

My Horticultural journey with IPPS



PENDULO GABAYI, 2016 IPPS SA EXCHANGE STUDENT

22 March 2016





IPPS

SHARING PLANT PRODUCTION KNOWLEDGE



**IPPS Australian Exchange
2016 feedback
Mpendulo Gabayi**



IPPS Australia 2016





Plant Pest Monitoring and Prevention Workshop

Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden

(Old Mutual Conference Centre)

6-7 November 2017

RSVP: Mpendulo Gabayi (m.gabayi@Sanbi.org.za)



The **International Plant Sentinel Network (IPSN)** aims to provide an early warning system to identify new and emerging pest and pathogen risks to plants. The IPSN is a developing network of both national and international partnerships linking plant protection scientists and botanical gardens and arboreta around the world.

Background Identifying potential threats to plant species before a pest is introduced can drastically improve the success of eradication or management programmes. It may even be possible to stop their introduction in the first place. A big problem in identifying these plant health risks is that the most serious invasive pests do not cause a problem in their native habitats. This is where sentinel plants can help

Sentinel Plants Plant species maintained outside of their natural ranges (e.g. in botanical gardens and arboreta) offer a unique opportunity to understand and predict potential threats to plant health. So-called sentinels can be monitored for damage by pests present in their current location, but which are not currently introduced into the sentinel's country of origin. Monitoring sentinels can help identify potential future threats, as well as provide vital information about key organisms already identified as a risk.

To find out more and how to become a member please go to:
www.plantsentinel.org

 @IPSN_BGCI

A Guide to Biosecurity Best Practice for Living Plant Collections: Launch and training workshop

25–26 October 2022

Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden
Old Mutual Conference Centre (Gate 1)

RSVP: Mpendulo Gabayi: m.gabayi@sanbi.org.za / 021 799 8496



The Guide to Biosecurity Best Practice for Living Plant Collections was initiated by members of SANBI's Horticultural Enrichment Forum (HEF), as part of an effort to streamline and standardise horticultural practices in SANBI's National Botanical Gardens (NBGs). The protocols have been developed by a small team of SANBI horticulturists, in collaboration with staff of the Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute (FABI).

You are cordially invited to join us for this launch and workshop, hosted by the SANBI Horticultural Biosecurity Steering Committee and Dr. Trudy Paap (FABI), with special guest Dr. Brett Summerell (Chief Scientist & Director of Research, Australian Institute of Botanical Science). We hope you can join us for this capacity building event, aimed at promoting plant health and biosecurity in our SANBI gardens.



