

Recommended trees for the different regions of South Africa:

Western Cape: Cape Flats, west coast and coastal regions

Western Cape: Fynbos

Subtropical, forested region

Arid and semi-arid regions (Karoo, Namaqualand)

Bushveld & savanna regions

Highveld and grassland regions

Thicket or valley bushveld and noorsveld

Lists compiled by Alice Notten using the reference: Wonderful Waterwise Gardening, a regional guide to indigenous gardening in South Africa, by Ernst van Jaarsveld and the experience of Kirstenbosch horticulturists.

Water-wise: By planting trees that come from or are well suited to your region, the trees perform better with less water and TLC. In most cases, trees planted in the recommended regions will be water-wise in that region, when established, NB they require watering when young, or recently planted from a nursery in order to become established. In the WC lists, where water-wise is not given in brackets means that these species require summer watering or additional watering to perform best.

The size that a tree grows to often depends on its environment, i.e. some species that reach 20 m in a forest remain small bushy trees when growing in exposed coastal bush. So remember that on a site that has rich soil, protection from the wind and ample water, trees will generally grow taller.

visit www.PlantZAfrica.com for more information on the trees and how to grow them.

Indigenous trees well suited to schools on the Cape Flats, west coast and coastal sites in the Western Cape– i.e. very windy conditions, sandy soils, flat - possibly alkaline soils, winter-rainfall, summer drought (coastal sites on mountain slopes could also use water-wise trees on fynbos list)

Brachylaena discolor (Coast Silver Oak) (4-10m) (Water-wise)

Elaeodendron croceum (=Cassine crocea) (Red Saffronwood) (8-13 m)

Dodonaea viscosa var. *angustifolia* (Sand Olive) (2-5m) (Water-wise)

Dodonaea viscosa var. *viscosa* (Sand Olive) (3-5m to 10m) (Water-wise)

Euclea racemosa (Sea Guarri) (1-6m) (Water-wise)

Harpephyllum caffrum (Wild Plum) (6-10 m)

Kiggelaria africana (Wild Peach) (4-13m) (Water-wise)

Maytenus procumbens (Dune Koko Tree) (3-6m) (Water-wise)

Olea europaea ssp *africana* (Wild Olive) (3-14m) (Water-wise)

Olea exasperata (Coast Olive) (1-8m) (Water-wise)

Phylica buxifolia (Box-leaf Phylica) (3-6m) (Water-wise)

Salix hirsuta (Silver Willow) (2-4m)

Searsia crenata (= *Rhus crenata*) (Dune crowberry) (1-5m) (Water-wise)

Searsia lancea (= *Rhus lancea*) (Karree) (5-8m) (Water-wise)

Searsia pendulina (= *Rhus pendulina*, *R.viminalis*) (White Karee) (to 10m) (Water-wise)

Sideroxylon inerme (White Milkwood) (to 10m) (Water-wise)

Syzygium cordatum (Water Berry) (8-15m)

Syzygium guineense (Water Pear) (5-10 m)

Tarchonanthus camphoratus (Camphor Bush) (4-9m) (Water-wise)

Tarchonanthus littoralis (Coastal Camphor Bush) (3-5m) (Water-wise)

Virgilia divaricata & *V. oroboides* (Keurboom) (5-10m)

Indigenous trees well suited to schools with Fynbos Gardens on slopes or foothills of mountains – i.e. winter-rainfall, summer drought, windy, sandy acidic soils derived from sandstone, shale or granite. (on wind-protected, well watered sites in Cape Town(CT) trees can be chosen from the forest list, or bushveld list or thicket but NB the bushveld/thicket species in CT must be watered generously during summer and fertilised regularly for the trees to perform well)

