# HOLOCENE ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES DERIVED FROM A MONTANE POLLEN SEQUENCE IN THE KWAZULU-NATAL MIDLANDS, SOUTH AFRICA

by

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# **ABSTRACT**

There is a limited understanding of the climatic history of summer rainfall regions of South Africa, especially the east coast, even though palaeo-research has become a popular technique used in southern Africa to determine past environmental and climatic changes. Sites such as wetlands and peatlands are ideal for palaeo-environmental research as they are of high organic content and enable pollen preservation. Dartmoor Vlei, situated at Mt. Gilboa, KwaZulu-Natal, is surrounded by Midlands Mistbelt grassland and in close proximity of the Karkloof Forest archipelago, rendering the site ideal for investigating grassland/forest dynamics. A minimally disturbed, 240 cm, organic rich sediment core was obtained from Dartmoor Vlei for analyses. A multi-proxy approach, viz. radiocarbon, charcoal, geochemical (carbon and nitrogen stable isotopes) and palynological analyses, was adopted to determine past environmental changes. Six samples were used for AMS radiocarbon dating, which indicates sediments date back ca. 12,200 cal yr BP at 144 cm. Environmental conditions at Dartmoor Vlei during the early Holocene are characterised by warmer, dry conditions, and arboreal pollen taxa are found in high concentrations between ca. 12,300 and 9000 cal yr BP. The mid-Holocene marks a period where systematic changes begin to occur at Dartmoor Vlei, as wetter conditions in accordance with the Holocene Altithermal are evident ca. 8000 cal yr BP. A period of locally drier conditions at ca. 6000 cal yr BP is followed by a decrease in arboreal taxa such as Podocarpus, Brassicaceae, Anacardiaceae and Celtis at ca. 5800 cal yr BP. The occurance of Zea mays in the record at ca. 1600 cal yr BP, the increase in fire intensity and frequency, and subsequent decrease in some arboreal taxa is a robust indication of anthropogenic activity in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands region, attributed to Iron Age settlers. Arboreal and grassland pollen signals indicate the existence of a mosaic of montane and sub-alpine grassland and montane forests in the region of Dartmoor Vlei throughout the Holocene, and at present.

# **PREFACE**

The experimental work described in this dissertation was carried out in the School of Agricultural, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, from January 2010 to February 2013, under the supervision of Prof T.R. Hill and Dr J.M. Finch.

These studies represent original work by the author and have not otherwise been submitted in any form of degree or diploma to any University. Where use has been made of the work of others it is duly acknowledged in the text.

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# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

% Parts per million  $\delta^{13}$ C Ratio of  $^{12}$ C /  $^{13}$ C  $^{12}$ C Carbon-12 isotope  $^{13}$ C Carbon-13 isotope

 $^{14}$ C Radiocarbon  $\delta^{15}$ N Ratio of  $^{14}$ N /  $^{15}$ N Nitrogen-14 isotope  $^{15}$ N Nitrogen-15 isotope

AMS Accelerated Mass Spectrometry

AP Arboreal Pollen

BP Before Present (starting at 1950)

C<sub>3</sub> Calvin-Benson metabolic carbon fixation pathway
C<sub>4</sub> Hatch-Slack metabolic carbon fixation pathway

ca. Approximately cal Calibrated

CAM Crassulacean acid metabolism

CLAM Classic Age Modelling

CONISS Constrained Incremental Sum of Squares

CO<sub>2</sub> Carbon dioxide

C/N Carbon:Nitrogen ratio

DA2 Dartmoor Vlei, core number 2 IntCal International Calibration curve

LGM Last Glacial Maximum (23,000-18,000 cal yr BP)

m a.s.l. Meters above sea level NAP Non-arboreal Pollen

SHCal Southern Hemisphere Calibration curve

TN Total Nitrogen

TOC Total Organic Carbon

YD Younger Dryas event (13,000-11,700 cal yr BP)

cal yr BP Calibrated year before present

<sup>14</sup>C yr BP Uncalibrated <sup>14</sup>C dates

#### **CHAPTER ONE**

#### INTRODUCTION

# 1.1 INTRODUCTION

South Africa is described by Bamford and Grab (2005:1) as "a treasure trove for those whose mission it is to unlock the mysteries of the past environment". A key to unlocking these mysteries lies in the understanding of past environmental conditions and the transformations associated with climatic change. Climate change is not a new phenomenon, but rather a continual process that has occurred throughout the history of the earth (Marchant, 2010). Interest in past climate change has grown considerably and as more palaeo-environmental data are collected, a clearer perspective on shifts in climatic conditions emerge (Zubakov and Borzenkova, 1990; Anderson et al., 2007; Marchant, 2010). Uncertainties surrounding future climate shifts are tangible and justified, on both a global and regional scale (Zubakov and Borzenkova, 1990). Gaining perspective on climate predictions is achieved through: (i) observation of instrumental data collected over the past 100 years; (ii) the use of climate simulation models; and (iii) empirical reconstruction of past climates through hundreds or thousands of years. As information is gathered on past climates, an understanding of past environmental changes can be formulated at both a regional and international scale (Zubakov and Borzenkova, 1990). Thus, palaeo-environmental research has become a spatial and temporal tool for researchers from a multitude of disciplines to explore methods of palaeoreconstruction through a diversity of proxies.

An array of proxies such as pollen, foraminifera, and diatoms are available to researchers in the field of palaeo-reconstruction (Birks, 1995; Burroughs, 2005; Anderson *et al.*, 2007). When direct evidence is lacking, proxies are used as a substitute measure of past environmental or climatic conditions (Anderson *et al.*, 2007). Depending on the location of the study site and the expected outcome of the research, a set of proxies can be selected to achieve the aim of the study. Palynology (pollen analysis) is one such technique available to palaeo-researchers, which provides a quantitative record of historical climate changes, and an effective tool for the reconstruction of vegetation transformation and response to shifting climatic conditions (Ortu *et al.*, 2006).

Palynology has become one of the most widely-used tools in vegetation reconstruction for long-term periods (Bunting, 2008). The primary aim is to study the morphology of modern and fossil pollen and spores, although the technique is applied in various fields of study: botany, archaeology, climatology and geology, and the interest in this tool has grown and evolved considerably (Traverse, 1999). The nature of pollen grains is such that they are easily dispersed and preserved due to their size and decay-resistant sporopollenin outer wall, respectively. Under anaerobic conditions, pollen grains may be preserved for hundreds or thousands of years, allowing for extraction, processing and interpretation of pollen signals in a sediment core (Bunting, 2008). Through the use of multi-proxy analyses, independent lines of evidence can be used to formulate an understanding of past environmental and climatic conditions (Eeley *et al.*, 1999; Duffin, 2008; Castãneda *et al.*, 2009).

Understanding natural variability and responses to environmental change, and how people and ecosystems have responded and adapted to change is vital (Marchant, 2010). Human activity has resulted in the transformation of ecosystems and the distribution of the earth's vegetation to varying degrees across the globe. However, the respective importance of humans and environmental factors is controversial when interpreting the distribution of vegetation patterns in the montane regions of Africa (Meadows and Linder, 1993). Some argue that current afro-montane grasslands exist as a result of recent anthropogenic forest clearing, while others contend that these grasslands have historically been a component of montane vegetation (Meadows and Linder, 1993).

Long-term history in southern Africa has shown changes in vegetation due to anthropogenic activities such as burning and vegetation clearing, even in the most remote regions of the continent. Chapman and White (1970) suggest that Afromontane grasslands originated, and expanded, due to anthropogenic impacts. These changes in vegetation, for example clearance of forests and increase in grasslands, have been attributed to the role and impacts of humans in the environment (Chapman and White, 1970; Meadows and Linder, 1993). Bredenkamp *et al.* (2002) attributes the distribution of grasslands to climatic changes during the Oligocene, and suggests that the current distribution of grasslands in southern Africa does not differ greatly in extent to the Holocene. Anthropogenic impacts such as agriculture and forest clearing did not affect the historical distribution of current grasslands, at least not until the

late Holocene (Bredenkamp, 2002). The nature and extent of these changes are worthy of research to appropriately manage these environments (Hamilton, 1981; Meadows *et al.*, 1987). An understanding of such environmental history, particularly in a region with such high diversity of flora and fauna, would be valuable in formulating conservation and management policies (Hamilton, 1981), particularly in regions such as the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands where a complex mosaic exists between the Midlands Mistbelt Grassland, the Karkloof forest, and human inhabitants.

In South Africa, information related to environmental changes has been constrained by a lack of researchers and funding and environmental limitations in terms of recovery of palaeoenvironmental data (Chase and Meadows, 2007). Lake and peat sediments provide natural archives which are most likely to provide suitable pollen samples for analysis and inference of past conditions (Anderson et al., 2006), however South Africa is predominantly an arid region, and therefore environmental conditions are seldom suitable for pollen preservation (Coetzee and van Zinderen Bakker, 1970; Nyakale and Scott, 2002). While southern African palaeo-records require extensive investigation, various studies conducted across the region have provided a growing collection of palaeo-ecological data. However, the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands region remains an area where minimal palaeo-ecological data are available. Although no empirical evidence exists to support the notion, Everard (1985) suggests that Podocarpus forest patches in the Natal Drakensberg were more extensive in the past. Due to changing environmental conditions and increase in fire frequency due to human intervention, the forest patches have significantly reduced and grasslands have expanded (Meadows and Linder, 1993). In the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands (Eeley et al., 1999), the Midlands Mistbelt grasslands and forest are similarly under threat of degradation, highlighting the need for more research of historical change to be carried out in the region.

Dartmoor Vlei is a high altitude wetland situated near Mt. Gilboa in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands, South Africa, and has potential to address the knowledge gap of palaeo-environmental history of the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands region. The area falls within a summer rainfall region (Begg, 1989), and the wetland is characterised by permanently waterlogged conditions and peat deposits (Edwards, 2009). The KwaZulu-Natal Midlands are characterised by a mosaic of Southern Mistbelt Forests and Midlands Mistbelt Grasslands

(Mucina and Rutherford, 2006), two vegetation units which are considered vulnerable (Scott-Shaw, 1999). Unaltered natural grassland surrounds the wetland, although commercial forestry plantations and annual crops are grown in the surrounds, and one of the largest indigenous forests remnants in KwaZulu-Natal, the Karkloof forest, is situated nearby (Rycroft, 1994), rendering Dartmoor Vlei an ideal site for grassland and forest investigation through palaeo-environmental research.

Across southern Africa, further analytical research is required to further our understanding of past environmental conditions (Scott, 1993). With the possibility of major environmental and climatic changes predicted for the near future, an understanding of the effect of past climatic conditions will provide a benchmark understanding of natural variability (Scott, 1993; Anderson *et al.*, 2006) and assist in formulating long-term management strategies for vulnerable natural resources (Willis and Birks, 2006; Watrin *et al.*, 2007; Bunting, 2008). The research presented in this thesis aims to provide just such an understanding of Holocene environmental conditions of the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands, using a sediment core extracted from Dartmoor Vlei.

#### 1.2 AIM AND OBJECTIVES

To investigate Holocene palaeo-environmental change in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands by applying multi-proxy analyses, *viz.* fossil pollen, charcoal, carbon and nitrogen isotope analyses, to a sedimentary record from Dartmoor Vlei, Mt. Gilboa. This will be achieved through the following objectives:

- (i) To survey, map and develop an inventory of the modern vegetation of the wetland and immediate surrounds;
- (ii) To develop a local modern pollen reference collection, as an aid to fossil pollen identification;
- (iii) To identify suitable coring locations and extract a series of minimally disturbed sediment cores from the wetland;

- (iv) To select samples from basal and intermediate sections of a selected core for AMS radiocarbon analysis to establish chronological control for the core; and create an age-depth model;
- (v) To identify and quantify fossil pollen along the length of the core to detect local and regional vegetation changes;
- (vi) To conduct geochemical (C and N isotope) analyses along the length of the core to detect changes in the relative proportion of C<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>4</sub>, and aquatic and land plants inhabiting the wetland site;
- (vii) To reconstruct past Holocene environmental history of the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands.

#### 1.3 THESIS OUTLINE

The aim of the introduction chapter is to familiarise the reader with the purpose, and importance of the research undertaken in the palaeo-environmental field. This chapter presents an outline of the aim and objectives of the research, and research approaches adopted in the study. A review of South African palaeo-environmental history is summarised in Chapter Two. To provide details of Dartmoor Vlei and insight into the background and surroundings of the Mt Gilboa region, an overview of the Karkloof forest and Midlands Mistbelt grasslands are provided in Chapter Three. Chapter Four provides a theoretical background to the methodologies adopted in the field of palaeo-research, and describes the methods used in pollen, charcoal, geochemical and radiocarbon analysis. Chapter Five describes the research methods, and Chapter Six depicts and describes the results. Chapter Seven provides a discussion and reconstruction of the palaeo-environmental conditions of the Mt. Gilboa region, as inferred from the results of the multi-proxy analysis conducted. In conclusion, the final chapter provides a synthesis of the palaeo-environmental changes at Mt Gilboa, KwaZulu-Natal Midlands.

#### **CHAPTER TWO**

# REVIEW OF SOUTH AFRICAN PALAEO-ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY

## 2.1 DRIVERS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

An understanding of drivers of climate change is valuable in interpreting historical climatic changes, as inherent curiosity not only leads us to question the extent of changes which occurred, but also the reasons behind such change. During the time which humans have inhabited the earth, there have been numerous environmental changes taking place at variable intensities (Anderson *et al.*, 2007) and timescales (Nash and Meadows, 2012), such as: climatic changes; sea level change; shifts in vegetation belts; animal populations; and soils and landforms (Anderson *et al.*, 2007). The causes of climate change have been hypothesised, although criticisms surrounding many major hypotheses remain. The main hypotheses relate to solar radiation; atmospheric transparency; the earth's geometry (orbital forcing, Milankovitch Cycles); changes in terrestrial geography; greenhouse gases and the feedback hypothesis. Detailed reviews of the drivers of climate change are provided by Goudie (1992), Burroughs (2005), Anderson *et al.* (2007) and Nash and Meadows (2012), and will be briefly discussed.

The theory of astronomical fluctuations was first introduced by Adhemar in 1842, and further developed by Croll and Milankovitch in the 1860s and 1920s respectively. The Croll-Milankovitch Cycle, or orbital forcing, is based on the notion that if the location and arrangement of the earth in relation to the sun was to change, then so might insolation from the sun. Three factors occurring at various timeframes have been identified to explain the occurrence of such change: a change in the eccentricity of the earth's orbital path (100,000 year cycle); the precession of the equinoxes (19-23,000 year cycle); and obliquity (41,000 year cycle), changes in the angle between the plane of the earth's orbit and the plane of its rotational equator (Goudie, 1992; Ruddiman, 2003; Anderson *et al.*, 2007; Nash and Meadows, 2012). Glacial periods are interrupted by interglacial periods when these three factors combine to maximise solar energy received during summer in the northern hemisphere, resulting in winter-snow melting. Similarly, when orbital parameters are such as the amount of solar energy is reduced, summer in the northern hemisphere is cooler resulting in less snow melting, thus allowing glaciers to expand (Goudie, 1992; Anderson *et al.*, 2007).

Climatic cycles have been greatly influenced by changes in solar radiation output, which changes in both quantity (as a result of phenomenon such as sunspots) and quality (changes in the ultraviolet range of the solar spectrum). Although criticised, the role of solar activity has been correlated with major characteristics of general atmospheric circulation (Goudie, 1992; Anderson *et al.*, 2007).

The effect of incoming solar radiation may be lessened by changes in atmospheric composition, for example volcanic dust, as backscattering is increased. Volcanic dust in the atmosphere may promote the formation of ice-crystals where atmospheric conditions are below freezing and air is saturated, and the presence of sulphur dioxide may result in acid droplets forming, thus reducing insolation. These factors are responsible for reduced atmospheric temperatures as less solar radiation is able to reach the earth's surface (Goudie, 1992; Anderson *et al.*, 2007). Although large volcanic activity is not a regular occurrence, the cooler climate of the Little Ice Age which followed the Medieval Warm Period, has been linked to volcanic activity between 600 and 1300 AD, and 1400 and 1985 AD (Anderson *et al.*, 2007) and cold, wet summers in Britain can be attributed to high volcanic dust concentrations in the atmosphere in (inter alia) 1695, 1725, 1816, 1879, 1903 and 1912 (Goudie, 1992; Anderson *et al.*, 2007). Further sources of high levels of dust in the atmosphere may be a result of elevated wind activity increasing surface material emplaced in the atmosphere, or from an influx of dust from outer space (Anderson *et al.*, 2007).