Mpendulo Gabayi
SANBI



Roger Oliver
SANBI



Phakamani M'Africa
Xaba, SANBI



Adam Harrower
SANBI



Brett Summerell
Sydney RBG

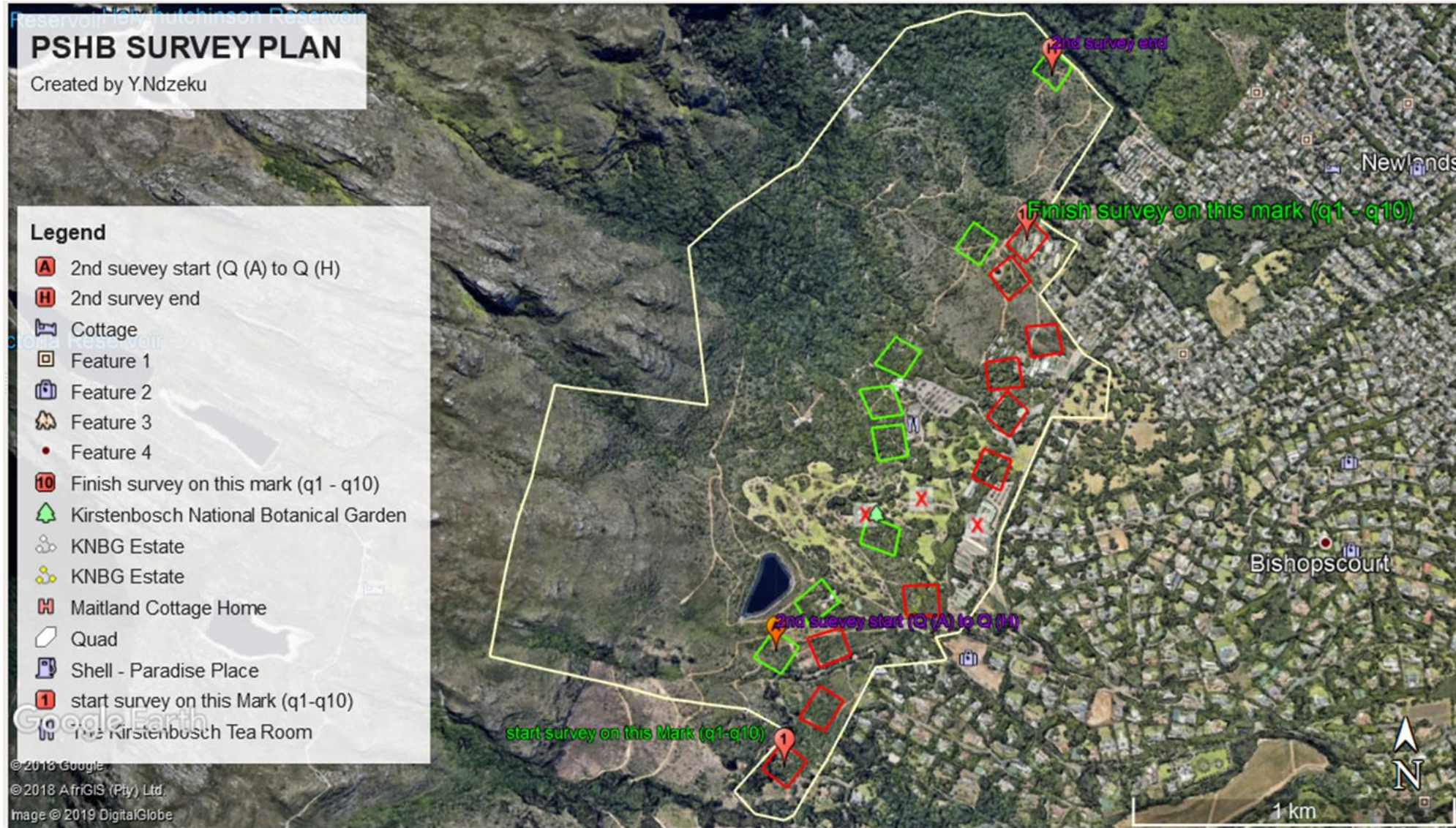


Trudy Paap
FABI



Felipe Balocchi
FABI

Surveillance/monitoring for early detection of Polyphagous shot hole borer



Shot-Hole Borer a threat to our trees

Polyphagous Shot-Hole Borer (PHSB) is a recently detected invasive pest that is killing our trees. It is a tiny, flying, black beetle, ±2 mm long (smaller than a sesame seed), that originates in Asia. It is spreading fast in Johannesburg, Durban, Richards Bay, Pietermaritzburg, George, Knysna and Bloemfontein and it is now also in the Cape Town area. It has not been seen in Kirstenbosch, yet. A team is surveying the trees and monitoring the situation.

What does it do?

The beetles tunnel into trees

The beetles bore into the trunks and branches of trees, making tunnels, where they lay their eggs. They can form large colonies, with over 100 000 beetles in the tunnels.



The beetles carry a fungus

The female beetles carry a fungus, which grows in the tunnels. The beetles and their larvae, feed on this fungus.

The fungus kills the tree

The fungus causes Fusarium Dieback. It gets into the growing tissue of the tree, blocks the flow of water and nutrients, which causes dieback and kills the tree.

Know the symptoms:

It attacks trees indiscriminately, all trees are at risk. Symptoms vary from tree to tree.

1) Entry holes on tree trunks

They are round and small, less than 2 mm wide.



2) Signs of infestation:

Dark wet staining around the holes AND/OR
Gum or resin oozing or dripping from the holes AND/OR
Raised lesion or callus around the holes AND/OR
White powder or fine sawdust coming from the holes.

3) Dieback

Wilted brown leaves and dead branches.



HELP STOP THE SPREAD:

Know the symptoms, check and monitor the trees in your garden and neighbourhood.

Report all sightings to invasive.species@capetown.gov.za or Tel. 0860 103 089; or upload photos and GPS coordinates to www.capetowninvasives.org.za and on Tree Survey at <https://treesurvey.co.za> (download their app) and on iNaturalist at <https://www.inaturalist.org/posts/23278-pshb-in-cape-town>

Get professional help to dispose of infected trees to make sure to kill the beetles and to dispose of infested trees in a manner that prevents the spread of this invasive pest.

Don't move firewood, if it is infested with even one live female beetle, you will aid the spread.

More information: www.capetowninvasives.org.za/shot-hole-borer ; <https://www.fabinet.up.ac.za/> ; <https://polyphagous-shot-hole-borer.co.za>

Propagation of a critically endangered medicinal tree, *Brackenridgea zanguebarica* Oliv (Ochnaceae).