Brabejum stellatifolium (Wild Almond) (5 - 8 m) (Water-wise)
Brachylaena elliptica (Bitter-leaf) (4m) (Water-wise)
Brachylaena neriifolia (Water White Alder) (2-6m) (Water-wise)
Buddleja saligna (False Olive) (3-7m) (Water-wise)
Buddleja salviifolia (Sagewood) (3-8m) (Water-wise) (Water-wise)
Canthium inerme (Turkey Berry) (3-10m) (Water-wise)
Cassine peragua (Cape Saffron) (3-6m to 10m) (Water-wise)
Celtis africana (White Stinkwood) (10-20m) (Water-wise)
Curtisia dentata (Assegai) (6-12m to 20m) (Water-wise)
Diospyros whyteana (Bladdernut) (3-7m) (Water-wise)
Dodonaea viscosa var. angustifolia (Sand Olive) (2-5m) (Water-wise)
Dodonaea viscosa var. viscosa (Sand Olive) (3-5m to 10m) (Water-wise)
Halleria lucida (Tree Fuchsia) (2-3m to 12m) (Water-wise)
Kiggelaria africana (Wild Peach) (4-13m) (Water-wise)
Leucadendron argenteum (Silver Tree) (5-7m) (Water-wise)
Maytenus oleoides (Mountain Maytenus) (2-4m) (Water-wise)
Metrosideros angustifolius (Lance-leaf Myrtle) (2-5m to 7m)
Phylica buxifolia (Box-leaf Phylica) (3-6m) (Water-wise)
Olea europaea ssp africana (Wild Olive) (3-14m) (Water-wise)
Podocarpus elongatus (Breede River Yellowwood) (5-7m)
Rapanea melanophloeos (Cape Beech) (4-10m to 20m) (Water-wise)
Searsia lancea (= Rhus lancea) (Karree) (5-8m) (Water-wise)
Searsia pendulina (= Rhus pendulina, R.viminalis) (White Karree) (to 10m) (Water-wise)
Tarchonanthus camphoratus (Camphor Bush) (4-9m) (Water-wise)
Tarchonanthus littoralis (Coastal Camphor Bush) (3-5m) (Water-wise)
Virgilia divaricata & V. oroboides (Keurboom) (5-10m)
Widdringtonia cedarbergensis (Clanwilliam Cedar) (5-7m to 20m) (Water-wise)
Widdringtonia nodiflora (Mountain Cypress) (4-6m) (Water-wise)
Widdringtonia schwarzii (Willowmore cedar) (12-30m to 40m) (Water-wise)

Indigenous trees well suited to arid and semi-arid areas e.g. Karoo and Namaqualand regions including Worcester, Robertson, Oudtshoorn, Prince Albert, Willowmore i.e. mild winters, winter-rainfall, long, hot dry summer, well-drained, fertile soils. Also for arid gardens in urban areas.

Acacia erioloba (Camel Thorn) (5-16m) (Water-wise)
Acacia karroo (Sweet Thorn) (3-8m to 12m) (Water-wise)
Aloe dichotoma (Quiver Tree) (2-4m) (Water-wise)
Aloe pillansii (Giant Quiver Tree) (to 10m) (Water-wise)
Buddleja saligna (False Olive) (3-7m) (Water-wise)
Diospyros lycioides (Karoo Bluebush) (3-7 m) (Water-wise)
Dodonaea viscosa var. angustifolia (Sand Olive) (2-5m) (Water-wise)
Euclea crispa (Blue Guarri) (4-6m) (Water-wise)
Euclea pseudebenus (Ebony Tree) (3-10m) (Water-wise)
Euclea undulata (Common Guarri) (to 7 m) (Water-wise)
Ficus burtt-davyi (Veld Fig) (3-5m) (Water-wise)

Ficus cordata (Namaqua Fig) (10m) (Water-wise)
Gymnosporia buxifolia (= *Maytenus heterophylla*) (Common Spike-thorn) (4-5 m) (Water-wise)
Olea europaea ssp *africana* (Wild Olive) (3-14m) (Water-wise)
Pappea capensis (Jacket Plum) (7m) (Water-wise)
Parkinsonia africana (Wild Green-hair Tree) (3-4 m) (Water-wise)
Searsia lancea (= *Rhus lancea*) (Karree) (5-8m) (Water-wise)
Searsia pendulina (= *Rhus pendulina*, *R. viminalis*) (White Karee) (to 10m) (Water-wise)
Schota afra (Karoo Boer-bean) (3-5m) (Water-wise)
Ziziphus mucronata (Buffalo Thorn) (7-10m) (Water-wise)

Indigenous trees well suited to subtropical, forested areas e.g. along the Drakensberg mountains, eastern coast of SA e.g. Port St Johns, Durban, Port Edward, St Lucia, and on the eastern and southern slopes of Table Mountain and Hottentots Holland mountains that are protected from strong winds, i.e. well watered site, cool, humid summer, mild, frost-free winter, high rainfall in summer or winter.