Although change in terrestrial geography would be considered long-term change, changes in the polar axis, and shifts in the position and uplift of continents, may be responsible for climatic changes in some parts of the world (Goudie, 1992; Anderson *et al.*, 2007). Considering extensive time periods, it may be possible that over thousands of years continental uplift will increase altitudes by several meters. As a result, marked temperature decrease at the summit and change in precipitation may be experienced (Goudie, 1992; Anderson *et al.*, 2007).

Ocean circulation can also be a driver of climate change, and may be due to natural or anthropogenic impacts. The Gulf Stream and the North Atlantic Drift currents are responsible for carrying warm, saline surface water from the oceans of the Gulf of Mexico to

Greenland, Iceland and Norway. As these waters move northwards, they cool, and sink due to an increase in density. This 'pull' action maintains the movement of the warm Gulf Stream, and is responsible for keeping winters in the British Isles milder than expected at such latitudes (Goudie, 1992; Burroughs, 2005; Anderson *et al.*, 2007). However, studies have shown that if an increase in freshwater were to occur (e.g. due to melting icecaps or from fresh water inland lakes) in the Arctic Sea, the deep-water production of the North Atlantic would cease. As the 'Atlantic Conveyor' system is disrupted by the dilution of this dense, saline ocean water, icecaps may form and prevent the circulation of the Gulf Stream (Goudie, 1992; Burroughs, 2005; Anderson *et al.*, 2007).

Atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) levels have an effect on the global heat balance, as CO<sub>2</sub> does not impact on isolation but absorbs outgoing terrestrial radiation (Goudie, 1992; Anderson *et al.*, 2007; Nash and Meadows, 2012). As a result, heat cannot escape the atmosphere into space, causing temperatures to rise, a phenomenon known as the greenhouse-effect. Similarly, low levels of global CO<sub>2</sub> leads to climatic cooling, as indicated by analyses of CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in bubbles trapped in ice cores (Goudie, 1992; Anderson *et al.*, 2007). Such analysis has shown a definitive correlation between climatic change and CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in the atmosphere over the last 16 000 years, where glacial periods indicate low CO<sub>2</sub> levels and interglacial periods indicate high CO<sub>2</sub> levels (Goudie, 1992; Anderson *et al.*, 2007). Greenhouse gas concentrations are enhanced by anthropogenic activities, and it has been hypothesised that humans began altering greenhouse gas concentrations in the late-Holocene through agricultural practices (Vavrus *et al.*, 2008).

Minor environmental changes in landmasses, oceans, the atmosphere and ice may have a dramatic effect on climatic shifts (Goudie, 1992; Anderson *et al.*, 2007). Termed the 'feedback' hypothesis, it is suggested that these processes produce a larger or lesser climatic response than would have arisen without their involvement (Williams *et al.*, 1998). Factors such as albedo controls the extent to which insolation is reflected or absorbed, depending on conditions on the earth's surface, for example, dark volcanic ash will absorb insolation, whereas icecaps will reflect insolation. If such conditions persist over an extended period of time, it may result in regional or global climatic shifts (Goudie, 1992; Williams *et al.*, 1998; Anderson *et al.*, 2007).

Almost all changes in climate can be explained through natural variability in the global weather system, both on short timescales and over millennia. Occasionally, various components of climate systems may interact to produce major fluctuations (Burroughs, 2005). There has been hypothesised that current global warming as a result of anthropogenic activities may "push the climate into a more erratic mode" (Burroughs, 2005: 69), as an increase in average global temperatures since the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century can most likely be attributed to increased anthropogenic greenhouse gas concentrations (IPCC, 2007). Understanding the nature of past and present environmental change and drivers of climate change is vital in forming an understanding of challenges relating to climate change (Williams *et al.*, 1998; Burroughs, 2005). Holocene environmental research provides a unique historical perspective essential to long-term management (Williams *et al.*, 1998).

#### 2.2 THE HOLOCENE IN SOUTH AFRICA

Historically, southern Africa lacked detailed data which could be used for palaeo-environmental reconstruction and a need for suitable deposits and pollen sequences hindered advancement in vegetation reconstruction for the region (Scott, 1984; Avery, 1993; Meadows, 2001). However, in recent years, palaeo-environmental research has progressed with researchers in various disciplines producing a growing number of datasets (Avery, 1993) through the use of alternate methods in palaeo-reconstruction, such as hyrax-middens, dendrochronology and speleothems (Goudie, 1992; Burroughs, 2005). With a growing body of knowledge and methods, it is important to establish a basis for comparison of various sites. For example, at Cold Air Cave in the Makapansgat Valley, a *ca.* 25,000 year old high resolution stalagmite record with excellent chronological control (particularly during the Holocene) has provided a basis for comparison of records for southern Africa (Holmgren *et al.*, 2003).

The transition from the glacial conditions of the Pleistocene to the warmer conditions of the Holocene is described by Abell and Plug (2000: 1) as "far from smooth", and the climatic changes within the Holocene period do not differ greatly from this description. The Holocene is a time period during which many cultural and environmental changes had taken place (Roberts, 1998), and is generally understood to cover the last 11,500 years (Chase and Meadows, 2007). The Holocene can be divided into two broad time periods: the early

Holocene (*ca.* 11,700 to *ca.* 6000 cal yr BP) and late-Holocene (*ca.* 6000 cal yr BP to present). Holocene records suggest that climatic conditions in South Africa show a considerable variation between *ca.* 13,600 and 6100 cal yr BP (11,850 and 5400 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP; Scott *et al.*, 2005). The warmest period in the Holocene is represented by the Holocene Altithermal, broadly accepted to be approximately 8000 – 4000 cal yr BP although regional variability does occur (Chase and Meadows, 2007). Biological evidence indicates that the eastern region of South Africa experienced maximum warming between *ca.* 8800 and 5700 cal yr BP (8000 and 5000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP; Partridge *et al.*, 1990), which is concordant with the Holocene Altithermal. A summary of the comparisons from multiple sites drawn from Holmgren *et al.* (2003) is provided. Due to the location of Dartmoor Vlei in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands region, emphasis is placed on records from the summer rainfall region of South Africa.

At ca. 23,000 - 21,000, 19,500 - 17,500 and 15,000 - 13,500 <sup>230</sup>Th/<sup>234</sup>U yr BP (calendar years before 2000 AD),  $\delta^{18}$ O records indicate conditions were drier, temperatures lower and grass cover reduce in South Africa (Holmgren et al., 2003). Records from Cold Air Cave (speleothem δ <sup>18</sup>O) and Wonderkrater (pollen-derived) show a period of rapid warming after a cold event at 17,500 <sup>230</sup>Th/<sup>234</sup>U BP (before 2000 AD), cooling again at 15,000 <sup>230</sup>Th/<sup>234</sup>U yr BP and warming at 13,500 <sup>230</sup>Th/<sup>234</sup>U yr BP (before 2000 AD). A period of maximum cooling occurred at 17,500 <sup>230</sup>Th/<sup>234</sup>U yr BP, indicating cool, dry conditions at this time (Holmgren et al., 2003). The Wonderkrater pollen record indicates evaporative conditions, although not necessarily low rainfall, between 12,000 and 10,000 <sup>230</sup>Th/<sup>234</sup>U vr BP (before 2000 AD), and both Cold Air Cave and Wonderkrater records indicate warm conditions between 10,000 and 6000 <sup>230</sup>Th/<sup>234</sup>U yr BP (before 2000 AD). This period of warming precedes the generally acknowledged Holocene Altithermal timing in southern Africa by ca.  $2000^{230}$ Th/ $^{234}$ U yr BP. At  $9000 - 8400^{230}$ Th/ $^{234}$ U yr BP,  $\delta^{13}$ C records at Cold Air Cave reaches its lowest point, indicating an abundance of C3 woody vegetation and a sharp reduction in C<sub>4</sub> grass cover. After 8500 <sup>230</sup>Th/<sup>234</sup>U yr BP, the Cold Air Cave record indicates an increase in grass cover, while conditions at Wonderkrater suggest dry, grassy vegetation (Holmgren et al., 2003). A cool period is recorded at Cold Air Cave and Wonderkrater between 6000 and 3000 <sup>230</sup>Th/<sup>234</sup>U yr BP, when conditions were predominantly dry, followed by cool, grassy environments between 3000 and 2000 <sup>230</sup>Th/<sup>234</sup>U yr BP and warm wet conditions between 1200 and 600 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP (Holmgren et al., 2003).

The Wonderkrater pollen record provides evidence of increasing temperatures at *ca.*15,500 cal yr BP (13,000 yr BP; Scott *et al.*, 2003), however an increase in *Podocarpus* forests during the same period is interpreted as an indication of moist, cool conditions at Mfabeni (Finch and Hill, 2008). The Cathedral Peak pollen record indicates regionally cool, dry conditions at 15,490 cal yr BP, as indicated by the presence of Amaranthaceae, Ericaceae and *Tubiliflorae*. Dominance of local pollen taxa in the record suggests that wetland vegetation was supported (Lodder, 2010). An increase in Amaranthaceae and Chenopodiaceae at Wonderkrater at *ca.* 14,900 cal yr BP (12,700 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP) suggests slightly cooler but evaporative conditions, although Scott *et al.* (2003) indicate drier conditions at the site at the Pleistocene/Holocene boundary.

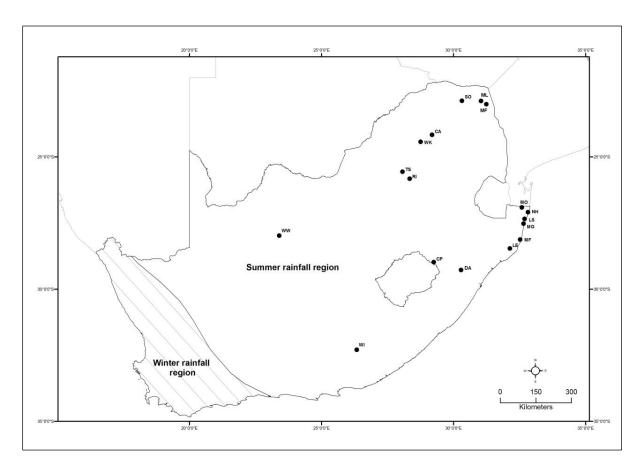


Figure 2.1 Selected palynological sites in the summer rainfall region, South Africa (Cathedral Peak: CP; Cold Air Cave: CA; Dartmoor Vlei: DA; Lake Eteza: LE; Lake Sibaya: LS; Mfabeni: MF; Mafayeni: MF; Malahlapanga: ML; Mgobezeleni: MG; Muzi-Oos: MO; Nhlangu: NH; Rietvlei Dam: RI; Soutpansberg: SO; Tswaing: TS; Winterberg: WI; Wonderkrater: WK; Wonderwerk: WW). \*Rainfall regions adapted from Finch et al., 2003

During the early Holocene there is a period of warm, dry climatic conditions (Scott, 1990; Partridge *et al.*, 1990), with more mesic types of woodland than evident during the late Pleistocene (Scott, 1982b) resulting in expansion of warm, semi-arid savannah. This is supported by evidence from the Soutpansberg, which records an increase in savanna vegetation at *ca.* 12,800 cal yr BP (11,000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP; Scott, 1987). Meadows *et al.* (1987) indicate that although no marked changes occur in the Winterberg, cooler and possibly drier conditions prevail from *ca.* 14,600 cal yr BP (12,500 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP) into the early Holocene.

Grundling *et al.* (1998) conducted preliminary palynological investigations of major pollen taxa at Mfabeni (east-coast of South Africa), although the main focus of the work was relating to peat accumulation rates. The pollen record from Mfabeni peatland shows an expansion in hydromorphous forest, as indicated by an increase in *Podocarpus*, *Olea*, *Syzigium*, *Myrica* and *Celtis* at *ca.* 13,400 cal yr BP (11,570 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP). Contrasting records from Rietvlei Dam from 11,490 - 7730 cal yr BP indicate low arboreal and local pollen concentrations, indicating grasslands dominated the period under cool, temperate, dry, subhumid conditions (Scott and Vogel, 1983). These conditions are supported at Wonderkrater where arboreal pollen (including *Podocarpus*) decreases, indicating a reduction in arboreal vegetation (Scott, 1982c). At Lake Eteza (east-coast of South Africa), arboreal pollen frequencies decrease in the region at *ca.* 10,500 cal yr BP (Neumann *et al.*, 2010). A period of noticeable warming is recorded in the Winterberg at *ca.* 10,000 cal yr BP (Scott *et al.*, 1995) and observed at Wonderkrater 700 years later, where a reduction in swamp vegetation and *Podocarpus* were observed (Scott, 1982c).

After *ca.* 10,700 cal yr BP (9500 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP), warmer conditions are indicated at Wonderkrater as proportions of Asteraceae and Combretaceae increase after *ca.* 10,700 cal yr BP (9500 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP), and Poaceae rapidly increases at *ca.* 9500 cal yr BP (8500 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP). (Scott and Vogel, 1978). However, Partridge *et al.* (1990) report a brief period of cooling between *ca.* 10,100 and 8800 cal yr BP (9000 and 8000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP) at Lake Eteza. Tswaing (Gauteng) records indicate similar dry, moderately warm conditions at *ca.* 8800 cal yr BP (8000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP), however this is followed by warm but wetter conditions at about *ca.* 7800 cal yr BP (7000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP; Partridge *et al.*, 1993). Similarly, conditions at Winterberg remained dry until 8000 cal yr BP, as indicated by Asteraceae, Chenopodiaceae and Thymelaeaceae, however an increase in wetter conditions is indicated by Cyperaceae, an

indicator of more water-logged conditions (Meadows and Meadows, 1988). After 8000 cal yr BP, low concentrations of montane forest taxa appeared, and taxa associated with drier conditions decreased in the Winterberg pollen record, an indication of more moist conditions (Meadows and Meadows, 1988), followed by warmer conditions in the Transvaal Highveld after 7400 cal yr BP (Scott and Vogel, 1983). Records from Wonderkrater indicate a similar trend (Scott, 1982c).

Wetter conditions at Lake Eteza are indicated by high percentages of arboreal pollen and fern spores, and a higher water table is inferred until *ca.* 8500 cal yr BP. Poaceae frequencies increase at Lake Eteza between *ca.* 8000 and 7000 cal yr BP indicating grassy conditions, followed by a decrease at *ca.* 6800 cal yr BP (Neumann *et al.*, 2010). Similar conditions are experienced at Mfabeni, where an initial increase in grassland in the early Holocene is followed by the reestablishment of *Podocarpus*-abundant forests after *ca.* 8300 cal yr BP (7500 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP; Finch and Hill, 2008). An increase in abundance and diversity of arboreal pollen taxa is recorded between *ca.* 8300 and 6800 cal yr BP (7500 and 6000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP) followed by a sharp decrease in arboreal pollen after *ca.* 6800 cal yr BP (6000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP). Cyperaceae decrease at this time, indicating local drying at Mfabeni (Finch and Hill, 2008). The pollen record from Lake Sibaya (Neumann *et al.*, 2008) is concordant with Mfabeni, with a high percentage of forest pollen taxa and relatively low Poaceae and herb percentages during the mid-Holocene.

Records from the former Transvaal show a similar period of increasing temperatures during the mid-Holocene between *ca*. 7800 and 6800 cal yr BP (7000 and 6000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP; Scott, 1990). The Wonderkrater pollen record provides evidence of warm, dry climatic conditions during the early Holocene, and wet and warm conditions during the mid-Holocene, which corresponds with records from sites in the former Transvaal (Scott, 1990).

Although mid-Holocene generally indicates warm, wet conditions, the late Holocene is characterised by cooler conditions (Scott, 1990) where semi-arid savannah is replaced by more broad-leafed woodland in the Transvaal (Scott, 1983). The Soutpansberg record, however, indicates that minimal environmental change has occurred since the mid-Holocene (Scott, 1982d). The Wonderkrater record indicates broad-leaf bushveld vegetation at *ca*.