Mpendulo Gabayi

Conservation horticulturist (Trees, shrubs and Forest understory
collections)

Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden



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PBR

INTERNATIONAL
Propagation • BioScience • Research



**Global Partnership for
PLANT CONSERVATION 2018**

HOME > KIRSTENBOSCH NATIONAL BOTANICAL GARDEN

Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden



KIRSTENBOSCH NATIONAL BOTANICAL GARDEN

DESCRIPTION

Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden, founded in 1913, is world-renowned for the beauty and diversity of the Cape Floral Kingdom it displays as well as its incomparably magnificent setting against the eastern buttress of Table Mountain. The Kirstenbosch

ACCREDITED ARBORETA

LEVEL I ACCREDITED ARBORETA

LEVEL II ACCREDITED ARBORETA

LEVEL III ACCREDITED ARBORETA

LEVEL IV ACCREDITED ARBORETA

VIEW ALL ACCREDITED ARBORETA

ACCREDITATION CRITERIA

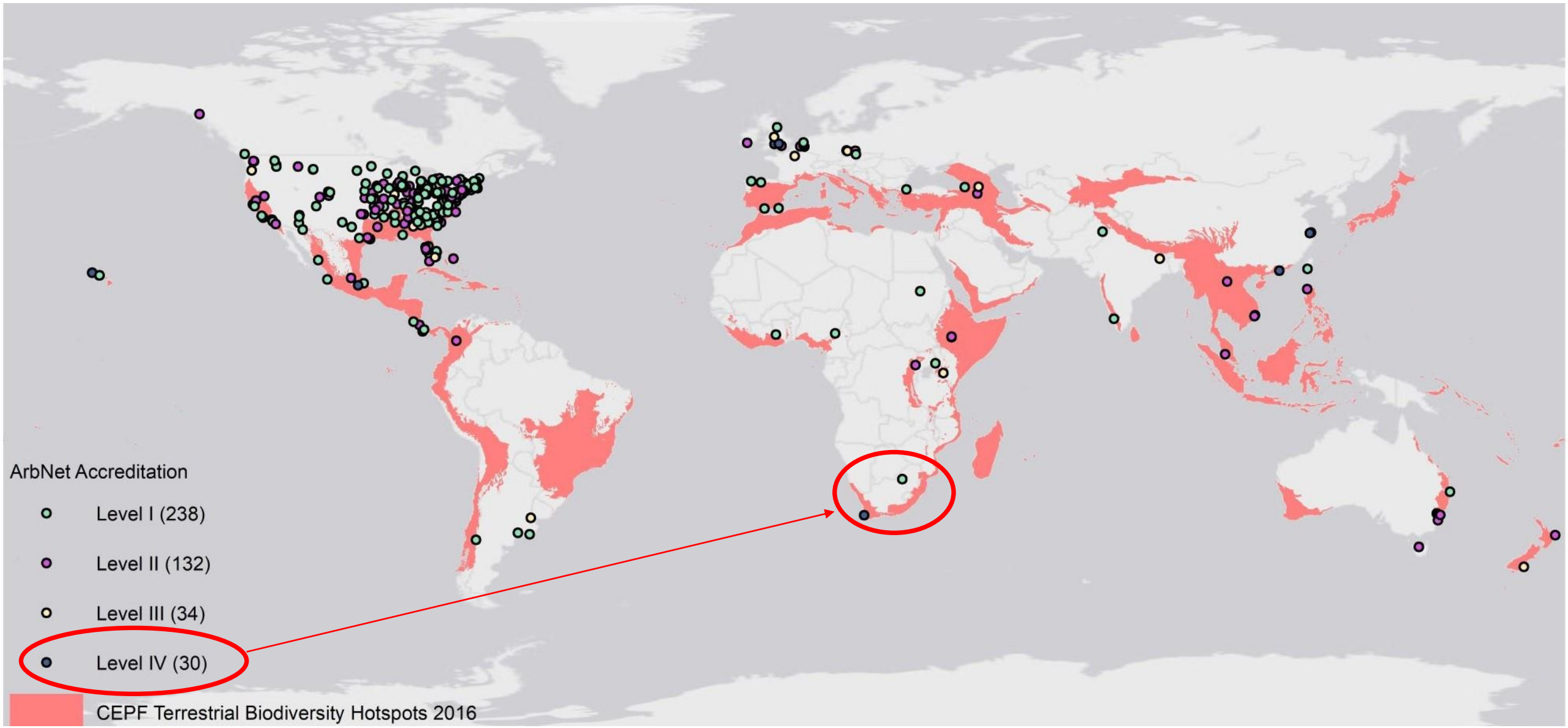
APPLY FOR ACCREDITATION

LEVELS OF ACCREDITATION

LEVEL I CRITERIA

LEVEL II CRITERIA

LEVEL III CRITERIA




Mutavhatsini Nature Reserve

- The Brackenridgea or better know as Mutavhatsindi Nature Reserve was established in 1987 by the provincial Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LDEDET) as a way of protecting the population of *Brackenridgea zanguebarica*.
- The reserve is about 110 ha, fenced with currently only five rotating field rangers.