Alberta magna (Natal Flame Bush) (5-13m)
Albizia adianthifolia (Flat-crown) (10-40m)
Allophylus natalensis (Dune Allophylus) (2-5m)
Anthocleista grandiflora (Forest Fever Tree) (6-30m)
Apodytes dimidiata (White Pear) (4-5m to 20m)
Brachylaena discolor (Coast Silver Oak) (4-10m)
Calodendrum capense (Cape Chestnut) (7-20m)
Canthium mundianum (Rock Alder) (1-5m)
Cassine peragua (Cape Saffron) (3-6m to 10m)
Combretum kraussii (Forest Bushwillow) (8-12m)
Cryptocarya woodii (Cape Laurel) (5-10m)
Cunonia capensis (Red Alder) (20-30m)
Curtisia dentata (Assegai) (6-12m to 20m)
Ekebergia capensis (Cape Ash) (7-20m)
Erythrina caffra (Coastal Coral Tree) (9-12m)
Ficus bizanae (Pondo Fig) (10m)
Ficus craterostoma (Forest Fig) (10 m)
Ficus natalensis (Natal Fig) (5-20m)
Ficus sur (Broom Cluster Fig) (10-18m)
Ficus trichopoda (Swamp Fig) (8m)
Harpephyllum caffrum (Wild Plum) (6-10 m)
Ilex mitis (African Holly) (10-30m)
Maytenus acuminata (Silky Bark) (3-8m to 15m)
Millettia grandis (Umzimbeet) (7-13m)
Millettia sutherlandii (Giant Umzimbeet) (8-30m)
Mimusops caffra (Coast Red Milkwood)(2-3m to 15m)
Mimusops obovata (Red Milkwood) (8-15m to 20m)
Nuxia floribunda (Forest Nuxia) (3-10m to 15m)
Podocarpus falcatus (Outeniqua Yellowwood) (12-30m)
Podocarpus henkelii (Natal Yellowwood) (5-10m)
Podocarpus latifolius (Yellowwood) (5-30m)
Prunus africana (Red Stinkwood) (10-20m)
Rapanea melanophloeos (Cape Beech) (4-10m to 20m)
Rothmannia capensis (Cape Gardenia) (5-14m)

Schefflera umbellifera (Forest Cabbage Tree) (3-5m to 10m)
Syzygium gerrardii (Forest Waterberry) (9m)
Trema orientalis (Pigeon Wood) (3-13m)
Trichilia dregeana (Forest Mahogany) (to 30m)
Vepris lanceolata (White Ironwood) (4-5m to 20m)
Virgilia divaricata & V. oroboides (Keurboom) (5-10m)
Warburgia salutaris (Pepperbark Tree)(5-10m to 20m)

Indigenous trees well suited to bushveld / savanna areas e.g. low-lying areas in KZN, Mpumalanga, Limpopo, North West, Gauteng and Northern Cape (Kalahari) i.e. summer-rainfall, cool, dry short winters with light frost, varying soil types.