6800 cal yr BP (6000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP) which is associated with wetter conditions (Scott, 1982c), followed by a cooling trend from *ca*. 6800 cal yr BP (6000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP) to the present (Scott *et al.*, 2003). The Lake Eteza pollen record shows a decrease in Poaceae percentages and an increase in arboreal pollen taxa at *ca*. 6500 cal yr BP (Neumann *et al.*, 2010). At 6500-6300 cal yr BP, Rosaceae and *Podocarpus* signals occur in high concentrations at Cathedral Peak, a possible indication of moist conditions. At 6200 cal yr BP, Rosaceae and *Podocarpus* signals are absent from the Cathedral Peak record, in spite of expectation that moist conditions are generally suited to montane forest expansion (Lodder, 2010). Locally, conditions at Cathedral Peak suggest that moisture levels decreased, thus becoming slightly drier between 6200 and 5760 cal yr BP (Lodder, 2010).

Mazus (1996) found that the record from Nhlangu (east-coast of South Africa) shows hydromorphous forests dominated by *Myrica* and *Syzygium*, followed by an increase in *Podocarpus* pollen and then a retreat in forest components from *ca*. 5800 cal yr BP (5100 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP). Similar trends are found by Grundling *et al*. (1998) at Mfabeni in the mid-Holocene. After *ca*. 6300 cal yr BP (5600 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP), an expansion on forests is recorded at Mfabeni as arboreal pollen increases (Finch and Hill, 2008), a trend paralleled by the Lake Eteza record (Neumann *et al.*, 2010) which indicates a peak in forest taxa at *ca*. 5500 cal yr BP. At 5700 cal yr BP, Gillson and Ekblom (2009) suggest that vegetation at Malahlapanga (Kruger National Park) was dominated by open grassland, where fire was rare or absent.

Arboreal pollen further increases at *ca.* 4500 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP, and with continuing cool, wet conditions at *ca.* 4400 cal yr BP (4000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP) at Mfabeni (Finch and Hill, 2008). Conditions at Wonderwerk become cooler and wetter at *ca.* 4400 cal yr BP (4000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP; Scott 1982c). Wonderkrater and Tswaing records suggest low temperatures and dry conditions at *ca.* 3100 cal yr BP (3000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP; Scott *et al.*, 2003 and Scott 1990). The decrease in *Podocarpus* pollen at Muzi-Oos at *ca.* 4700 cal yr BP (4200 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP; Grundling *et al.*, 1998) and at Lake Eteza after *ca.* 5600 cal yr BP (3400 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP; Scott and Steenkamp, 1996) indicates a tendency towards drier conditions. Cooler, more temperate conditions are experienced at Wonderkrater between 4030 - 2090 cal yr BP, as indicated by the decrease in arboreal pollen in the record (Scott, 1982c).

At Lake Eteza, *Podocarpus* percentages reaches a maximum of >30% at 3700 cal yr BP, signalling moist subtropical conditions, although a rapid drop to approximately 8% is recorded at *ca.* 3500 cal yr BP. The decline in *Podocarpus* is accompanied by a decline in other forest elements (Neumann *et al.*, 2010). A decrease in forests at Mfabeni is recorded after *ca.* 3700 cal yr BP (3500 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP; Finch and Hill, 2008), supported by records from Mfabeni by Grundling *et al.* (1998), from Nhlangu by Mazus (1996) and from Lake Eteza by Scott and Steenkamp (1996). *Podocarpus* concentrations peak at 3960 cal yr BP at Cathedral Peak, an indication of moist conditions (Lodder, 2010). The Transvaal shows slightly lower temperatures at *ca.* 3100 cal yr BP (3000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP; Scott, 1990). The Lake Eteza record indicates high percentages of Poaceae and Asteraceae, and low percentages of arboreal taxa, representing a relatively dry grassy environment between *ca.* 3600 and 2000 cal yr BP (Neumann *et al.*, 2010).

At *ca.* 1900 cal yr BP (2000 yr BP) conditions become warmer and drier (Scott and Vogel, 1978 and Scott, 1982c), and *ca.* 1300 cal yr BP (1500 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP) record at Soutpansberg indicate a sharp decline in arboreal pollen taxa (Scott, 1987). The Wonderkrater record indicates that the modern climate of the Transvaal bushveld originated at *ca.* 1900 cal yr BP (2000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP; Scott, 1982c). The Lake Eteza record indicates a relative increase in arboreal pollen taxa at *ca.* 2000 cal yr BP (Neumann *et al.*, 2010). The Rietvlei record suggest a decrease in arboreal pollen taxa and Cyperaceae while there was an increase in Amaranthaceae, Asteraceae and Chenopodiaceae from 2240 cal yr BP onwards, indicating a shift towards grassland vegetation with cooler, moist, sub-humid temperatures (Scott and Vogel, 1983). However, at Wonderkrater, the occurrence of arboreal pollen taxa increases, indicating warmer conditions tending towards bushveld vegetation (Scott, 1982c).

The pollen record at Mafayeni (Kruger National Park) indicates a resilient savannah phase throughout the past *ca.* 1200 cal yr BP (1300 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP), where no major phase changes are observed (Gillson and Ekblom, 2009), and attributed to water, fire and herbivory which limits tree density. At Malahlapanga (Gillson and Ekblom, 2009), a transition from open grassland to savannah occurs at the end of the 9<sup>th</sup> century A.D. (*ca.* 1100 cal yr BP). A relative increase in Cyperaceae, indicating wetter conditions, is recorded at Nhlangu after *ca.* 1300 cal yr BP (1390 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP; Mazus, 1996) and an increase in swamp forest vegetation at Mgobezeleni is recorded after *ca.* 1200 cal yr BP (1300 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP). The Mfabeni record (Grundling *et al.*,

1998) suggests the establishment of swamp forests dominated by *Syzigium, Myrica* and *Ficus* after *ca.* 570 cal yr BP (600 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP). The Mfabeni record indicates a dominance of Poaceae, and low frequencies of arboreal taxa and Cyperaceae from *ca.* 860 cal yr BP (1000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP) to present. The pollen record indicates similar warm, dry, savannah-like conditions as experienced at present at Mfabeni (Finch and Hill, 2008). δ<sup>18</sup>O records from Cold Air Cave reflects humid conditions at *ca.* 690 cal yr BP (800 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP) followed by drier, cooler conditions after *ca.* 570 cal yr BP (600 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP; Repinski *et al.*, 1999). At Winterberg, anthropogenic influences are suggested in the last 890 cal yr BP, indicated by a decrease in arboreal pollen taxa, and a relative increase in disturbance indicators such as *Anthospermum*, Ericaceae, Mimosoides and *Stoebe*. Exotic *Pinus*, indicative of timber plantations at Winterberg, are recorded in the last 150 years (Meadows and Meadows, 1988). Between 1900 and 860 cal yr BP (2000 and 1000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP) the eastern region of South Africa indicates wetter conditions than experienced at present (Partridge *et al.*, 1990).

Cool, moist conditions are inferred from the pollen record at Cathedral Peak until 1680 cal yr BP, after which conditions become moister and warmer. This is seen from the decrease of Ericaceae in the pollen record, and *Podocarpus* concentrations increase after 1200 cal yr BP, further supporting the notion of warmer, moist conditions (Lodder, 2010). Podocarpus concentrations at Cathedral Peak increase dramatically at about 1100 cal yr BP, suggesting that montane forests were expanding. Leucosidea and Cordia, present between 1880-1760 cal yr BP, suggest that forests occurred within the wetland region, surrounded by grassland (Lodder, 2010). Conditions at Cathedral Peak shift from slightly drier to slightly wetter at ca. 1000 cal yr BP, supported by evidence from the pollen records (Lodder, 2010). At Lake Sibaya, a decrease in *Podocarpus* pollen concentrations at ca. 1500 - 1250 cal yr BP is followed by an increase in cereal-type Poaceae, indicating human presence in the region (Neumann et al., 2008). The Cathedral Peak pollen record indicates the appearance of Pinus and cereal-type Poaceae, an indication of human presence. Cereal-type Poaceae occurs from the first time at about 890 cal yr BP, and again in modern samples. Pinus appears at about 105 cal yr BP, although *Pinus* was first planted in Cathedral Peak in 1950 (Lodder, 2010). This discrepancy may be due to issues related to the chronology of the core. The Lake Eteza record indicates dramatic changes in the vegetation from ca. 700 cal yr BP. There is a sharp decline in arboreal and shrub taxa, and a relative increase in Poaceae to about 85%, indicating a shift towards drier conditions and a retreat in forest elements (Neumann et al., 2010).

These changes may be attributed to pastoralism and crop cultivation, as Iron Age farming activities in the eastern parts of South Africa began at ca. 1400 cal yr BP (1600  $^{14}$ C yr BP; Neumann  $et\ al.$ , 2010).

### 2.3 CONCLUSION

This chapter provides an understanding of the drivers of climate change, and summarised trends of environmental change which occurred at numerous sites during the Holocene in South Africa. The need for comparison between sites is essential in palaeo-environmental research, as a regional picture of environmental change emerges. Site specific responses are of significance, however where areas lack research, comparison of regional change becomes problematic. Ensuring research is conducted at a high resolution and obtaining solid chronological control, is vital to creating a broader understanding of environmental change. Although trends such as the Holocene Altithermal emerge from comparison of various sites, further palaeo-environmental research is key to producing reliable regional trends and fill in gaps in our understanding of specific regions such as Mt Gilboa, where a mosaic of grasslands and forests exist.

#### **CHAPTER THREE**

## SITE DESCRIPTION

## 3.1 INTRODUCTION

The following chapter introduces the research site and surrounding environment, including details of geology, drainage and land use. The indigenous forest and grassland biomes of South Africa are discussed, with a focus on the patch-mosaic assemblage of the Karkloof Forest and Midlands Mistbelt Grasslands. Furthermore, a historical overview of human occupation in the Karkloof Catchment, and their land-use practices is provided.

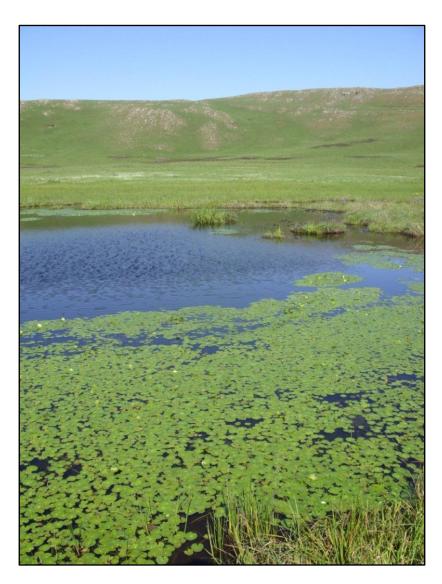


Plate 3.1 Dartmoor Vlei, a valley bottom wetland surrounded by hill slopes

#### 3.2 LOCALITY

KwaZulu-Natal is a province primarily covered by grasslands, savannah woodlands, bush thickets and forests (Fairbanks and Benn, 2000). The Midlands region of KwaZulu-Natal in particular is characterised by a mosaic of Southern Mistbelt Forests and Midlands Mistbelt Grasslands (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006), of which a prominent area is the Karkloof forest.

Dartmoor Vlei is a valley-bottom wetland (Edwards, 2009) situated at Mount Gilboa in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands, South Africa, (29.2857°S; 30.2559°E; Figure 3.1). This 42 ha wetland is located at an altitude of 1563 m, on the headwaters of the Myamvubu River, a tributary of the Mooi River (Edwards, 2009). The area falls within a summer rainfall region, where the catchment receives an average annual rainfall of 1000 mm (Moll, 1978; Begg, 1989), occasional snowfalls, and heavy frost (Begg, 1989). Dartmoor Vlei is characterised by an array of small, discontinuous meandering channels, a lack of classic floodplain features (e.g. backswamps, alluvial ridges, oxbow lakes and levees), predominantly diffuse flow and permanently waterlogged conditions, and organic rich deposits (Edwards, 2009).



Plate 3.2 Dartmoor Vlei, surrounded by Midlands Mistbelt Grassland

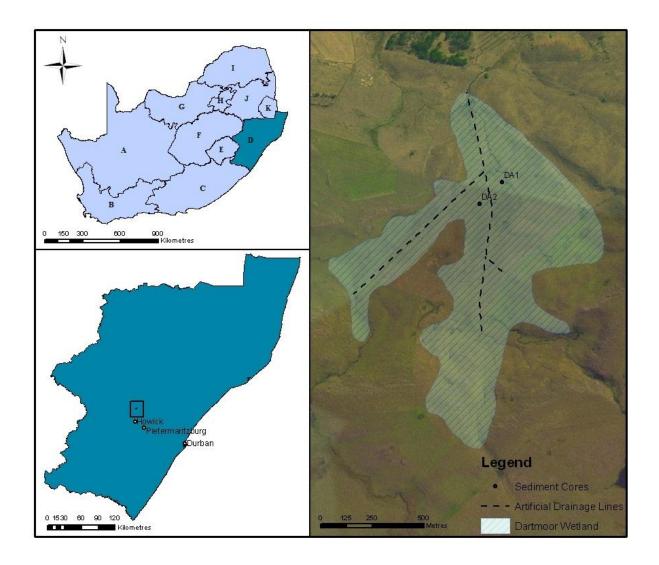


Figure 3.1 Location of Dartmoor Vlei, Mt Gilboa, KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa. Position of sediment cores (DA1; DA2) extracted from Dartmoor Vlei. (A: Western Cape; B:Northern Cape; C: Eastern Cape: D: KwaZulu-Natal; E: Lesotho; F: Freestate; G: North West; H: Gauteng; I: Limpopo; J: Mpumalanga; K:Swaziland)

## **3.2.1 Geology**

The Karkloof Plateau is underlain by shale, siltstone and sandstone which have been intruded by Jurassic dolerite sills and dykes. Although the dolerite dykes are highly resistant and show little sign of weathering, the dolorite sill capping the plateau has been subject to chemical weathering, resulting in some lower lying valley bottom basins (including Dartmoor Vlei) comprising of residual saprolite in excess of 7 m in depth (Begg, 1989; Edwards, 2009).

## 3.2.2 Drainage

Dartmoor Vlei is located within a gently sloping valley (Figure 3.2) which terminates against a dolerite dyke at the toe of the wetland. The wetland is surrounded by dolerite ridge outcrops which extend upwards from broad terrestrial planation surfaces (flat areas created by fluvial action) (Edwards, 2009). Two mountain streams enter the wetland at the southern boundary and are diverted into artificial channels that were excavated throughout the length of the wetland.

The wetland has been impacted on by artificial drainage channels (Figure 3.1; Plate 3.3) which were put in place several decades ago to improve drainage for agricultural use (Kotze *et al*, 2009). In 2004, rehabilitation interventions were carried out on behalf of Working for Wetlands to improve the general health of the wetland. Interventions included: plugging the drainage channels, raising the water table by reducing water-loss from the wetland, and dispersal of water flow across the wetland (Kotze *et al*, 2009). These measures were in the form of nine weirs placed on the artificial drains, and have proved effective based on individual assessments of the weirs (Kotze *et al*, 2009).