110 Ha



 Capture this view

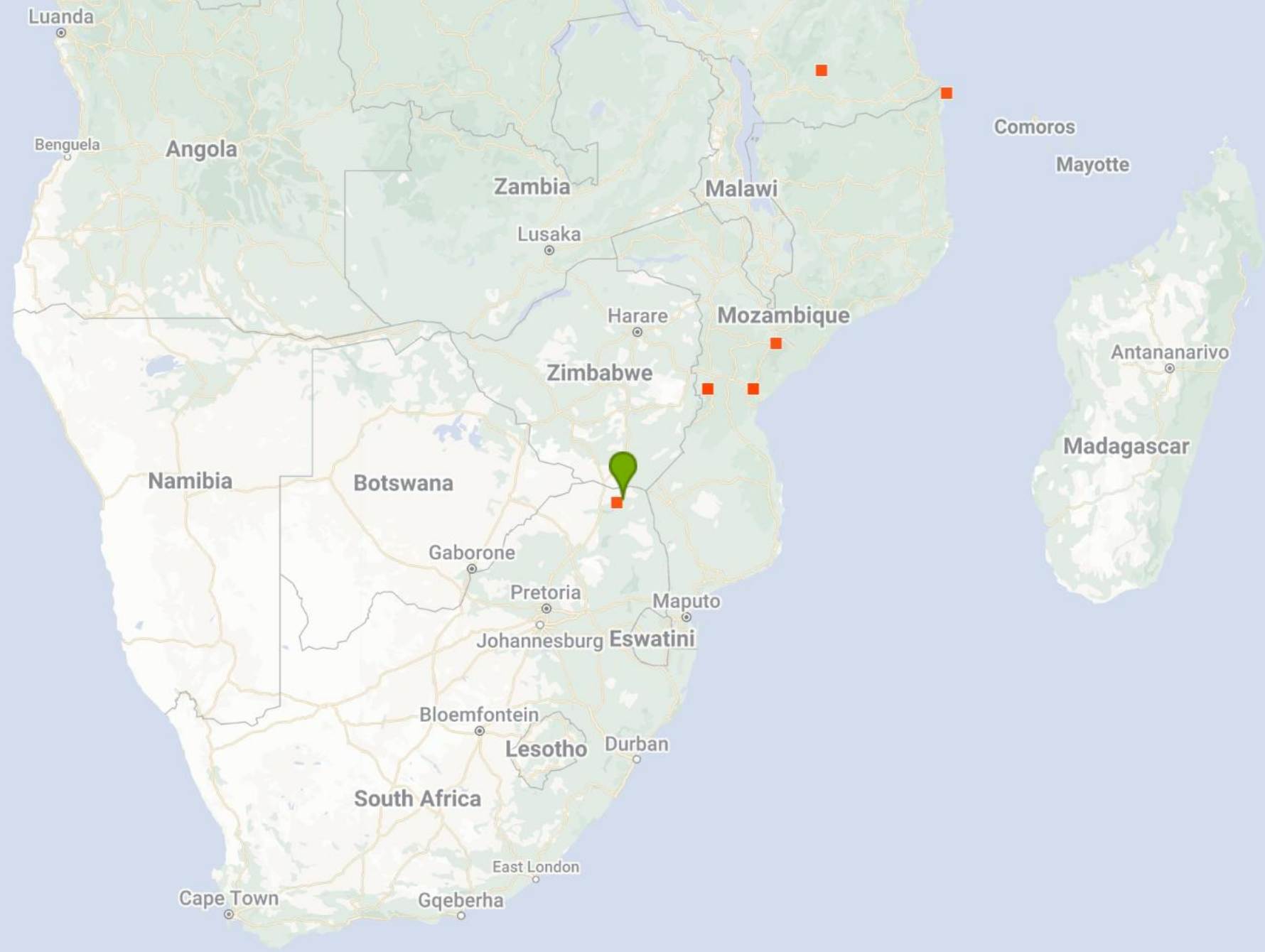


3D





Map Satellite



Some of the myths about the tree

Pers. Mr. Ntanganenzi (BNR senior ranger), Mr. Mutshinyalo (NBG director) and Mr Ndou (local traditional healer)

- After collecting the root or bark for medicinal purposes, it is prohibited to bring the collected material inside the home yard.
- You must also not put them anywhere near a woman or allow a woman to touch it.
- It is claimed that when some of the trees had been damaged during the construction of a road through the area some years ago, the operator of the bulldozer died that same day in an accident.
- The traditional medical practitioners believe that the roots or bark should only be collected by a nude person at midnight.
- Some of the residents believe that the inhalation of smoke from this tree can cause mental disorder.



Aims for the project

To successfully develop germination and stem cutting propagation procedures for the heavily exploited and critically endangered South African tree *B. zanguebarica*.

Objectives

Conduct an expedition to locate and collect propagules.

Activities: Map all existing trees and collect genetically representative samples of DNA, herbarium vouchers, seed, and cuttings from each individual.



Objectives continues...