Acacia burkei (Black Monkey Thorn) (10-15m)
Acacia galpinii (Monkey Thorn) (18-25m)
Acacia nigrescens (Knob Thorn) (7-20m)
Acacia nilotica (Scented Thorn) (5-10m)
Acacia robusta (Splendid Acacia) (10-15m)
Acacia sieberiana var. woodii (Paperbark Thorn) (7-17 m)
Acacia xanthophloea (Fever Tree) (10-15m)
Adansonia digitata (Baobab) (5-20m)
Albizia versicolor (Poison-pod Albizia) (8-10m to 18m)
Berchemia discolor (Red Ivory) (5-10m)
Bolusanthus speciosus (Tree Wisteria) (4-7m)
Boscia albitrunca (Shepherd's Tree) (4-7m)
Breonadia salicina (African Teak) (5-30m)
Burkea africana (Red Syringa) (8-10m)
Clerodendron glabrum (White Cat's Whiskers) (3-6m to 10m)
Colophospermum mopane (Mopane) (4-10m)
Combretum erythrophyllum (River Bushwillow) (6-12 m)
Combretum imberbe (Leadwood) (8-10m to 20m)
Combretum molle (Velvet Bushwillow) (7-10 m)
Combretum zeyheri (Large-fruited Bushwillow) (8-10m)
Commiphora africana (Poison-grub Commiphora) (2-5m)
Cordyla africana (Wild Mango) (10-25m)
Croton gratissimus (Lavender Feverberry) (6-10m)
Cussonia spicata (Common Cabbage Tree) (3-10m)
Cussonia transvaalensis (Grey Cabbage Tree) (5-8m)
Diospyros mespiliformis (Jackal-berry) (10-15m)
Dombeya rotundifolia (Wild Pear) (4-5m)
Dovyalis caffra (Kei Apple) (3-5m to 8m)
Englerophytum magalismontanum (Transvaal Milkplum) (3-10m)
Entandrophragma caudatum (Wooden Banana) (10-30 m)
Erythrina lysistemon (Coral Tree) (6-10m)
Euclea natalensis (Natal Guarri) (2-12m)
Faidherbia albida (Ana Tree) (20-30m)
Ficus abutilifolia (Large-leaved Rock Fig) (1-8m to 15)
Ficus glumosa (African Rock Fig) (3-10m)
Ficus ingens (Red-leaved Rock Fig) (1-15m)
Ficus sycomorus (Sycamore Fig) (10-12 m)
Heteropyxis natalensis (Lavender Tree) (4-7m)
Galpinia transvaalica (Wild Pride-of-India) (3-6m)

Kigelia africana (Sausage Tree) (6-18m)
Kirkia acuminata (White Syringa) (6-18m)
Kirkia wilmsii (Mountain Syringa) (4-8m)
Lonchocarpus capassa (Apple-leaf) 4-10m)
Mimusops zeyheri (Transvaal Red Milkwood) (5-15m)
Ochna pulchra (Peeling Plane) (3-8m)
Peltoporum africanum (Weeping Wattle) (5-10m)
Pterocarpus angolensis (Kiaat) (10m to 15m)
Pterocarpus rotundifolius (Round-leaved Kiaat) (8-10m to 20m)
Rauvolfia caffra (Quinine Tree) (6-20m)
Salix subserrata (Safsaf Willow) (4-7m)
Schotia brachypetala (Weeping Boer-bean) (5-16m)
Sclerocarya birrea (Marula) (7-17m)
Steganotaenia araliacea (Carrot Tree) (2-7m)
Sterculia murex (Lowveld Chestnut) (7-10m)
Syzygium cordatum (Water Berry) (8-15m)
Tabernaemontana elegans (Toad Tree) (3-7m)
Terminalia sericea (Transvaal Silverleaf) (4-7m)
Trichilia emetica (Natal Mahogany) (9m to 30m)
Xanthocercis zambesiaca (Nyala Tree)
Ziziphus mucronata (Buffalo Thorn) (7-10m)

Indigenous trees well suited to the Highveld and grassland regions i.e. cool, sunny summers, summer-rainfall, dry winters with frost.