Plate 3.3 Disused artificial drainage channels within Dartmoor Vlei

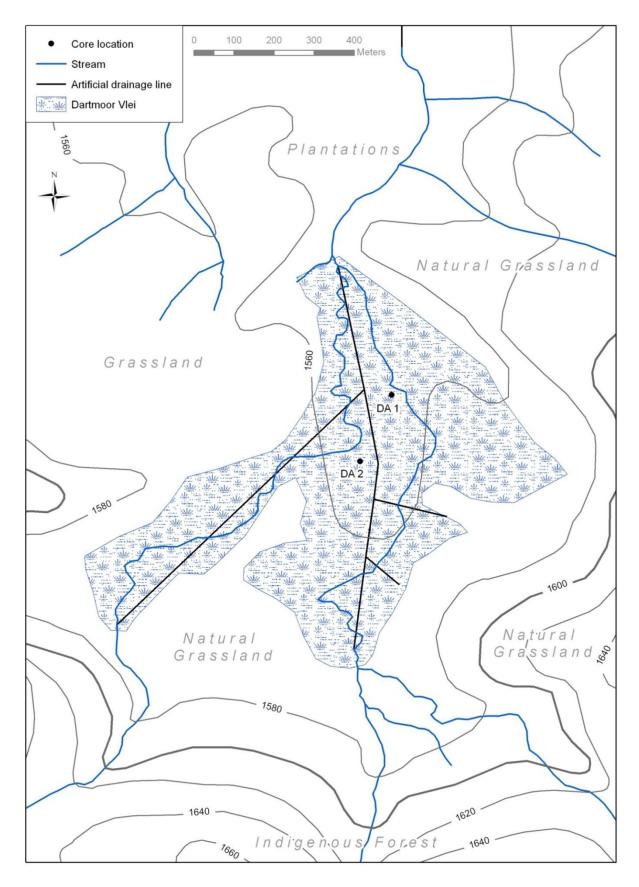


Figure 3.2 Dartmoor Vlei topography and surrounding land uses

#### **3.2.3** Land use

Dartmoor Farm was under private ownership until July 2010 (McCann *pers. com.*, 2012), when Wildlands Conservation Trust purchased the 780 ha. property. Although the surrounding catchment was previously under the administration of Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife (Edwards, 2009), domestic livestock, mostly cattle, grazed on the slopes surrounding the wetland. Dartmoor Farm officially became part of the Karkloof Nature Reserve in August 2012 after being declared a nature reserve and assigned to Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife as the management authority (KwaZulu-Natal Province Provincial Gazette, 2012).

The dominant vegetation type surrounding the wetland is natural grassland, although commercial forestry plantations (pine and wattle) and annual crops (predominantly rye grass) are located to the north of the wetland, and the Karkloof Forest Archipelago to the south (Figure 3.2). There are numerous wetlands located in the area, including Gilboa and Melmoth Vlei. The vegetation surrounding Dartmoor Vlei is classified by Mucina and Rutherford (2006) as Southern Mistbelt Forest, Midlands Mistbelt Grassland and Drakensberg Foothill Moist Grassland.

#### 3.3 INDIGENOUS FORESTS AND GRASSLANDS OF SOUTH AFRICA

Indigenous forests and grasslands are introduced in a broad context to provide an overview of these biomes in South Africa. The Karkloof forest and Midlands Mistbelt grasslands are discussed as they constitute the patch-mosaic vegetation of Mt. Gilboa, and a historical overview of human impacts in the Karkloof catchment is provided.

#### 3.3.1 The forest biome

Although previously more extensive, the forest biome currently covers approximately 0.56% of the total land area of South Africa (Low and Rebelo, 1996; Lawes *et al.*, 2004), a very small proportion considering its biodiversity value and conservation priority. It is therefore essential that conservation and management of these systems are well executed (Low and Rebelo, 1996; Lawes *et al.*, 2004). Indigenous forests are defined as "a generally multilayered vegetation unit dominated by trees (largely evergreen or semi-deciduous), whose combined strata have overlapping crowns (i.e. the crown cover is 75% or more), and where

graminoids in the herbaceous stratum (if present) are generally rare" (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006: 586). All indigenous forests in South Africa are evergreen, and scattered along the eastern and southern margins of the country, typically in small patches. There are, however, a few large forests, of which the Knysna forest complex in the western Cape, the Amathole forest complex in the eastern Cape, the Dukuduku forest in KwaZulu-Natal and the Woodbush-De Hoek forest along the Northern Escarpment are renowned (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006). Forests in KwaZulu-Natal can be divided into eight categories (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006), namely Northern Afrotemperate forests, Southern Mistbelt forests, Scarp forests, Northern Coastal forests, Sand forests, Lowveld Riverine Forets, Swamp forests and Mangrove forests.

#### 3.3.1.1 The Karkloof Forest

The Karkloof forest is situated in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands, and was described by Rycroft (1944: 14) as "the largest remnant of indigenous forest in Natal". Defined as Afromontane Mistbelt Mixed *Podocarpus* Forest, it occurs on steep slopes at an altitude of 1000 to 1500 m.a.s.l. (Moll, 1978; Macfarlane, 2000) and consists of a few large patches and numerous smaller fragmented forest pockets. The surrounding area is dominated by natural grassland, and this forest-grassland mosaic pattern is considered the natural, historic condition of the landscape (Lawes *et al.*, 2004).

The forest lies within the Mistbelt region of KwaZulu-Natal, and runs along an almost continuous belt along the Karkloof mountain range (Rycroft, 1944; Macfarlane, 2000). Thick mist assists in maintaining saturated conditions in the air for prolonged periods of time and results in high soil-moisture levels. Within the forest, cool and moist air and windless conditions are prevalent (Rycroft, 1944; Von Maltitz *et al.*, 2003). The forest canopy is evergreen to semi-deciduous depending on the moisture and nutrient content of the site (Macfarlane, 2000). Complex plant associations exist as a result of a successional development from simpler pioneer plant communities. According to Rycroft (1944), the entire south to south-east region of the Karkloof range has the environmental potential to support forests, but complete succession may take centuries.

In 1880, the Forest Commission of the Colony of Natal estimated the area covered by the Karkloof forest to be 32 376 ha. By 1942, the forest was thought to have decreased to a quarter of its former area, mainly as a result of commercial logging of indigenous timber (Lawes *et al.*, 2004). Although many of these figures are estimates, and Rycroft (1942) proposed that original figures were overestimated, he does suggest that there has been a reduction in the forest area of up to 80% in 60 years (prior to 1942). Lawes *et al.*, (2004), indicates a 5.6% decrease in forest area between 1944 and 1996 (Table 3.1).

Table 3.1 Landscape metrics describing indigenous forest patters in the Karkloof-Balgowan region, KwaZulu-Natal, in 1944 and 1996 (Adapted from (Lawes *et al.*, 2004: 616)

	1944	1996	% change
Forest area (ha)	7143	6739	- 5.66 %
Number of patches	2063	1277	- 38.1%
Median patch size (ha)	0.18	0.29	+ 61.11%
Total edge (m)	1546000	1234000	- 20.18%
Median nearest neighbour distance (m)	28	40	+ 42.86%

More recently (post-1996), the Karkloof forest archipelago was estimated to be 7551 ha, which suggests that there has been very little change in the forest area since harvesting of indigenous timber ceased in 1940 (Macfarlane, 2000; Lawes *et al.*, 2004). Macfarlane (2000) argues that estimates prior to 1944 were grossly exaggerated, possibly due to inaccurate mapping of the Karkloof forest boundaries, although such arguments are difficult to substantiate in the absence of empirical evidence.

In many respects, the Karkloof forest composition is very similar to other indigenous forests found in KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape, with minor floristic differences (Rycroft, 1944). Taylor (1961) made a broad differentiation of forest types within the Karkloof forest, namely: Mixed-Dominant Forest; Stream Forest and Stinkwood Forest. The following species are listed as representative of the tree layer in the Mixed-Dominant Forest (for updated vegetation list see Appendix P), which occupies the majority of steep ridges:

Podocarpus falcatus, Celtis africana, Combretum kraussii, Cryptocarya woodii, Ekebergia capensis, Fagara davyi, Kiggelaria africana, Ptaeroxylon obliquum, Podocarpus latifolius, Scolopia mundii, Scolopia zeyheri, Xymalos monospora and Halleria lucida. Regeneration of seedlings occurs on the forest floor where the tree canopy remains intact and includes the species: Carissa arduina, Celtis africana, Clausena anisata, Cnestis natalensis, Cussonia chartaceae, Dovyalis rhamnoides, Gardenia sp., Grewia occidentalis, Gymnosporia harveyana, Olea spp., Peddiea africana, Popowia caffra, Ptaeroxylon obliquum, Rinorea natalensis, Royena lucida, Trichalysia sp. and Trimeria grandifolia (Rycroft, 1944; Taylor, 1961) Where the tree canopy is unbroken, seedling growth rate appears to decrease and few advance beyond the seedling stage, especially where cattle grazing is permitted (Taylor, 1961). Stream Forest can be described as largely a mixed-dominant forest; however the key difference is the presence in varying densities of lower layers beneath the tree canopy (Taylor, 1961). In this forest type, moisture-loving species such as *Ilex mitis* and *Pygeum* africanum are present (Taylor, 1961). Taylor (1961) describes the Stinkwood forest type as that which occurs on the upper parts of the Karkloof forest where conditions are cooler and moister than on the lower slopes. Although this type has a simplified tree layer and a poorly developed shrub layer, it has a marked ground layer. This forest type consists of a very similar composition to the previous type; however there is a fair distribution of Ocotea bullata, Podocarpus henkelii, Calodendrum capensis and Kiggelaria africana in the tree layer. The ground layer consists of the species Selaginella kraussiana, Asparagus spp., Plectranthus spp. and a variety of ferns (Taylor, 1961).

Fire plays a vital role in limiting forest patches on a local and regional scale (Eeley et al., 1999), as regeneration of forest patches takes place after fire. After burning of portions of the forest, Helichrysum foetidum often form communities along with bracken (Pteridium aquilinum), and the forest is likely to regenerate. Coppice shoots are produced from trees which have not been completely destroyed and a variety of shrubs are able to grow in the Helichrysum community. Over time, a closed canopy may be formed, and the forest is gradually reconstructed. However, if fire occurs at more regular intervals, regeneration will not take place. The Helichrysum communities will be replaced by grasses such as Cymbopogon spp., Setaria spp. and Eragrostis spp. and if overgrazing takes place Aristida spp. are likely to occur. This disturbance will result in the land gradually being reduced to poor grassveld (Rycroft, 1944).

As a result of fire, over-exploitation, grazing, cultivation and afforestation, total forest area in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands has reduced significantly (Rycroft, 1944; Taylor, 1961; Macfarlane, 2000), and conservation concerns are therefore justified. Clearing forest areas for commercial plantations and timber use results in fragmentation of forest patches, changes in ecosystem function and modification of forest structure and composition. Removal of large trees from a forest will allow more light to penetrate the forest canopy, resulting in altered structures and species composition of the forest floor vegetation (Lawes *et al.*, 2007). Ultimately, decrease in forest area will result in a change in biotic and abiotic processes that are responsible for generating and maintaining biodiversity (Macfarlane, 2000). Indigenous forests are declining systematically throughout southern Africa, and it is essential to understand the history of both natural and anthropogenic impacts and disturbances to understand their ecology and ensure management of this biome (Lawes *et al.*, 2007).

### 3.3.2 History of utilisation of indigenous forests in South Africa

Although forests may have been utilised by earlier inhabitants, there is no empirical evidence to provide detail of this. Colonial settlers began to exploit the forests on the slopes of Table Mountain shortly after the establishment of a supply post at the Cape of Good Hope in 1652 (Ferguson and Huisamen, undated; Owen and van der Zel, 2000). By the late 1670s the supply had been exhausted, which meant that timber had to be imported from Europe and the East (Ferguson and Huisamen, undated). Thus the early history of forests was one of uncontrolled exploitation and devastation (Owen and van der Zel, 2000). As European colonists in South Africa moved eastwards from Cape Town along the south coast, they discovered the largest expanses of forests in the region of George, Knysna and Tsitsikamma, which fuelled the development of many timber-based industries. By 1820, the British began to arrive in the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal, and after colonising in 1836, woodlands gained economic significance (Owen and van der Zel, 2000). It was only in the 1700s that an attempt was made to protect forests in the south-western Cape, and only in the 1800s that this was achieved through conservation strategies implemented in the Eastern Cape. After the appointment of a formally trained forest officer in 1880, the Cape Colony introduced the first Forest Act in 1888 in an attempt to protect indigenous forests in the region (Owen and van der Zel, 2000).

In South Africa, the type and quality of forest management is determined by land ownership. National and provincial governments and statutory bodies manage and control large portions of forests, but only small portions of these are owned privately or are under communal land. Forests under conservation in South Africa may be on private or tribal land, designated as conservancies, heritage sites, nature reserves or wilderness areas (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006). There are a number of forests outside the designated conservation areas which are well conserved, however their conservation status remains insecure (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006). Threats and pressures facing forests in South Africa remain: an increase in human needs; high intensity farming; economic pressures; mining and development of infrastructure are all matters that need to be addressed when implementing conservation measures to protect the country's indigenous forests (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006). The type of forest and forest management is therefor critical to the conservation of forests.

### 3.3.2.1 Historical overview of human impacts in the Karkloof Catchment

Although few surveys have been conducted in the area, early, middle and late Stone Age sites have been recorded in the region, and it is thought that there are many more still to be revealed. Stone Age people were hunter gatherers and lived primarily off indigenous plants and animals, and the exploitation of certain favoured food types becomes apparent (Mazel, 1989). It has been hypothesised that due to seasonal migration of some large animals, exploitation of certain food types occurred on a periodic basis (Mazel, 1989; Partridge *et al.*, 2004). Due to the movement of these people from the coastal regions in winter, to the Drakensberg in summer, the Midlands region would have been traversed along the ridges rather that the valleys (Mazel, 1989). Moll (1976) argues that the effect on woody plants and forested areas were as a result of intentional fires set by people to maintain open grasslands and to assist in hunting.

Archaeological evidence from the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands region suggests that this area became inhabited by the Iron Age people approximately 2000 – 1500 years ago. Iron Age people began to settle in villages instead of living nomadic lifestyles and began to keep domestic livestock such as sheep, cattle and goats, and cultivate crops. Their food sources were supplemented by hunting, fishing, and gathering of wild plants, and wood would have been required as a source of fuel and building material. Burning grasslands to encourage

green growth for their livestock to graze on would have resulted in a change in species composition of the grasslands, and it is suggested that *Themeda triandra* was replaced by *Aristida junciformis* (Moll, 1976). Clearing of natural vegetation for crop production would have altered the vegetation composition. With prolonged periods of cultivation of small patches soil fertility would decrease, resulting in further areas of land to be cleared for cultivation and *T. triandra* further being replaced by *A. junciformis, Eragrostis curvula* and *Hyparrhenia hirta* (Moll, 1976).

In 1837, the Boers settled in KwaZulu-Natal and after subdividing the land, private tenure was established and private owners were able to exploit natural resources. Timber was used for building material and fuel, game was hunted for meat and vegetation was cleared for subsistence crops. Most Boers were involved in cattle farming, which resulted in natural vegetation being burnt on a regular basis to provide suitable grazing for their livestock (Ellis, 1998 cited in Weyer, 2000) however political unrest caused them to dispose of their land (Scott-Shaw, 1971). Approximately 5000 settlers from Britain arrived between 1849 and 1854 (Scott-Shaw, 1971). A number of attempts were made at various activities including: hunting; subsistence farming; exports of butter, ivory and various animal hides; stone quarrying; lime burning; and sawing of timber from forests in the Karkloof, Dargle and Pietermaritzburg district. Farmers found it difficult to subsist during this period, as soil and climatic conditions differed greatly from the environments which they had come from. During this time of colonisation, the number of game decreased significantly and many farming attempts were futile (Weyer, 2000). However, by 1860 experimental attempts at various farming techniques began to pay off, and between 1860 and 1900 farmers discovered that the Natal Midlands Mistbelt was suitable for grazing of cattle and sheep, dairy farming, and maize cultivation (Ballard and Lenta, 1985 cited in Weyer, 2000).

Although *Acacia mearnsii* (Black Wattle) was first introduced to South Africa from Australia by John van der Plank in 1864 (Sherry, 1968; Owen and van der Zel, 2000), plantations were only established in the Karkloof in 1876 on the farm Everdon (Sherry, 1968). The Karkloof Catchment, in particular in the vicinity of the Karkloof forest, was considered to be suitable for wattle plantations, as altitude and rainfall conditions were ideal (Scott-Shaw, 1971). By 1904, a wattle belt emerged in the Midlands area and by the late- to mid-1920s the wattle

bark and extract industry rapidly expanding (Hurwitz, 1957 cited in Weyer, 2000).

The Karkloof area is considered to be an important farming area due to the arable soils and high and reliable rainfall, and is thus suitable for growth of a variety of crops and timber. It is also an area with a high diversity of flora and fauna and in terms of the natural habitat it is highly valued (Macfarlane, 2000). Currently, timber plantations, dairy and beef farming and crops, remain an essential part of the Karkloof economy, and tourism, particulary ecotourism, plays a significant role in the Karkloof. In 1997, the Karkloof Conservancy was established with the aim of environmental education and monitoring of wildlife populations, and forest companies such as Sappi Forests (Pty) Ltd and Mondi (Ltd)., and local farmers, have membership of the conservancy. The success of the conservancy is evident in the increase of wildlife populations, and the occurrence of fewer uncontrolled forest and veld fires (Weyer, 2000).