- Conduct germination trials

Activities: Germination trials will expand on previous efforts and will include nicking seeds and soak overnight in water to test imbibition.

- Conduct vegetative propagation trials

Activities: Making cuttings from matured materials (second year growth of stems) with adequate leaves for rooting energy, 2) also trial stem, heel and tip cuttings using different concentrations and combinations of rooting hormones (IAA, IBA & NAA).

Do air layering on site. Propagation staff at MBG to provide consultation for vegetative propagation trials.



Objectives continues...

- Share information from propagation trials to facilitate conservation and recovery

Activities: Sharing information with the Mafukani and Thengwe village on contemporary plant collection legislation. Methods for propagation and cultivation will be shared with managers at Brackenridgea Nature Reserve as a written report including other conservation groups in South Africa, with the goal of protecting the remaining diversity of *B. zanguebarica* in Limpopo.



B. Zanguebarica (scion) Grafting on *Ochna natalitia* (stock)

Ochna natalitia (Meisn.) Walp.



Brackenridgea zanguebarica Oliv.



B. Zanguebarica (scion) Grafting on *Ochna natalitia* (stock)...



Hand pollination and seeds germination

It is suspected that the seeds are parasitised



Covering the flowers for seed collection

2.8mm

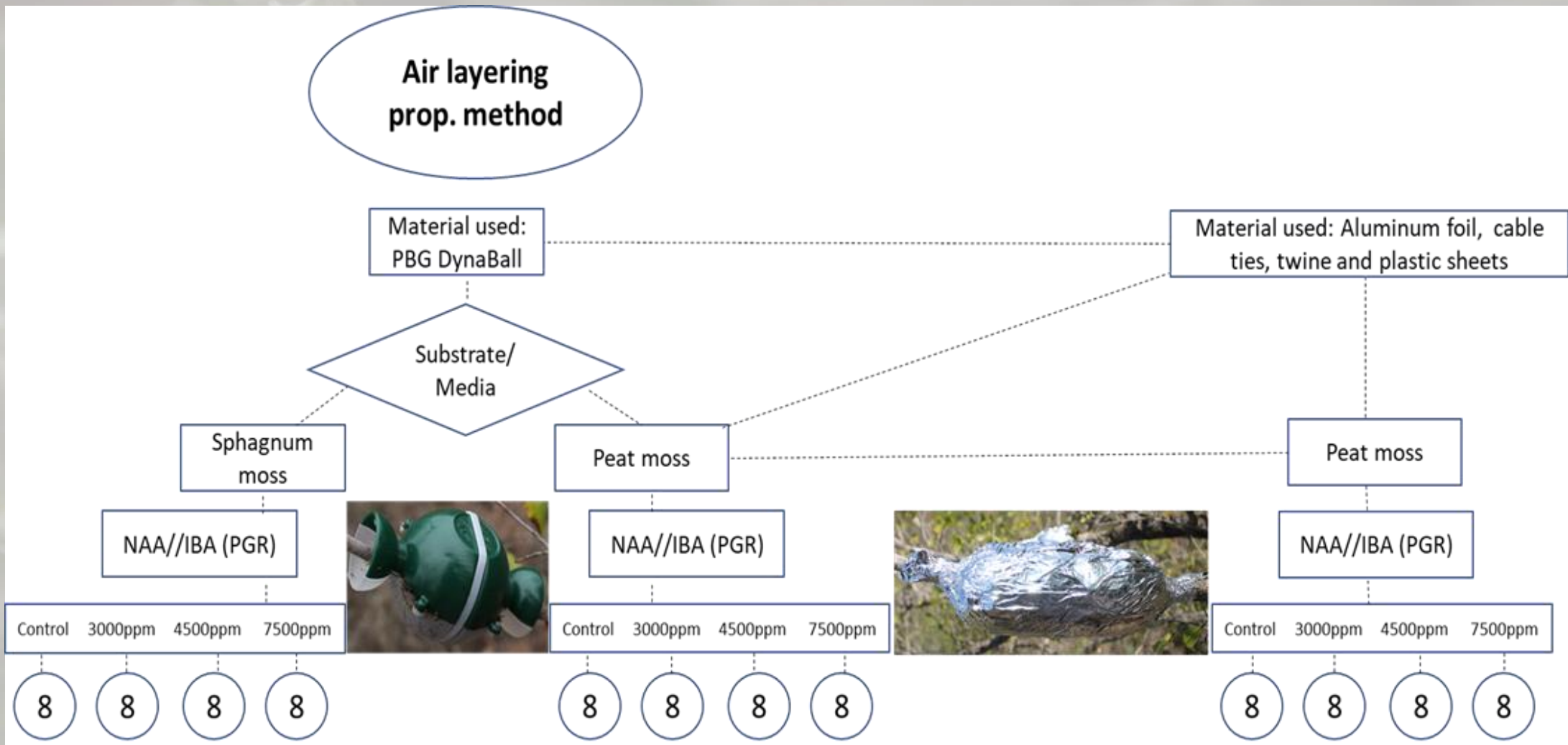
2.5mm



Air layering with DynaBall Root cloners (PBR inter.)