Acacia caffra (Common Hook Thorn) (9m)
Acacia erioloba (Camel Thorn) (5-16m)
Acacia hebeclada (Candle Thorn) (4-7m)
Acacia karroo (Sweet Thorn) (3-8m to 12m)
Acacia sieberiana var. *woodii* (Paperbark Thorn) (7-17 m)
Acacia tortilis ssp. *heteracantha* (Umbrella Thorn) (5-20 m)
Apodytes dimidiata (White Pear) (4-5m to 20m)
Brachylaena rotundata (Mountain Silver Oak) (3-8m)
Buddleja saligna (False Olive) (3-7m)
Celtis africana (White Stinkwood) (10-20m)
Combretum erythrophyllum (River Bushwillow) (6-12 m)
Combretum molle (Velvet Bushwillow) (7-10 m)
Cussonia paniculata (Highveld Cabbage Tree) (3-5m)
Dombeya rotundifolia (Wild Pear) (4-5m)
Dovyalis caffra (Kei Apple) (3-5m to 8m)
Dovyalis zeyheri (Oval Kei Apple) (3-10m)
Greyia radlkoferi (Transvaal Bottlebrush) (2-4m)
Greyia sutherlandii (Natal Bottlebrush) (3-7m)
Gymnosporia buxifolia (= *Maytenus heterophylla*) (Common Spike-thorn) (4-5 m)
Halleria lucida (Tree Fuchsia) (2-3m to 12m)
Heteromorpha arborescens (Parsley Tree) (3-7m)
Kiggelaria africana (Wild Peach) (4-13m) (Water-wise)
Olea europaea ssp *africana* (Wild Olive) (3-14m)
Olinia emarginata (Mountain Hard Pear) (1-5m)
Pittosporum viridiflorum (Cheesewood) (7-10m)
Protea caffra (Highveld Protea) (3-5m)

Protea roupelliae (Drakensberg Protea) (3-8m)
Protea rubropilosa (Transvaal Mountain Protea) (1-8m)
Rhus pyroides (Common Taaibos) (2-5m)
Rothmannia capensis (Cape Gardenia) (5-14 m)
Salix mucronata (Cape Willow) (4-12m)
Searsia lancea (= *Rhus lancea*) (Karree) (5-8m)
Searsia leptodictya (= *Rhus leptodictya*) (Mountain Karree) (3-4m to 8m)
Tarchonanthus camphoratus (Camphor Bush) (4-9m)
Widdringtonia nodiflora (Mountain Cypress)(4-6m)
Zanthoxylum capensis (Small Knobwood) (4-7 m)
Ziziphus mucronata (Buffalo Thorn) (7-10m)

Indigenous trees well suited to the Thicket or Valley Bushveld and Noorsveld regions e.g. Mossel Bay, Herbertsdale, Port Elizabeth, Uitenhage, Grahamstown, East London and dry river valleys in KZN, i.e. winter and summer rainfall but erratic rainfall, fertile soils can be alkaline, acid or neutral, climate mild but unpredictable, with some mild frost.

Acacia karroo (Sweet Thorn) (3-8m to 12m)
Aloe barberae (Tree Aloe) (5-18m)
Atalaya capensis (Cape Wing-nut) (3-10m)
Boscia oleoides (Southern shepherd's tree) (3-4m)
Brachylaena elliptica (Bitter-leaf) (4m)
Combretum caffrum (Cape Bushwillow) (5-10m)
Commiphora harveyi (Bronze Paper Commiphora) (5-10m)
Cussonia gamtoosensis (Gamtoos Cabbage Tree) (3-5m)
Cussonia spicata (Common Cabbage Tree) (3-10m)
Dombeya cymosa (Small-flowered Wild Pear) (2-5m)
Dovyalis caffra (Kei Apple) (3-5m to 8m)
Dovyalis rotundifolia (Dune Kei Apple) (2-7m)
Euclea undulata (Common Guarri) (to 7 m)
Ficus burtt-davyi (Veld Fig) (3-5m)
Grewia occidentalis (Cross Berry) (2- 3m)
Greyia flanaganii (Kei Bottlebrush) (2-3m)
Harpephyllum caffrum (Wild Plum) (6-10 m)
Hippobromus pauciflorus (False Horsewood) (4-7m)
Lauridia tetragona (=Cassine tetragona) (Climbing Saffron) (3-5m)
Maerua caffra (Bush Cherry) (3-9m)
Mystroxydon aethiopicum (=Cassine aethiopica) (Kubu Berry) (4-12m)
Olea europaea ssp africana (Wild Olive) (3-14m)
Pappea capensis (Jacket Plum) (7m)
Ptaeroxylon obliquum (Sneezewood) (4-15m)
Rhus pyroides (Common Taaibos) (2-5m)
Robsonodendron eucleiforme (=Cassine eucleiformis) (White Sybas) (4-5m)
Schotia brachypetala (Weeping Boer-bean) (5-16m)
Sterculia alexandri (Cape Star-chestnut) (3-8m)