## 3.3.3 The grassland biome

Globally, the conservation status of the grassland biome is of great concern (Neke and du Plessis, 2004), but considering human dependence on this biome (Van Oudtshoorn, 1999) its conservation efforts are grossly neglected. The grassland biome covers a large proportion of South Africa's land surface, with estimates varying from approximately 66% of the vegetation of South Africa (Breman *et al.*, 2011), to 16.5% (Neke and du Plessis, 2004), with distribution controlled primarily by climate and fire.

Based on habitat loss, degree of fragmentation and possible future threats, South African grasslands have been identified as critically endangered, and it is therefore not surprising that this biome is in need of urgent conservation attention (Neke and du Plessis, 2004). Grasslands contain several rare plant species and are home to a variety of severely threatened and endemic mammal species and grassland birds. The conservation status of these species is a reflection of the habitat loss and destruction, transformation, and loss of functionality of the grassland biome (Neke and du Plessis, 2004).

A number of threats to the grassland biome in South Africa have been identified, although some are less tangible than others. A loss in vegetation cover due to over-grazing and poorly managed fire-regimes may result in soil erosion, which could exacerbate vegetation loss. Exotic and invasive plant species (e.g. *Rubus cuneifolius* and *Acacia mearnsii*) have the ability to successfully invade grasslands, especially in areas which have been disturbed. This loss of natural vegetation, due to competition from invasive alien species, has the ability to do much damage to this biome. Furthermore, most mining activities are situated in grassland area and this has an effect not only on the immediate location, but also on the surrounding region. However, in spite of all these pressures, global climate change remains one of the most severe threats. Models to predict the impact of climate change on grasslands indicate that grasslands will be replaced by woody savannah plants, until merely north-south strips remain. It should not be assumed that the grasslands historical range will be suitable in the future, as additional threats to the grassland biome may arise as climate change results in habitat fragmentation (Neke and du Plessis, 2004).

#### 3.3.3.1 The Midlands Mistbelt Grasslands

The grasslands of the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands have been identified as a centre of endemism, and of particular importance in this region are the Midlands Mistbelt Grasslands. These grasslands are found over a large area at altitudes ranging from 760-1400 m and large areas in regions surrounding the Meloth-Babanango area, Kranskop and Greytown, Howick, Lions River, Karkloof, Balgowan, Cedara, Edendale, Hilton, Richmond, the Ixopo-Highflats area, Mount Malowe and the Harding-Weza area (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006). The Midlands Mistbelt Grasslands are one of the most threatened vegetation types in KwaZulu-Natal and its conservation status is listed as endangered. Disturbingly, only a small fraction (0.5%) of these grasslands is under low-level conservation in reserves such as Queen Elizabeth Park, Blinkwater Reserve and Karkloof Reserve (Mucina and Rutherford, 2006), where several threatened plant species occur (Scott-Shaw, 1999). The Midlands Mistbelt grasslands are also home to several insect, bird and animal species of conservation importance, such as the Karkloof Blue butterfly (Orachrysops Ariadne; Lu and Samways, 2002), Oribi antelope (Ourebia ourebi; Samways, 2007), Blue Swallow (Hirundo atrocaerulea) and Wattled Crane (Bugeranus carunculatus; Wakelin and Hill, 2007). Most of the Midlands Mistbelt Grasslands have been transformed for plantations, cultivation and urban sprawl and further threats include uncontrolled fire, poorly managed grazing regimes, the spread of alien

invasive vegetation which competes for resources and medicinal plant collection (Scott-Shaw, 1999; Mucina and Rutherford, 2006). Alarmingly, only 1% of the original extent of the Midlands Mistbelt grasslands remains in a near-pristine state (Scott-Shaw, 1999).

#### CHAPTER FOUR

# BACKGROUND TO PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL METHODS

### **4.1 INTRODUCTION**

This chapter provides a description and assessment of the methodologies applied in this research. This includes the following proxies: pollen and charcoal analysis; radiocarbon dating; stratigraphic description and geochemical analysis. As pollen analysis is the principle proxy, details regarding key principles, advantages and limitations of this proxy are discussed in greater detail.

#### 4.2 POLLEN ANALYSIS

Palynology, or pollen analysis, is defined by Faegri and Iverson (1989) as a technique to reconstruct former vegetation types through the study of the unique pollen grains produced and is able to demonstrate how various plant species respond to climatic changes (Williams *et al.*, 1998; Watrin *et al.*, 2007). The first quantitative pollen diagrams were published by Von Post in 1916 (Anderson et al., 2007) and the method has become a universally applied technique in reconstructing regional vegetation and climate trends at different timescales (Willarda *et al.*, 2001; Bunting, 2008). This provides an understanding of the relationships between vegetation and climate and the ability to predict future changes in plant migration, dynamics of plants within an ecosystem and the distribution of various biomes (Watrin *et al.*, 2007).

Pollen analysis has proven to be a versatile tool in resolving vegetation dynamics at both a fine spatial scale and at continental scale (Bradshaw, 2008), and can provide a description of the vegetation changes occurring, however it may be difficult to identify the drivers which result in these changes. Although anthropogenic impacts are often identified, these have only escalated recently (Bradshaw, 2008). Behre (1988) reviewed various pollen types as indicators to anthropogenic changes, which is a method widely used to detect human impact, and the proportion of non-arboreal pollen types in landscapes which were potentially forested. This may provide evidence of the extent and scale of forest clearance as a result of human impacts (Bradshaw, 2008).

### 4.2.1 General principles and Limitations

Basic principles of pollen analysis have been discussed by numerous authors (Moore and Webb, 1978; Birks and Birks, 1980), and a number of points have been outlined by Birks and Gordon (1985). There are however several limitations which are discussed.

- 1. It is assumed that all flowering plants produce pollen in relative abundance during the reproductive stage, and pollen grains are dispersed via wind and water.
- 2. Pollen released into the air is subjected to turbulence in the atmosphere and hydrological dynamics, which results in a more or less uniform pollen rain ultimately reaching the area of deposition.
- 3. Pollen grains comprise of organic compounds, which begin to decay under the process of biological decomposition. However, if pollen grains are deposited in an area which is permanently waterlogged, acidic and anaerobic (such as bogs, fens and lake bottoms), decomposition is inhibited and the exine of the pollen grains is preserved.
- 4. Fossilised pollen grains may be extracted from sediment, and through morphological variations pollen grains can be identified down to family/genus/species level.
- 5. The composition of fossilised pollen within a sediment sample is a reflection of the composition of pollen rain, which in turn is a reflection of the local and regional vegetation at that location at a particular period in the past.
- 6. If pollen in a sediment samples is preserved under suitable conditions, concentrations of pollen grains in 1 cm<sup>3</sup> of sediment sample may be in excess of 10<sup>5</sup> grains. This means that a very small sediment sample is required for analysis (usually less than 1 g), to ensure an adequate sample population. This illustrates the practicality of pollen analysis, as other fossil types such as seeds, insects and vertebrates require much larger samples to be examined.
- 7. If stratified pollen assemblages are analysed, the results should reveal a punctuated sequence of progressive vegetation development of the site over a period represented by the sediment record.
- 8. If a number of pollen assemblages are analysed from various locations, it is possible to make a comparison of the pollen spectra and to detect similarities and differences in the vegetation through time and space.

Faegri (1966) raises three problems relating to the representivity of pollen analysis. The first being how well the pollen spectrum represents the actual composition of the pollen present in the sample being analysed? Second, how well does the pollen in a sample represent the vegetation around the area under investigation? And third, does the actual flora represent the potential vegetation cover in its climax aspect?

Identification of pollen is achieved by comparison between fossil pollen material and modern pollen reference material, which is collected from plants of known identity. However, identification of fossil pollen is often problematic and can sometimes only be achieved to family taxonomic level. In some instances, pollen may be deteriorated beyond the point where identification is possible (Birks and Gordon, 1985; Anderson et al., 2007). There is little advancement in the identification of common pollen types such as Poaceae and Cyperaeae, which is a limiting factor in interpretation of wetland and grassland systems as these are common taxa in such ecosystems. Although the use of Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) has increased the resolution of pollen for identification, the practicality of using SEM for the identification of thousands of pollen grains is not feasible. The use of identification keys and high-quality image databases (e.g. the African Pollen Database), the identification of fossil facilitates pollen (Sëppa and Bennett, 2003).

Jacobson and Bradshaw (1981) define local pollen as pollen which originated from plants growing within 20 m of the edge of the sampling basin, and regional pollen as pollen which comes from greater distances. Consideration must be given to the mode of pollination of varying types of plants. Plants may be anemophilous (wind-pollinated), zoophilous (animal-pollinated) or entomophilous (insect-pollinated), and plants will produce various amounts of pollen depending on the mode of pollination. Anemophilous taxa will produce large quantities of pollen which are evenly and widely dispersed, whilst zoophilous and entomophilous taxa produce smaller quantities of pollen, often in sticky clumps, which are transported short distances from the parent plant. Zoophilous or entomophilous taxa may not provide an accurate representation of the species, as the pollen counted is a function of the size of the pollen clump, rather than an indication of the species (Faegri, 1966), resulting in an over-representation of certain taxa (Anderson *et al.*, 2007). Pollen production of a species

is controlled by various factors, such as climate, exposure, competition and cultivation measures, and some plants are more effective in methods of pollen transport, which leads one to question the extent to which modern pollen rain is a representation of the vegetation (Hill, 1992). Prentice (1988) argues that modern pollen studies provide an indication of pollen assemblages which are representative of vegetation types, for example forests. Modern pollen studies by Meadows and Meadows (1988) in the Winterberg and Hill (1992) in the KwaZulu-Natal Drakensberg, suggest that contemporary pollen rain is a fair reflection of parent vegetation communities.

### 4.2.2 Methodological considerations

#### 4.2.2.1 Site selection

Peat deposits contain the best pollen records for palaeo-climatic and palaeo-vegetational reconstruction (Jacobson and Bradshaw, 1981; Williams *et al.*, 1998; Anderson *et al.*, 2007). When sampling a peat deposit, consideration needs to be given to a number of variables (Table 4.1) such as basic characteristics, sedimentation processes and the local environment (Jacobson and Bradshaw, 1981).

### 4.2.2.2 Field sampling

A range of corers such as the Hiller, Russian, piston and vibracore, are available for the extraction of sediment samples, and various advantages and limitations of the equipment needs to be understood (Gastaldo, 1999). When coring peat, the use of side-filling samplers such as Hiller and Russian samplers are recommended by Feagri and Iverson (1989). The sediment cores are extracted in chambers which are inserted into the sediment, turned to cut the core, and extracted. The Russian corer produces a semi-circular core, which is cut without any disturbance to the stratigraphy. Cores are taken in an overlapping sequence from two closely situated holes, and several chamber lengths may be required when coring deeper sediment. Field instruments should be kept clean at all times to avoid contamination (Faegri and Iverson, 1989; Gastaldo, 1999).

Table 4.1 Important variables to be considered when sampling peat deposits (Jacobson and Bradshaw, 1981: 89)

# **Basin Characteristics**

location

size of area not covered by tree canopy extent of water movement through peat basin morphology

#### **Sedimentation Processes**

time period covered by deposit
continuity of the record – recurrence surfaces
extent of bioturbation/human disturbance
postdepositional pollen movement
redeposition of peat that has broken loose from floating mat

#### **Local environments**

present vegetation of peat surface pH and ionic content of percolating water hydrology fire frequency prevailing winds

### 4.2.2.3 Laboratory processing

Laboratory processing is comprised of three stages: subsampling; chemical and physical processing; and mounting of samples.

Subsampling of the sediment core should, if possible, be conducted in a controlled environment such as a sterile laboratory, as contamination of pollen from the environment may occur if subsampled outdoors. The surface of the sample should be cleaned with a knife or scalpel parallel to the strata of the core, to remove contaminated material. The resolution at which subsamples are taken depends on the data resolution which is required for the study, and on factors such as sedimentation rate (Williams *et al.*, 1993). It is suggested by Faegri and Iverson (1989) that subsamples are taken at a fine resolution, even if samples will not be analysed at this resolution. This prevents contamination on the exposed surface of the sediment core. For relative analyses, 1 cm<sup>3</sup> of sample is sufficient (Birks and Gordon, 1985; Faegri and Iverson, 1989).

The swirling technique developed by Hunt (1985) was used to separate particles of different specific gravity, as they have different settling rates in water (Pearsall, 1989; Hunt and Rushworth, 2005; Wheeler, 2007) and is based on the panning principle (Funkhouser and Evitt, 1959). Particles are separated based on size, weight, shape and specific gravity, and the technique is effective in concentrating particles in a dilute suspension. Ensuring that a dispersing agent is used before swirling is essential, as failure to do so will result in particles flocculating and forming a heterogeneous mass. The general effect of the swirling motion is to separate lighter particles, such as pollen, and to keep them in suspension in the solution. The separated fossils can be concentrated further prior to making slides (Funkhouser and Evitt, 1959). The use of the gravitational separation technique is advantageous in that it is safer than the conventional use of HF digestion, as it does not rely on the use of hazardous chemicals. Staining of pollen in a sample is one of personal choice. Staining enhances the structural details of the pollen grain, and in some instances allows for variation between pollen grains and other palynomorphs of similar form to be differentiated. It is also possible to identify pollen grains which are damaged, as they may otherwise be overlooked and not taken into consideration (Faegri and Iverson, 1989).

When mounting pollen samples, the intended use of the slides must be clear before deciding on the mounting method used. If pollen slides are intended to be use temporarily, requirements for mounting will differ from those used as permanent slides (Batten, 1999; Faegri and Iverson, 1989). Various mounting agents can be used, including glycerine jelly, glycerol and silicon oil (Williams *et al.*, 1993; Baxter, 1996; Williams *et al.*, 1998). For permanent mounts, water-free glycerol may be used. If the slides are sealed with nail varnish they could last for several years (Faegri and Iverson, 1989; Batten, 1999), which is ideal for reference samples. When choosing a mounting medium, it is advised that the refractive index be considered, as this may ease the counting process (Faegri and Iverson, 1989; Batten, 1999). The method of mounting allows for later identification of pollen grains, as individual grains can be photographed, and co-ordinates of individual grains on the slide be recorded for re-examination where required.

### **4.2.2.4 Counting**

Pollen counts are conducted on a light microscope at a set magnification, along evenly spaced transects on the microscope slide. The number of grains counted depends on the aim of the research. To obtain reliable estimates, a sufficient number of pollen grains should be counted (Birks and Gordon, 1985; Williams et al., 1998). Birks and Gordon (1985) recommend that a total of 300 to 500 pollen grains are counted per sample, however some studies may require 1000 or more grains to be counted to obtain maximum precision. Research from the KwaZulu-Natal Drakensberg by Hill (1996) argues that there is no significant difference in the representatively of counts of 250 or 1000 pollen grains. Pollen types and counts are expressed as a percentage of the pollen sum, and a count of 250 pollen grains will suffice in representing various vegetation communities. To avoid issues surrounding non-random distribution of pollen grains on the slide, complete slides or transects should be counted (Birks and Gordon, 1985). Another method for determination of absolute pollen counts is through the use of Lycopodium clavatum spores, an exotic marker spore added in tablet form to the sample to determine abundance of pollen grains relative to the marker spores (Stockmarr, 1971). Pollen grains and spores are identified from morphological features on the exine, which enables identification to family, genus or species level (Williams et al., 1998).

#### 4.2.2.5 Data presentation

Once pollen counts have been obtained, pollen data is represented in a manner that is simplified and easy to visualise. This may be achieved through a series of graphs and diagrams, known as pollen diagrams, through the use of specialised programmes designed for this purpose, for example two of the most commonly used programmes are Psimpoll (Bennett, 2005) and Tilia (Grimm, 1992). A series of pollen diagrams are plotted from relative proportions of pollen and spore counts, and care should be taken not to represent too much information on one diagram but rather the data relevant to the objective of the investigation (Birks and Gordon, 1985; Faegri and Iverson, 1989). The diagrams should include the stratigraphy and chronology of the sediment core to ensure ease of referencing. Pollen diagrams are then further divided into zones (minor stratigraphic intervals), as it enables one to examine internal variations of diagrams, correlations between diagrams (Faegri and Iverson, 1989) and to aid in interpretation (Williams *et al.*, 1998). Zones can be

derived from the Constrained Incremental Sum of Squares (CONISS) function in Psimpoll (Bennett, 2005).