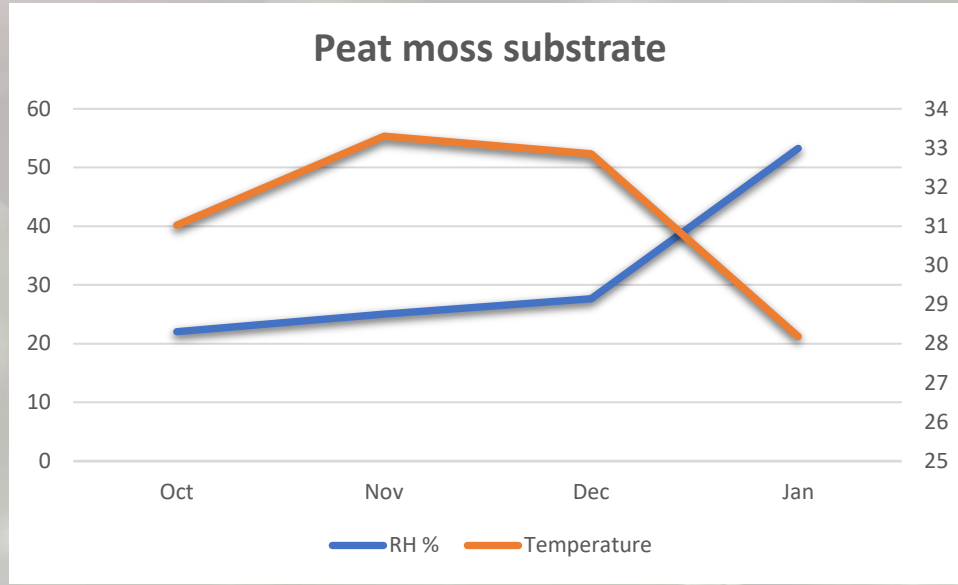
A diagram representing an air layering propagation method conducted at Mutavhatsindi Nature Reserve.



Air layering with DynaBall Root cloners (PBR inter.)

