 Ladysmith (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 01-08 c 10 Ladysmith (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 02-08 c 5 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

327. Southern Grey-headed Sparrow - Passer diffusus

First seen at Naboomspruit (Transvaal) on 14 July. Common in Kruger National Park (Transvaal), with daily totals up to c 30 birds. On 19 July we accidentally bumped one with the car, but it survived fortunately.

328. Yellow-throated Bush Sparrow - Gymnoris superciliaris

17-07 c 20 Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

329. Red-billed Buffalo Weaver - Bubalornis niger

- 19-07 3 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 21-07 c 10 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

330. White-browed Sparrow-Weaver - Plocepasser mahali

- 13-07 c 10 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 14-07 c 30 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 15-07 c 20 between Naboomspruit (Transvaal) and Pietersburg (Transvaal).

331. Scaly-feathered Weaver (Scaly-feathered Finch) - Sporopipes squamifrons

- 13-07 c 10 Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 14-07 c 25 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

332. Spectacled Weaver - Ploceus ocularis

17-07 1 (male in summer plumage) Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

18-07 1 (male in summer plumage) Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

333. Cape Weaver - Ploceus capensis

25-07 2 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

02-08 1 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

03-08 1 (another) Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

334. Eastern Golden-Weaver (Yellow Weaver) - Ploceus subaureus

27-07 1 Umlalazi (Kwazulu-Natal).

335. Lesser Masked Weaver - Ploceus intermedius

27-07 1 (male in summer plumage) Richard's Bay (Kwazulu-Natal).

336. Southern Masked Weaver - Ploceus velatus

22-07 3 Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

24-07 c 10 before Ermelo (Transvaal).

01-08 1 Weavers Nest, Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

02-08 c 5 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

337. Village Weaver (Spotted-backed Weaver) - Ploceus cucullatus

15-07 c 50 (in retrospect, weavers were terribly difficult!) Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

25-07 c 10 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

These records were the only times we had the opportunity to study weaver at close range. Most of the time we saw flocks of weavers at a distance and when at a close distance, they were always in winter plumage and very shy, making a sound identification impossible.

338. Dark-backed Weaver (Forest Weaver) - Ploceus bicolor

25-07 5 Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

26-07 4 Fig Forest Trail, Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

28-07 2 Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

339. Red-billed Quelea - Quelea quelea

21-07 c 100 between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

340. Southern Red Bishop - Euplectes orix

20-07 1 Letaba River, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

02-08 c 5 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

341. Yellow Bishop (Yellow-rumped Widow) - Euplectes capensis

23-07 c 25 Dullstroom (Transvaal).

342. White-winged Widowbird - Euplectes albonotatus

17-07 c 10 (winter plumage) along the S60, east of Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

343. Long-tailed Widowbird - Euplectes progne

14-07	1	Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
01-08	c 50	Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).
02-08	c 100	Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).
03-08	c 10	Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

344. Green-winged Pytilia (Melba Finch) - Pytilia melba

14-07	1	surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
17-07	2	along the S60, east of Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
18-07	c 10	Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
19-07	c 10	Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
22-07	c 5	Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
24-07	c 5	Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

345. Cut-throat Finch - Amadina fasciata

13-07 2 Naboomspruit (Transvaal).

346. Green-backed Twinspot - Mandingoa nitidula

28-07 c 4 (a small party heard only) Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

347. Pink-throated Twinspot - Hypargos margaritatus

25-07 1 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

348. Red-billed Firefinch - Lagonosticta senegala

14-07	c 10	surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
17-07	c 10	Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
18-07	c 10	Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

349. African Firefinch (Blue-billed Firefinch) - Lagonosticta rubricata

20-07	c 10	Letaba River, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
28-07	c 5	Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).
29-07	c 10	Dlinza Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

350. Jameson's Firefinch - Lagonosticta rhodopareia

Common, seen regularly throughout the whole country.

351. Blue Waxbill - Uraeginthus angolensis

Common, seen almost daily throughout the whole country.