### 4.2.2.6 Palaeo-environmental reconstruction and interpretation

Much evidence used for palaeo-environmental reconstruction is stratigraphic in nature, and therefore clues regarding environmental conditions at specific time periods are investigated. Changes in the stratigraphic sequence over an extended period of time are used to infer changes which occurred in the environment (Anderson *et al.*, 2007). There are two general interpretative approaches that may be taken: an individualistic approach and an assemblage approach. The use of the assemblage approach has more strength in fossil pollen analysis as assemblages of fossils are used for comparison, whereas the individualistic approach is better suited to plant macrofossils that can be identified to species level (Birks and Birks, 2005). When interpreting pollen diagrams, it is important to consider the contemporary vegetation composition, as this is key to explaining vegetation patterns and changes, and may be achieved by collecting modern pollen samples of known vegetation communities (Williams *et al.*, 1998). Fossil pollen assemblages can then be compared with known ecological tolerances, to reconstruct past environments (Birks and Birks, 2005).

A factor complicating the interpretation of pollen assemblages is the impact of humans in the recent past. Although anthropogenic impacts may be observed in pollen assemblages and provide insight regarding historical human activity, some vegetation assemblages reflect human interference rather than climatic change. It is essential that an understanding of such influences is gained before interpretation is attempted (Williams *et al.*, 1998).

#### 4.3 CHARCOAL ANALYSIS

Fire has played a significant role in the development of vegetation (Scott, 2002; Carcaillet *et al.*, 2001; Scott *et al.*, 2000), and hence the study of micro-charcoal fragments together with pollen analysis has become a widely used proxy in palaeo-reconstruction techniques (Ritchie, 1995). By analysing charcoal fragments and reconstructing fire history, valuable insight into the dynamics of fire history and human interaction with the environment can be gained (Clark, 1982; Scott *et al.*, 2000). It has therefore become important to understand the processes of charcoal formation, both physical and chemical, and biological properties, as

they determine the degree of charcoal preservation for environmental interpretations (Scott and Damblon, 2010). The use of charcoal in describing and understanding past environments was limited until the 1970s, however developments in the methods have resulted in an increase in the use of this proxy (Carcaillet, 2007).

Charcoal is formed as a result of the combustion of vegetation and has a high carbon content of 60-90% (Scott, 2010). In Quaternary studies, there has been some debate as to the transportation mechanisms of micro- and macro-charcoal fragments: microscopic charcoal fragments can be waterborne or wind-blown, and macroscopic charcoal fragments can be transported via water or erosional processes (Scott *et al.*, 2000). Scott (2002) states that the most suitable sites for charcoal analysis are those where transportation of charcoal fragments are not through fluvial processes. Transportation and reworking of allochthonous charcoal fragments in the sediment samples may prove to be problematic in analyses, as such particles may not necessarily be of the same age as the atmospheric charcoal component in the sample. The assumption can therefore be made that atmospheric micro-fragments of charcoal from burning of surrounding vegetation can provide accurate results of the charcoal ratios of a site (Scott, 2002). The charcoal fragments possess a number of characteristics: they are able to preserve the anatomy of the plant (allowing for taxanomic identification); are fairly inert; and can be well-preserved in the fossil record (Scott, 2010).

Natural fires are largely controlled by climatic conditions, and although it results in vegetation disturbance, can also increase productivity, vegetation diversity and nutrient cycling (Daniau *et al.*, 2010). Vegetation can therefore track climate change directly (lightning ignition, fuel moisture and prevalence of fire weather) and indirectly (changes in vegetation and productivity) (Daniau *et al.*, 2010). In summer rainfall regions, biomass becomes dry and more ignitable during dry winter periods (Scott, 2002). Although interpretation should be done with caution, charcoal records may therefore provide us with an indication of when drier conditions were prevalent, and fire frequency more regular (Scott, 2002). However, lightning is characteristic of subtropical conditions, where it can be associated with rainy conditions. It is therefore important to use a multi-proxy analysis when attempting to reconstruct palaeo-environmental conditions, as the use of pollen data in conjunction with charcoal records will assist in establishing a relationship between

vegetation, natural burning, climate change and anthropogenic impacts (Ritchie, 1995; Scott *et al.*, 2000; Whitlock and Larsen, 2001; Scott, 2002)

Some difficulties are experienced in the analytical methods and the interpretation of charcoal data, as outlined by Ritchie (1995). Issues regarding poor chronology in many sediment types hinder the investigation of the history of local fires, once again emphasising the importance of appropriate sites and sediment type. Charcoal taphonomy raises questions regarding the identification of airborne and water-borne sources, particularly in lacustrine deposits (Ritchie, 1995). A further limitation of reconstructing an accurate fire-history is the use of sediment samples at a lower resolution. As the occurrence of natural fires does not occur frequently, the fire history obtained from the sediment samples will only be as accurate as the sediment samples are able to provide (Clark, 1982). To obtain a more detailed fire history, the sediment core would have to be analysed at a very high resolution.

Scott (2002) provides a summary of fire fluctuations in South Africa during the Holocene, although it is clear that correlations in fire history between distant sites are not necessarily expected. Differences in charcoal patterns at various sites indicate that fire events are merely an indication of local fires which occurred in close proximity to the site (Scott, 2002). An interesting relationship can be seen in records from Lake Eteza and Port Durnford, two coastal swamp sites in KwaZulu-Natal. The records contain zones where charcoal concentrations and *Podocarpus* pollen concentrations are simultaneously high (Scott, 2002). Although the reasons for this are unclear and requires further analysis, a possible explanation could be the availability of large amounts of grass fuel (Scott, 2002). At Wonderkrater spring, an increase in fire frequency can be observed at a time which coincides with the arrival of Iron Age culture in the region, and the charcoal peaks can be attributed to local burning. When examined in conjunction with pollen data from the site, it can be inferred that the charcoal is as a result of burning where Zea cultivation took place, as Zea pollen (which must have been produced locally) was not (as Scott (2002) argues), a result of long-distance dispersal. However, at Lake Funduzi in Limpopo Province, charcoal concentrations during the period of Iron Age people are very low (Scott, 2002). This may be an indication that people did not initiate fires in the area. Pollen records show that there may have been impacts from human activities and changes in hydrology, however this does not coincide with charcoal peaks and may be an indication that human presence followed at a later stage. An increase in charcoal concentrations with the arrival of the Iron Age people would be expected, although the charcoal records do not indicate similar situations (Scott, 2002). The importance of using palaeo-environmental information and archaeological evidence in conjunction with charcoal data is therefore essential. The use of charcoal analysis does have potential for estimating fire frequency, although there are constraints within the technique and potentially a need for more sophisticated charcoal analysis techniques (Scott, 2002).

#### 4.4 RADIOCARBON ANALYSIS

Radiocarbon dating, developed in the 1940s by Libby has been described by Fredrick Johnson as the equivalent of an 'atomic bomb' being dropped on archaeology, and can be considered a watershed event in palaeo-research (Taylor, 2000). The use of radiocarbon dating has provided researchers with a technique with which to construct chronological phases of archaeological data (Taylor, 2000), thereby offering a mode of sound investigation.

There are various dating techniques which may be applied to the last ten million years, which are based on the decay of radioactive isotopes (Saarnisto, 1988). Provided that materials remain in a closed system, isotopes ratios can be seen as functions of time and original isotope composition as the rate of processes are known, and are not affected by environmental changes. There are however circumstances where these conditions are not met and the use of unstable isotopes are problematic. A variety of radiometric methods have been developed including uranium series, radiocarbon and potassium-argon (Saarnisto, 1988), however Accelerated Mass Spectrometry (AMS) Radiocarbon dating is commonly used as it can be used for dating organic materials up to an age limit of approximately 75,000 years. These include wood, charcoal, peat, lake sediment, and bones and teeth (Saarnisto, 1988; Williams *et al.*, 1998).

During their lifecycle, all living organism produce the radioactive Carbon-14 isotope ( $^{14}$ C /radiocarbon) while decay of the isotope occurs at an equal rate, resulting in a dynamic equilibrium. Once the organism dies the production of radiocarbon ceases, however the decay continues to occur at a half-life ( $T_{1/2}$ ) of 5568  $\pm$  30 years (Williams *et al.*, 1998). This rate of decay (Figure 4.1) is known as Libby's conventional figure, and may be used as a basis for all dates unless otherwise stated (Saarnisto, 1988; Williams *et al.*, 1998). Samples

dated may produce some statistical error, however calibration of dates and calculations of standard deviation is attainable. Statistical standard deviation for dates during the Holocene are often approximately 100 years (Saarnisto, 1988), and are ideal for studies related to this time period.

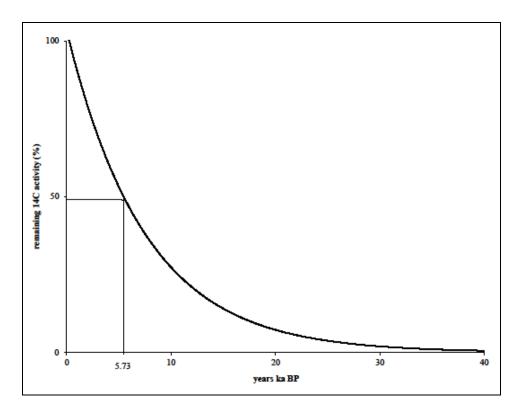


Figure 4.1 Radiocarbon decay curve (adapted from Walker, 2005)

A limitation, or possible error, which may occur during the use of radiocarbon dating is contamination of the sample, either by older or younger sediments (Saarnisto, 1988; Anderson *et al.*, 2007). This can however be limited by ensuring that the source of contamination in limited, and that field and laboratory procedures are carried out cautiously.

Obtaining a reliable chronology for a sediment core, allows for an age-depth model to be produced, described by Blaauw (2010: 1) as "the backbone of most palaeo-environmental studies". These models are built on the assumption of how sediment has accumulated between samples of known calibrated age (Blaauw, 2010). Calibration of radiocarbon dates have allowed for more accurate results to be achieved, due to natural fluxes in <sup>14</sup>C on a historical timescale (Saarnisto, 1988), and the importance of using calibrated ages cannot be

overstated (Blaauw, 2010). Calibration curves are available for the southern Hemisphere for the last 11,000 cal yr BP (McCormack *et al*, 2004), and it was previously recommended by Pilcher (1991) that older dates remain uncalibrated.

#### 4.5 TROELS-SMITH SEDIMENT CHARACTERISATION

Ideally, any system used for stratigraphic sediment description should not assume that the investigator has a strong background in the science, but rather facilitate the description of depositional environments (Kershaw, 1997). Troels-Smith (1955) possesses such characteristics, creating a widely-used tool for stratigraphic description (Williams et al., 1998). The Troels-Smith (1955) methods allows for three major sediment properties to be incorporated into the description of the sediments. This method was modified by Kershaw (1997). The physical properties (darkness, stratification, elasticity, dryness, colour, structure and sharpness of boundaries) and humicity (degree of decomposition of organic material) are measured on a scale of 0-4. Components of the sediment (e.g. mosses, herbs and detritus) are noted, where the combined value of the components must not exceed 4. However, a slight change (of less than 5%) in the content of each component may be recorded as a plus or minus sign (Troels-Smith, 1955; Kershaw, 1997). Sediment properties and components are represented by symbols, which may be depicted more densely or overlapped with other symbols to represent the quantity of each component (Kershaw, 1997). The Troels-Smith (1955) system for classification of sediment is used to provide a diagrammatical description of the sediment stratigraphy. The system allows for the column to be plotted alongside pollen or other palaeo-ecological diagrams, which enables a number of core and sediment descriptions to be made concurrently (Kershaw, 1997).

#### 4.6 GEOCHEMICAL ANALYSIS

The recent changes in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gases are likely to affect plant–atmospheric interactions, therefore information on how plants respond to their environment would enable researchers to examine the progression of environmental and climatological fluctuations (Gebrekirstos *et al.*, 2009). The natural abundance of stable isotopes is often used as an indicator of these ecosystem processes (Wang *et al.*, 2010), as environmental factors such as temperature, evaporation and moisture influence carbon isotope concentrations (Scott and Vogel, 2000). Soil organic matter has become a universal

terrestrial material used to provide insight to past environments, and carbon and nitrogen stable isotopic analyses ( $\delta^{13}$ C and  $\delta^{15}$ N) has become a common proxy for achieving these objectives (Terwilliger *et al.*, 2008).

Plants that utilize the C<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>4</sub> photosynthetic pathways fractionate atmospheric carbon differently during the production of carbohydrates, which results in distinguishing carbon isotope composition of the plant tissue (Johnson et al., 1997). The photosynthetic pathways of Crassulacean Acid Metabolism (CAM) plants use a combination of the C<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>4</sub> photosynthetic pathways and have a carbon isotope composition between those of C<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>4</sub> plants (Johnson et al., 1997). Analysis of  $\delta^{13}$ C values have become a means of reconstructing C<sub>3</sub>/C<sub>4</sub> compositions of vegetation, and their associated environmental conditions, as plants are a primary source of soil organic matter (Terwilliger et al., 2008). On average,  $\delta^{13}$ C values of C<sub>3</sub> plants are 15% lower than those of C<sub>4</sub> plants (Terwilliger et al., 2008), and the distribution of C<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>4</sub> vegetation is controlled by temperature during the growing season (Vogel, 1978). C<sub>3</sub> vegetation consists primarily of woody vegetation such as trees and some shrubs, and grasses which experience cold growing seasons such as temperate or shaded forest areas (Johnson et al., 1997; Smith et al., 2002). C<sub>4</sub> vegetation consists predominantly of grasses and cereal crops which are adapted to growing during warm seasons, and shrubs which are adapted to growing during growth seasons with high temperatures and radiation, as experienced in the subtropical, savannah and arid regions of Africa (Johnson et al., 1997; Smith et al., 2002). In southern Africa, C<sub>3</sub> plants prefer growing conditions within a winter rainfall area and cool high altitude summer rainfall regions, whereas C4 plants prefer warm summer rainfall regions (Smith et al, 2002). CAM plants are able to conserve metabolic activity during periods of drought, allowing them to survive in arid conditions (Luo and Sternberg, 1991). Generally, C<sub>4</sub> grasses are found in warmer environments, whereas C<sub>3</sub> grasses are found in cooler environments (Cabido et al., 1997), however at high altitude areas, both C3 and C4 grasses may occur and consideration needs to be given to C3 and C4 sedges occurring in wetland environments.

Nitrogen isotopes can be used in conjunction with carbon isotopes to provide information on palaeo-environments, however they have been less commonly used due to analytical difficulties. Analysis of nitrogen isotopes leads to greater difficulty in unambiguously

interpreting  $^{15}$ N/ $^{14}$ N data, as there are more complexities involved in nitrogen inputs and fractionations within the environment (Leng *et al.*, 2006). Globally, plant  $\delta^{15}$ N values normally range from -5 to +8%, and soil  $\delta^{15}$ N from 0 to +8%. Values at a particular location can be partly determined by climate. Surface- and ground-water in areas not affected by pollution may contribute dissolved inorganic nitrogen and dissolved organic nitrogen with  $\delta^{15}$ N between 0 to +10%. Major sources of polluting nitrogen, such as fertilizers and human and animal waste, can increase values to as high as +8 to +18% (Leng *et al.*, 2006).

### 4.7 CONCLUSION

This chapter provides an evaluation of the theory and techniques of the various proxies (*viz*. pollen analysis; charcoal analysis; radiocarbon analysis; stratigraphic description and geochemical analysis) applied in this research. All proxies are discussed in terms of their general application, and limitations and theoretical background provided where necessary. Once all theoretical aspects of the research methods were considered, specific methods were chosen for the study based on their merit and appropriate application. The specific procedures and methods used for each proxy are discussed in Chapter Five, alongside the method used for collection of vegetation and pollen reference material, and for mapping and surveying vegetation communities at the research site, Dartmoor Vlei.