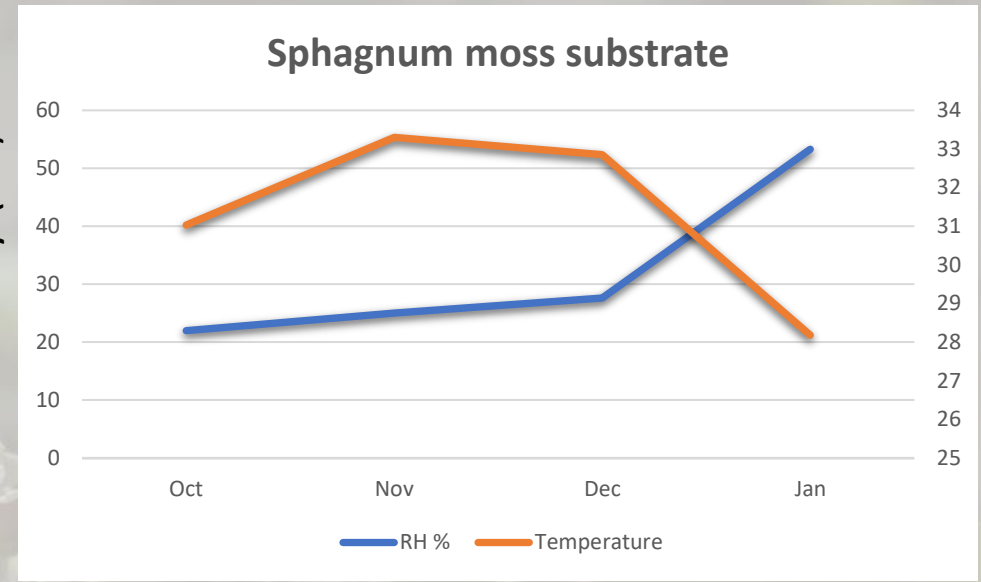


Relative Humidity (RH) %

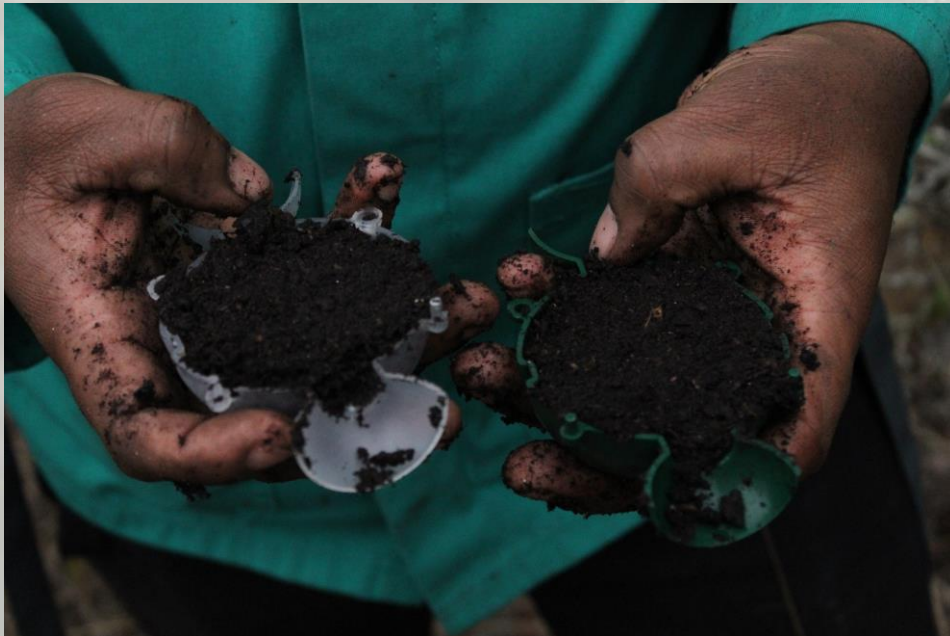


Temperature °C

Relative Humidity (RH) %



Temperature °C



Air layering with Traditional plastic and foil



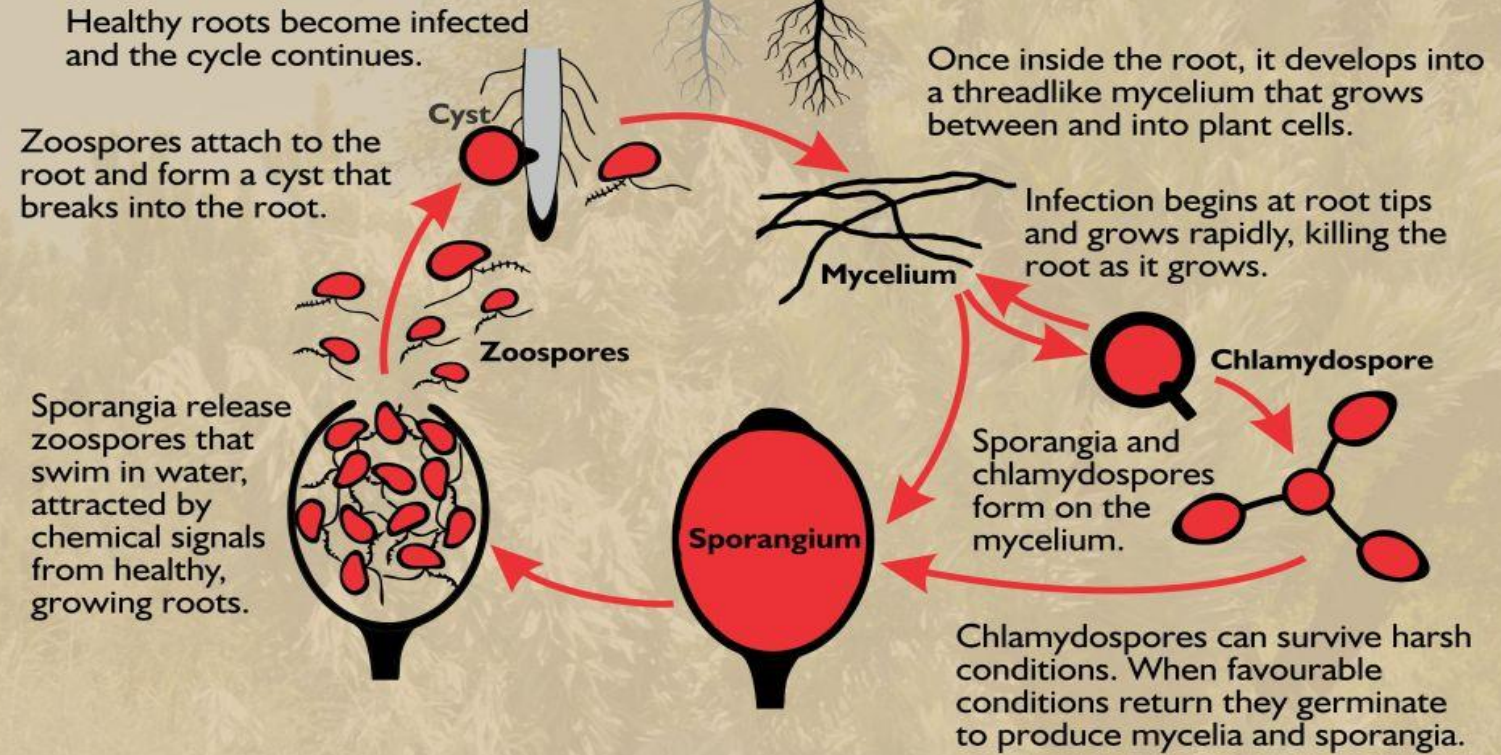




Healthy plant



Diseased, dying plant



The life cycle of *Phytophthora*

Way forward

- Set up air layering propagation trials using sphagnum moss as a substrate/ media and adjust IBA, IAA and NAA separate and in combination during growing season (September 2022).
- Set up a much more focused study on seed physiology, viability and germination, at Missouri Botanical Garden (mid 2023).
- Setting up a *Brackenridgea* working group/ task team with Michele Hofmayer (Tweenstreams nursery) and Tim Neary (SAPPI). (in progress)
- For lineage study, to locate other *Brackenridgea* populations in Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Tanzania (budget permitting).

A glimpse to a South African Protected trees booklet

PROTECTED TREES of South Africa

Mpendulo Gabayi, Izak van der Merwe, Lungisani Zondi

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Protected Trees of South Africa

Enforcement and monitoring of protected trees

Trees listed as protected under Section 12 of the NFA may not be cut, damaged, or their products transported, sold or exported without a license. Licenses are usually not granted for tree species that have been listed as protected on the basis of rarity, and the licensing is meant to control the clearance of abundant tree species like camel thorn.

Many charges have been brought in the past against people or companies cutting protected trees or trading protected tree products without licenses. These usually relate to illegal clearance for land use change or agriculture and for the harvesting of timber.

The most common occurrences of transgressions are the illegal cutting of matumi (*Breonadia salicina*) that is highly prized for its timber in Limpopo, the felling and selling of camel thorn in the Northern Cape and Northwest provinces for firewood and to clear agricultural lands, and the felling of milkwood (*Sideroxylon inerme*) for development in various coastal areas of the Western Cape.



Confiscated matumi timber

DEFF has limited enforcement staff, covering the whole of South Africa. These forest officers have to handle license applications and monitor their areas of jurisdiction to deal with transgressions, and also ensure compliance with license conditions. There is considerable illegal activity in certain areas, but this would have been many times worse had it not been for the deterrence factor of enforcement that does take place.



Forest officer inspecting firewood on sale