352. Violet-eared Waxbill - Uraeginthus granatinus

13-07	2	surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
22-07	1	Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

353. Swee Waxbill - Estrilda melanotis

15-07 1 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).

354. Common Waxbill - Estrilda astrild

Seen almost daily, most common at Naboomspruit (Transvaal) and in Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

355. Bronze Mannikin (Bronze-winged Mannikin) - Lonchura cucullata

14-07 C 10 SULLOUININGS OF MADOOFFISDIUM CHAISVAAF	14-07	c 10	surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transva	al).
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- 16-07 c 10 Phalaborwa Gate, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 17-07 8 along the S60, east of Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 28-07 c 15 Entumeni Forest, Eshowe (Kwazulu-Natal).

356. Black-and-white Mannikin (Red-backed Mannikin) - Lonchura bicolor

15-07 c 10 Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).

357. Magpie Mannikin (Pied Mannikin) - Lonchura fringilloides

23-07 c 5 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

358. Shaft-tailed Whydah - Vidua regia

- 17-07 2 (winter plumage) along the S60, east of Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 21-07 c 10 (winter plumage) between Mopani and Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

359. Cape Wagtail - Motacilla capensis

First seen in Johannesburg (Transvaal) on July 13th. Later seen regularly throughout the whole country.

360. Mountain Wagtail - Motacilla clara

15-07 3 Debenjeni Falls, Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).

361. African Pied Wagtail - Motacilla aguimp

- 16-07 3 Troutman Lake Resort (Transvaal).
- 18-07 1 at bridge over Luvuvhu River, Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 19-07 2 at bridge over Luvuvhu River, Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 01-08 c 5 Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

362. Cape Longclaw (Orange-throated Longclaw) - Macronyx capensis

- 23-07 1 Dullstroom (Transvaal).
- 24-07 6 surroundings of Dullstroom (Transvaal).
- 31-07 c 5 28 Km west of Mooi Rivier (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 01-08 c 15 Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).
- 02-08 c 25 Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

363. Yellow-throated Longclaw - Macronyx croceus

- 25-07 1 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).
- 27-07 2 Umlalazi (Kwazulu-Natal).

364. African Pipit (Grassveld Pipit) - Anthus cinnamomeus

- 14-07 3 surroundings of Naboomspruit (Transvaal).
- 21-07 c 5 surroundings of Mopani, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
- 25-07 1 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

02-08 1 Wakkerstroom area (Transvaal).

365. Buffy Pipit - Anthus vaalensis

31-07 2 at the Wattled Crane spot, west of Mooi Rivier (Kwazulu-Natal).

366. Bushveld Pipit - Anthus caffer

25-07 1 Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

367. Black-throated Canary - Crithagra atrogularis

02-08 c 10 (two flocks of c 5 birds) Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

368. Yellow-fronted Canary (Yellow-eyed Canary) - Crithagra mozambicus

Common, seen almost daily. Most common in Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

369. Streaky-headed Seedeater (Streaky-headed Canary) - Serinus gularis

26-07 1 at the entrance (or exit) of Mkuzi Game Reserve (Kwazulu-Natal).

370. Cape Canary - Serinus canicollis

15-07	c 10	Troutman Lake Resort (Transvaal).
	c 5	Troutman Lake Resort (Transvaal).
16-07	c 10	Wood Bush Reserve (Transvaal).
23-07	c 20	Dullstroom (Transvaal).
01-08	2	Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).
02-08	c 10	Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

371. **Cinnamon-breasted Bunting** - Emberiza tahapisi

16-07	2	at bridge over Letaba River, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
18-07	2	Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

19-07 2 Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).

372. Cape Bunting - Emberiza capensis

23-07	2	Dullstroom (Transvaal).
01-08	1	Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).
02-08	2	Wakkerstroom (Transvaal).

373. Golden-breasted Bunting - Emberiza flaviventris

17-07	5	along the S60, east of Punda Maria, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
19-07	5	between Punda Maria and Pafuri, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
22-07	1	Skukuza, Kruger National Park (Transvaal).