#### **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **METHODS**

# **5.1 FIELD TECHNIQUES**

# 5.1.1 Vegetation and pollen reference material

Flowering plants were identified and collected throughout the wetland and surrounding slopes to develop the existing pollen reference collection. All specimens which were not identified in the field were collected, pressed and identified in the herbarium or through the use of keys. Flower heads were collected in small, sealed plastic bags and silicon crystals were added to dry out the sample before processing.

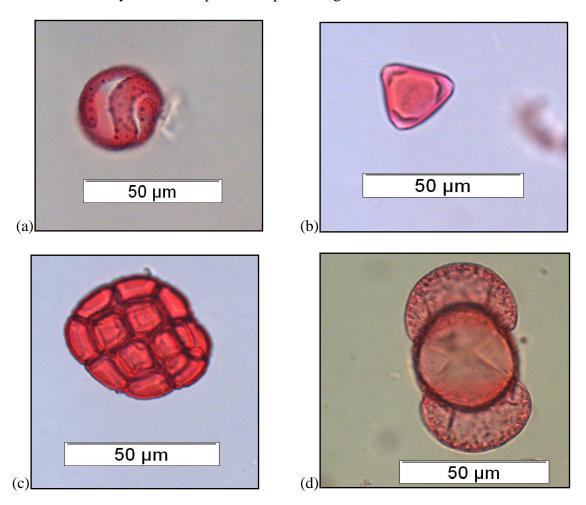


Plate 5.1 Examples of modern pollen reference slides: (a) *Eriocaulon dregei* (b) *Protea simplex* (c) *Acacia mearnsii* (d) *Podocarpus sp.* 

Pollen was extracted from the sediment sample using the preparation procedure for reference material as revised from Hill (1992) and Baxter (1996) (Appendix A), and sample slides were mounted using glycerine jelly.

The pollen reference slides (Plate 5.1) were used to create a series of digital microphotographs which were used as additional reference material in the identification of fossil pollen extracted from the core.

#### **5.1.2 Vegetation survey**

A vegetation survey was conducted at Dartmoor Vlei between February 2010 and March 2010 within the wetland and on the slopes immediately surrounding the wetland (Figure 5.1). The Braun-Blanquet (1932) scale was used to quantify the percentage cover of each species identified in a 1 x 1 m quadrat (Table 5.1), and the total percentage vegetation cover of each quadrat was recorded.

Table 5.1 Conversion of Braun-Blanquet scale to % cover of individual species.

<b>Braun-Blanquet Scale</b>	Range of Cover (%)
5	76 – 100
4	51 – 75
3	26 – 50
2	6 – 25
1	1 – 5

Leucosidia sericea, the only large trees/shrubs at the site, was restricted to a single location. Where L. seicea dominated the quadrat, the canopy cover and height of each individual plant was recorded, and the number of stems from each individual plant with a diameter greater than 20 cm. A total of 58 quadrats were analysed.

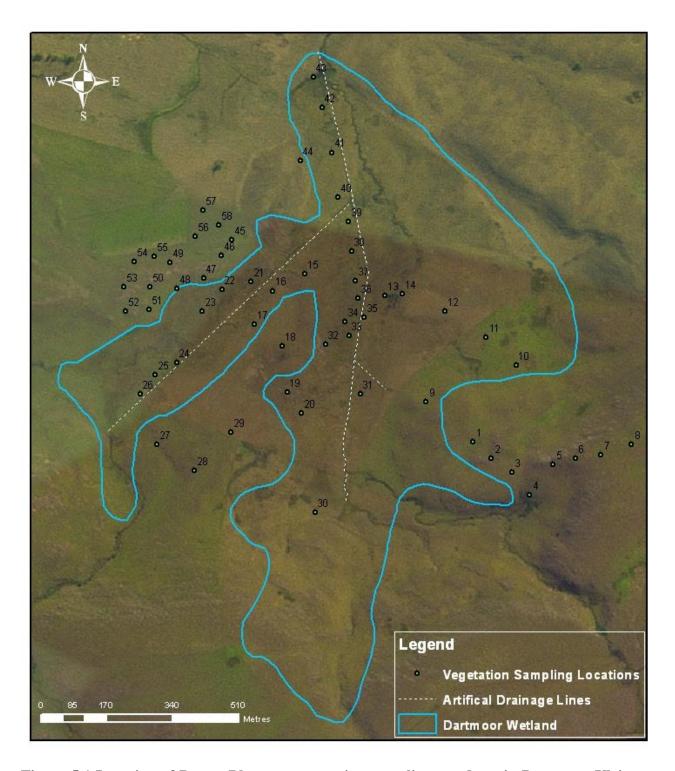


Figure 5.1 Location of Braun-Blanquet vegetation sampling quadrats in Dartmoor Vlei and immediate surroundings

# **5.1.3 Core extraction**

The location for the extraction of a sediment core was chosen based on the depth established through the use of fibreglass rods inserted into the wetland sediment, and through reference

to sediment depths recorded by Edwards (2009). Two locations were identified at the deepest points of the wetland, DA1 (350 cm) and DA2 (240 cm), and cores were extracted using a Russian peat corer. The continuous sediment cores were extracted (Plate 5.2) with minimal disturbance to prevent contamination, and Troels-Smith (1955) stratigraphic description as adapted by Kershaw (1997) (Appendix B) was conducted in the field. On completion of the Troels-Smith analysis (Appendix C), the sediment cores were wrapped in aluminium foil and plastic, labelled, and transported to the laboratory and stored in a refrigerator until further analysis.



Plate 5.2 Extraction of a sediment core at Dartmoor Vlei using a Russian peat corer

# **5.2 LABORATORY TECHNIQUES**

DA2 was chosen for detailed palaeo-ecological analyses based on the proportion of organic content of the sediment core. For the purpose of the pollen, charcoal and geochemical analyses the core was analysed to a depth of 196 cm due to very low organic content and lack

of fossil pollen in the residual saprolite layer at the base of the core. Although a stratigraphic description of the core was conducted in the field, it was repeated in the laboratory (Appendix C) using the Troels-Smith (1955) classification system.

## 5.2.1 Subsampling

The core was subsampled (Appendix D) at a fixed resolution of 2 cm, with the upper-most sample being at 10 cm. This was due to waterlogging and unconsolidated sediment at the top of the core. The core was subsampled to a depth of 196 cm as sediment beyond this depth comprised of predominantly residual saprolite and containing negligible organic components. Approximately 1 cm<sup>3</sup> of sediment was extracted for each sample (Birks and Gordon, 1985). For the purpose of pollen analyses, samples were taken to a depth of 144 cm as initial pilot investigation indicated very low levels of pollen preservation in the lower samples. A schematic summary of analyses carried out on core DA2 is provided (Figure 5.3).

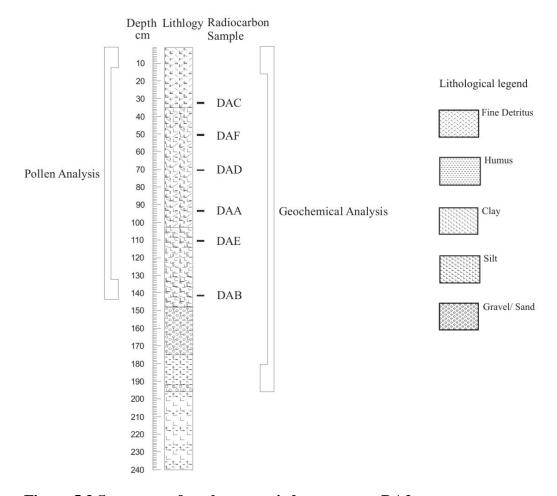


Figure 5.3 Summary of analyses carried out on core DA2

### **5.2.2 Chronology**

# 5.2.2.1 Radiocarbon Dating

Accelerated Mass Spectrometry (AMS) radiocarbon dating was conducted at the University of Waikato (New Zealand), and Beta Analytic (Florida). Six samples were selected based on predetermined justification (Table 5.2). Samples were dried overnight and rootlets removed to ensure a dry-weight of at least 2 grams, to ensure adequate carbon content for AMS dating.

Table 5.2 Radiocarbon dates

Sample	Lab Codes	Depth (cm)	Justification
DAA	Wk-27732	93	Samples selected based on changes in the
DAB	Wk-27733	141	lithology of the core
DAC	Beta-286997	32	
DAD	Beta-286998	70	Samples selected based on changed observed in the geochemical results of the core
DAE	Beta-286999	110	
DAF	Beta-289909	51	Sample selected based on a gap in the existing age model

Radiocarbon ages were calibrated and an age model developed using CLAM (Classical Age Modelling) and R software, in conjunction with the southern Hemisphere calibration curve (SHCal04) as for ages younger than  $11,000^{-14}$ C yr BP (Blaauw, 2010). The calibration curve for the southern Hemisphere does not extend beyond 11,000 yr BP and therefore calibration of dates beyond this age was achieved using the international calibration curve (IntCal09) and corrected with a factor of  $56 \pm 24$  years for the southern Hemisphere (McCormac *et al*, 2004; Blaauw, *per. comm.*, 2012).

#### 5.2.2.2 Time stratigraphic marker horizons

Human impacts have had a profound impact on vegetation communities, even from a historical perspective. It is therefore not only important to consider such impacts when interpreting pollen diagrams (Faegri an Iverson, 1989), but to use historical documentation

relating to human presence and occurrence of certain pollen taxa as stratigraphic markers. *Pinus* and *Zea mays* are two exotic taxa which can be used as stratigraphic markers. Although no exact dates exits for the first *Z. mays* crop production in the Karkloof, KwaZulu-Natal became inhabited by the Iron Age people approximately 2000 - 1500 years ago, and indication of the presence of these people in the Midlands region has been found in archaeological evidence (Mazel, 1989). *Z. mays* is also present in the Lake Sibaya record at this time (Stager *et al.*, 2013). The clearance of natural vegetation for cultivation of exotic plantations began in the Karkloof in 1876 with the establishment of Black Wattle (Sherry, 1968). *Pinus* was first introduced into South Africa as early the late 1600s by colonial settlers and to the coastal region of KwaZulu-Natal from about 1928 (Neumann *et al.*, 2010). The establishment of *Pinus* plantations in the Karkloof possibly only took place in the 1950s and 1960s (McCann, 2012, *pers. com.*). Although these figures do not provide precise dates, they can be used to establish a minimum age constraint for the introduction of each of these taxa in the region.

# **5.2.3 Stable Light Isotope Analysis**

Carbon and nitrogen isotope analysis was carried out at the Department of Archaeology, University of Cape Town. Eighty-nine samples (taken at a resolution of 2 cm) were used to determine %N,  $\delta^{15}$ N, %C,  $\delta^{13}$ C, and the C:N ratio of each sample.

Samples were weighed into tin cups to an accuracy of 1 microgram on a Sartorius micro balance. The cups were then squashed to enclose the sample. The samples were combusted in a Flash EA 1112 series elemental analyzer (Thermo Finnigan, Milan, Italy). The gases were passed to a Delta Plus XP IRMS (isotope ratio mass spectrometer) (Thermo Electron, Bremen, Germany), via a Conflo III gas control unit (Thermo Finnigan, Bremen, Germany) (Newton, *pers. comm.*, 2012).

# 5.2.4 Gravitational separation technique

The gravitational separation (swirling) technique (Wheeler, 2007; Hunt and Rushworth, 2005) was used for the separation of fossil pollen and charcoal fragments from the 68 subsamples extracted from the core. Based on the principle of gravitational separation,

pollen and charcoal fragments remain in suspension in a swirling dish and can therefore be poured off, while heavier objects remain at the bottom of the solution (Appendix E). The solution containing fossil pollen was mounted onto semi-permanent microscope slides using an Aquamount solution (Aquatex, refractive index 1.4), and refrigerated until analysis.

#### 5.2.5 Pollen Counts

Pollen counts were conducted along fixed transects on the slides, and all pollen grains within the field of view (at 40X magnification) were counted and identified using a Leica DM750 microscope. Where pollen grains were not easily identified, images were taken and the location of the grain was recorded to identify at a later stage. All grains were counted, with the exception of those which were damaged beyond recognition, folded, or corroded. Where pollen clusters (2 or more grains) of the same palynomorph occurred, these were recorded as a single occurrence to avoid an over-representation of the vegetation type (Faegri and Iverson, 1989). A number of reference material sets (including those made from samples collected from Dartmoor Vlei) were used to identify pollen grains and spores. Reference material data sets include those housed at the Geography Department (UKZN), and the African Pollen Database.

To obtain a representative sample of the parent vegetation, a minimum of 500 pollen grains were counted for each sample. The number of transects that required counting varied between samples due to level of pollen preservation and concentration of the sample on the slide. For each sample, complete transects were counted even once the minimum of 500 pollen grains was achieved.

#### **5.2.6 Pollen diagrams**

Pollen, charcoal and geochemical data were plotted using Psimpoll Version 4.263 (Bennett, 2005). Pollen and charcoal diagrams were plotted for 144 cm of the core, and geochemical data for 190 cm of the core. Pollen diagrams were plotted for Regional and Local Pollen sums, and for a comparison of grassland and indigenous forest taxa. Pollen which most likely originated from immediate surrounds of the wetland was classed as local pollen, whereas pollen from the surrounding region was classed as regional pollen. Rare taxa (<0.1% of the Regional pollen sum), were excluded from the pollen diagrams. Zonation of

pollen data was achieved through the use of the CONISS function in Psimpoll, and based on the sum of the regional pollen count. Diagrams were amended and merged using CorelDRAW X3.

### **CHAPTER SIX**

### **RESULTS**

### **6.1 VEGETATION DESCRIPTION**

Vegetation surrounding Dartmoor Vlei depicted various zones where changes in vegetation composition occurred. A schematic drawing was done and a map created (Figure 5.1) of where vegetation was sampled using the Braun-Blanquet classification system. The area within the perimeter of the wetland, and the north-west and south-east facing slopes were sampled. Results for individual quadrats (1 - 58) are provided (Appendix I). A list of species found at Dartmoor Vlei and their average relative abundance (Braun-Blanquet) is provided (Table 6.1), indicating that Cyperaceae and Poaceae are the most dominant.

Table 6.1 Relative abundance of species recorded at Dartmoor Vlei

Species	Relative abundance	Species	Relative abundance
Cyperaceae spp.	1.690	Panicum sp.	0.052
Eragrostis curvla	0.603	Protea simplex	0.052
Themeda triandra	0.603	Pteridium aquilinum	0.052
Poaceae spp.	0.569	Watsonia densiflora	0.052
Tristachya leucothrix	0.379	Xyris capensis	0.052
Eragrostis capensis	0.362	Agapanthus sp.	0.034
Aristida sp.	0.345	Asteraceae sp.	0.034
Helichrysum spp.	0.328	Brunsvigia grandiflora	0.034
Calopsis paniculata	0.310	Cyanotis speciosa	0.034
Pychnostachys reticulate	0.293	Helichrysum adenocarpum	0.034
Acalypha sp.	0.276	Rhus bicolor	0.034
Eriocema distinctum	0.276	Rusus auneifolius	0.034
Eriocaulon dregei	0.224	Sateria sp.	0.034
Senecio isatidiodes	0.224	Sebaea natalensis	0.034
Trachypogon spicatus	0.207	Agrimonia procera	0.017
Geranium schlechteri	0.190	Aristea woodii	0.017
Juncus lamatophyllus	0.190	Aristida congesta	0.017
Mentha aquatic	0.190	Berkheya achinacea	0.017
Carex cognate	0.172	Bherkeya rhapontica	0.017
Eriosema sp.	0.172	Commelia Africana	0.017
Rubus auneifolius	0.155	Crussula natalensis	0.017
Scenecio sp.	0.155	Erica woodii	0.017

Species	Relative abundance	Species	Relative abundance
Stiburus allopecuroides	0.155	Erogrostis sp.	0.017
Aristida junciformis	0.138	Geranium caffrum	0.017
Heteropogon contortus	0.138	Habenaria dives	0.017
Lobalia flaccida	0.138	Harpocloa flax	0.017
Typha capensis	0.138	Helichrysum spiralepis	0.017
Diclis reptans	0.121	Helishrysum spiralepis	0.017
Eragrostis sp.	0.121	Heteropogon sp.	0.017
Tephrosia sp.	0.121	Hypoxis filiformus	0.017
Geranium sp.	0.103	Hypoxis parvula	0.017
Lotonis sp.	0.103	Kniphofia laxiflora	0.017
Monocymbium ceresiiforme	0.103	Monopsis decepiens	0.017
Sutera floribunda	0.103	Polygala hottentota	0.017
Eucomis sp.	0.086	Rubus ludwigii	0.017
Persicaria serrulata	0.086	Rubus proteus	0.017
Schoenoplectus corymbosus	0.086	Sabeae natalensis	0.017
Eragrostis racemosa	0.069	Schistostephium crataegifolium	0.017
Helichrysum aureonitens	0.069	Senecio oxyriifolius	0.017
Hypochaenis radicata	0.069	Silene burchellii	0.017
Rhus discolour	0.069	Sporobolus sp.	0.017
Alectra sessiliflora	0.052	Stachys natalensis	0.017
Dinekia capensis	0.052	Vernonia hirsute	0.017
Macowania corymbosa	0.052	Vernonia thodey	0.017
Moss (Lycopodium type)	0.052	Zornia linearis	0.017
Oxalis obliquifolia	0.052		

### 6.2 TROELS-SMITH STRATIGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION

The sediment core (Plate 6.1) was divided into stratigraphic units according to Troels-Smith stratigraphic description (Appendix D), with stratigraphic unit boundaries at the following depths: 19 cm; 35 cm; 103 cm; 148 cm; 165 cm; 175 cm; 192 cm; 196 cm and 240 cm (Figure 6.1). The core consisted of a very dark brown fibrous top layer (0-35 cm) containing *Detritus granosus, Substantia humosa, Argilla steatodes* and *Argilla granosa*, progressing gradually to lighter brown and olive brown sediment containing less *Detritus granosus* to 148 cm. The base of the core consisted of a turquoise-coloured residual saprolite containing *Argilla steatodes* and *Argilla granosa*, with layers of *Grana minora* and *Grana majora* at 148-175 cm and 192-196 cm. The surface layers of the core consisted of mostly organic material, progressing to more clay and silt towards the base of the core.