Individual studies and occasional monitoring of the firewood market in bigger towns and cities have revealed that this industry is large, and provides jobs to thousands of people. It is estimated that more than 30 000 tons of commercial firewood is harvested and consumed in the country annually. Valued firewood species such as camel thorn and leadwood (*Combretum imberbe*) makes up less than a quarter of this amount. This is wood that is sold on the open market, and

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Protected Trees of South Africa



SA Tree No: 207

Azelia quanzensis

Family: FABACEAE

pod-mahogany (E), peulmahonie (A), umhluvuva (Z), mutokota (V)



A medium to tall deciduous tree with a spreading crown that can grow to 20 m in height. The Bark is greyish brown with rough flaking patches. Leaves are compound, alternate; with 4-6 pairs of opposite to sub-opposite leaflets; dark green above and paler beneath; leathery and with a wavy margin, leaf stalks swollen at the base. Flowers are sweetly-scented, borne in erect clusters and are green with a single pinkish red petal. Flowers from October to December. Fruit a large, woody pod which splits to release large black seeds with orange-red arils from April to August.



Distribution and Habitat

Widespread in sand forest, hot, arid bushveld and open woodlands. It occurs naturally in the Kwazulu-Natal, Limpopo, and Mpumalanga provinces, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Zambia, Angola and into tropical Africa.



Propagation and cultivation

This tree is easily grown from seeds. Seed need to be sown in a seedling tray using mixture of river sand and compost. Press the seed into the mixture, cover lightly with soil, and keep it moist. Germination usually take 2-3 weeks. They should be kept protected for the first two seasons in cold areas, as they are frost sensitive.



Why is the tree protected?

The wood is hard and termite and borer resistant. It is used for pole fencing and railway sleepers and in tropical Africa to make furniture and canoes. Seeds are in great demand for ornaments and charms and are often used as necklaces or made into trinkets and sold as curios. Medicinally roots are used to treat bilharzia and for eye complaints. Powdered bark mixed with one's own body oil is believed to ward off attacks and bad luck.



Conservation status: Least Concern (LC)



Habitat loss, which includes the irreversible conversion of natural vegetation for infrastructure development, urban expansion, crop cultivation, timber plantations and mines, is by far the most severe threat to South African plants.

AETFAT Congress in Zambia (training)



SANBI

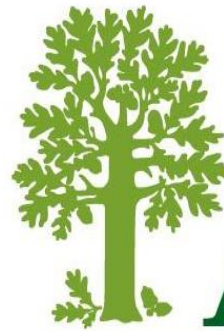
Biodiversity for Life

South African National Biodiversity Institute



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