# **6.3 RADIOCARBON ANALYSIS**

Although the length of the core was 240 cm, the bottom most subsample for radiocarbon dating was taken at 141 cm and indicated an age of  $10,379 \pm 45$  yr BP (Table 6.2). No age reversals were evident in the age model, indicating that no disturbance or reworking of sediment occurred at Dartmoor Vlei to this depth (Figure 6.2).

Table 6.2 Radiocarbon results for Dartmoor Vlei, indicating calibrated and uncalibrated ages.

Sample	Lab Codes	Depth (cm)	<sup>14</sup> C yr BP	Cal yr BP Range
DAC	Beta-286997	32	940 ±40	670 - 774 (92.8%)
DAF	Beta-289909	51	$2770 \pm 40$	2750 - 2886 (92.4%)
DAD	Beta-286998	70	$6090 \pm 40$	6671 - 6892 (95%)
DAA	Wk-27732	93	$8074 \pm 40$	8718 - 9021 (94.8%)
DAE	Beta-286999	110	$8870 \pm 50$	9548 - 9834 (87.7%)
DAB	Wk-27733	141	$10,379 \pm 45$	11,983 – 12,239 (65.9%)



Plate 6.1 Sediment core DA2 extracted from Dartmoor Vlei. Core depths depicted: A. 0-48 cm; B. 48-96 cm; C. 96-144 cm; D. 144-192 cm; E. 192-240 cm.

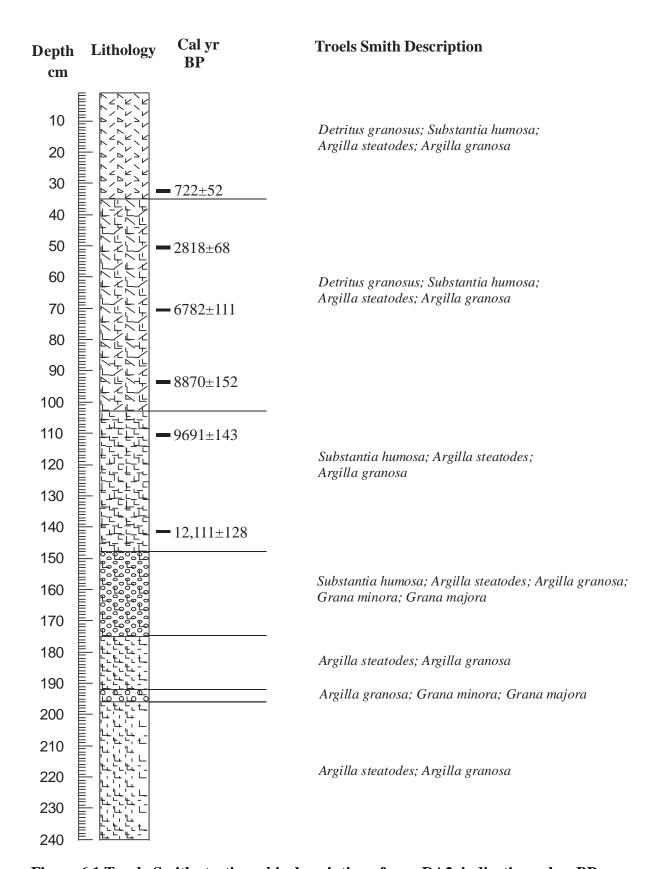


Figure 6.1 Troels-Smith stratigraphic description of core DA2, indicating cal yr BP

# 6.3.1 Age model

A summary of all calibrated ages (Table 6.2) and calibrations for individual ages were created (Appendix F, Appendix G). Further age-models were created using various interpolation styles (Appendix H), but based on parsimony, the linear interpolated calibration curve is used to depict the age-depth model for Dartmoor Vlei.

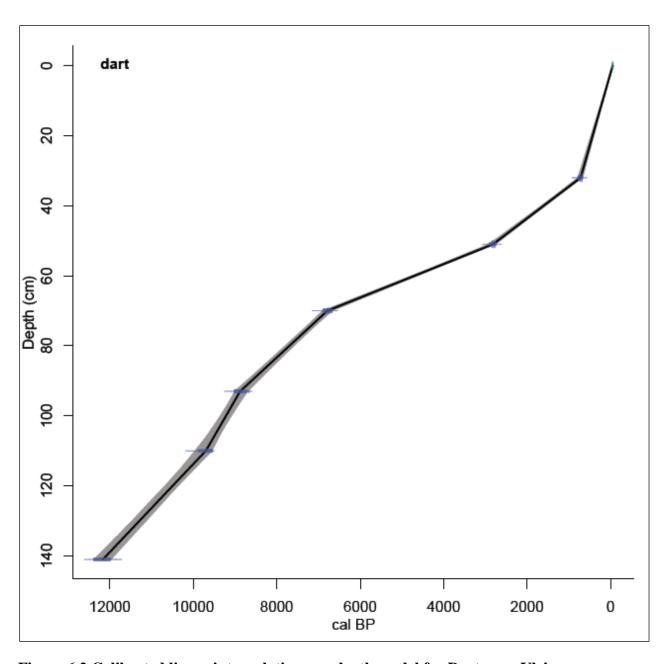


Figure 6.2 Calibrated linear interpolation age-depth model for Dartmoor Vlei

#### **6.3.2 Sedimentation rates**

Sedimentation rates at Dartmoor Vlei between the present and  $722 \pm 52$  cal yr BP are highest at 0.044 cm/yr. Sedimentation rates decrease thereafter to an average of 0.009 cm/yr, 0.005 cm/yr and 0.012 cm/yr for the age ranges  $722 \pm 52$  to  $2818 \pm 68$ ,  $2818 \pm 68$  to  $6782 \pm 111$  and  $6782 \pm 111$  to  $8870 \pm 152$  cal yr BP, respectively. Between  $8870 \pm 152$  to  $9691 \pm 143$  cal yr BP the sedimentation rates increase to an average of 0.021 cm/yr, followed by a decrease in the average rate to 0.013 cm/yr for the period  $9691 \pm 143$  to  $12,111 \pm 128$  cal yr BP (Table 6.3).

Table 6.3 Average sediment accumulation rates for Dartmoor Vlei

Depth Range (cm)	Age range (cal yr BP)	Average accumulation rate
		(cm/yr)
0 - 32	present - 722 ±52	0.044
32 - 51	$722 \pm 52 - 2818 \pm 68$	0.009
51 - 70	$2818 \pm 68 - 6782 \pm 111$	0.005
70 - 93	$6782 \pm 111 - 8870 \pm 152$	0.012
93 - 110	8870 ±152 - 9691 ±143	0.021
110 - 141	$9691 \pm 143 - 12,111 \pm 128$	0.013

#### 6.4 ZONATION OF CORE MATERIAL

Five zones were derived from the Constrained Incremental Sum of Squares (CONISS) function (Figure 6.3) in Psimpoll to assist in the description and interpretation of pollen, charcoal and geochemical data. Zones are divided where minor stratigraphic intervals occur, and for the purpose of this research, the CONISS zonations are based on regional pollen data. Zonations D4 to D1 are based on the regional pollen sum, but as Zone D0 (144-190 cm) lacks corresponding pollen data it therefore comprises of a separate zone for the geochemical data alone. Zone D3 accounts for a large portion of the record (*ca.* 6864 cal yr), but due to minimal changes occurring over this time-period, the zone was not further subdivided.

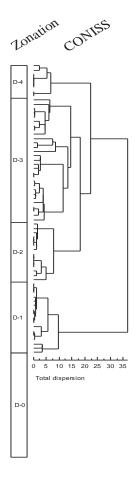


Figure 6.3 Zonation derived from CONISS, based on the regional pollen sum

#### 6.5 GEOCHEMICAL ANALYSIS

The results for geochemical analyses (Appendix J) are shown in Figure 6.4, and a depiction of the relationship between  $\delta^{13}$ C and C:N results (Figure 6.5) are provided.

#### Zone D0: 190-144 cm; undetermined - ca. 12,100 cal yr BP

The Total Organic Carbon (TOC) and Total Nitrogen (TN) contents of Zone D0 are very low, although slight increases are observed towards the top of the zone. The  $\delta^{13}$ C values are relatively constant throughout the zone at approximately -20 to -22 ‰. The  $\delta^{15}$ N values increases to a peak of 6.06‰ at 174 cm (>12,167 cal yr BP), thereafter decreasing to the base of the zone. The C:N ratio fluctuates throughout the zone with minimum values of approximately 6 at 154, 170 and 174 cm (>12,167 cal yr BP). Zone D0 indicates  $C_3$  vegetation and a mix of terrestrial and aquatic plants during this time period.

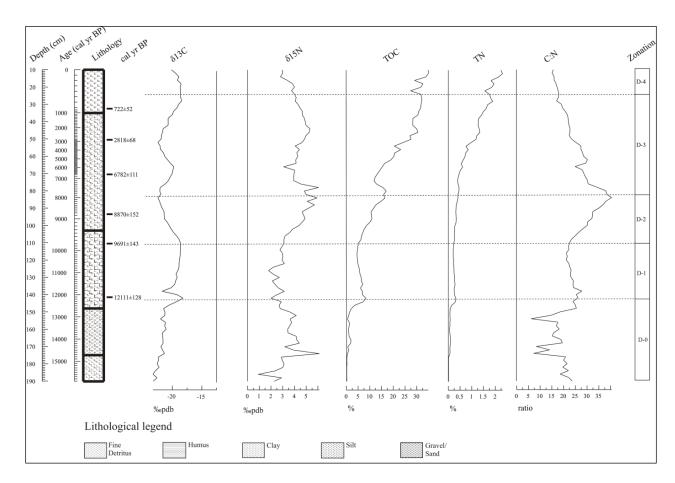


Figure 6.4 Geochemical analysis

# Zone D1: 144-110 cm; ca. 12,100 - 9690 cal yr BP

The Total Organic Carbon and Total Nitrogen content increases slightly in Zone D1, although both values are still low at TOC of ca. 5-6% and TN of ca. 0.2-0.3%. The  $\delta^{13}$ C values at the top of the zone at ca. -18‰, however changes are observed at the base of the zone where values fluctuate from -18 to -21 at 12,200 cal yr BP and 11,900 cal yr BP respectively. The  $\delta^{15}$ N values fluctuate between 2 and 3‰ throughout the zone, and the C:N ratio remains constant at ca. 23.3. In this zone, there is a higher proportion of C<sub>4</sub> and terrestrial vegetation.

# Zone D2: 110 - 83 cm; 9690 - 7970 cal yr BP

In Zone D2, the Total Nitrogen values remain unchanged from Zone D1, however Total Organic Carbon increases from *ca*. 5% at the base of the zone to *ca*. 16.5% at the top of the zone. The C:N ratio also increases from *ca*. 22.5 to *ca*. 40.5 from the base of the zone to the

top of the zone respectively.  $\delta^{15}N$  values increase in Zone D2, while  $\delta^{13}C$  values show a constant decrease. A mixture of  $C_3$  and  $C_4$  terrestrial vegetation occurs during this time period.

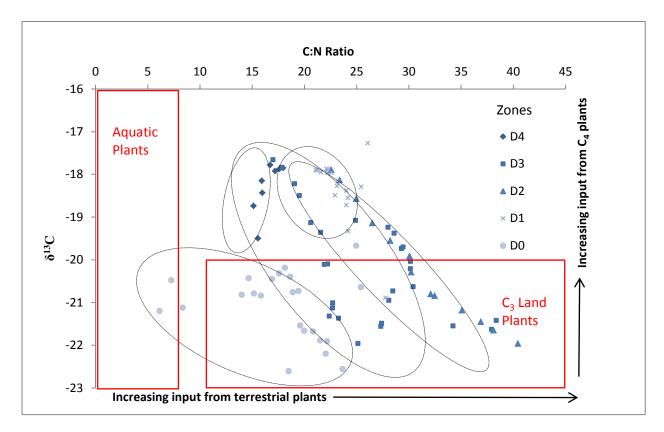


Figure 6.5  $\delta^{13}$ C versus C:N relationship

# Zone D3: 83 - 25 cm; 7970 - 550 cal yr BP

In Zone D3, the Total Nitrogen content begins to increase steadily from ca. 0.4% at the base of the zone to ca. 1.9% at the top of the zone. The Total Organic Carbon decreases briefly at the base of the zone, but then begins to increase once again.  $\delta^{13}$ C values generally increase in Zone D3, however there is a decrease in the values between 6000 and 3000 cal yr BP.  $\delta^{15}$ N values fluctuate from the base of the zone to ca. 44 cm, and then decreases steadily. The C:N decreases in Zone D3, except for a brief period between 6000 and 6400 cal yr BP, during which it increases. As in Zone D2, A mixture of C<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>4</sub> terrestrial vegetation occurs during this time period.

#### Zone D4: 25 - 0 cm; 550 - present cal yr BP

In Zone D4, both  $\delta^{15}N$  and  $\delta^{13}C$  values decrease at the top of the zone. Total Nitrogen and Total Organic Carbon both increase overall, reaching the highest content at the top of the core, while the C:N ratio decreases negligibly, and Zone D4 indicates a dominance of  $C_4$  vegetation.

#### **6.6 POLLEN ANALYSIS**

Pollen taxa were grouped according to four primary parameters: local, regional, arboreal and non-arboreal. Neophytes, aquatic taxa, *Pseudoschizae* and undetermined taxa were differentiated, and forest and grassland taxa divided. A total of 49 pollen taxa were identified (Table 6.4, Appendix K), and plotted using selected classifications (Table 6.5). CONISS was applied to the regional pollen diagram to create four zones which were used in the description and interpretation of pollen data (Figure 6.3).

The following pollen diagrams were plotted against the age-profile of the core, and the depth of the core:

- i) Regional (Figure 6.6 and Appendix L)
- ii) Total (Appendix L)
- iii) Afromontane Forest and Grassland (Figure 6.7 and Appendix L)

In addition, local pollen taxa were plotted against the age and depth profiles (Appendix L) for reference purposes.

Table 6.4 Classification of taxa according to regional, local, arboreal and non-arboreal groupings (\*indicates taxa with total counts of <1%)

# **Regional Taxa**

Regional Taxa	
AMARANTHACEAE	non-arboreal
ASTERACEAE Artemisia	non-arboreal
ASTERACEAE Stoebe*	non-arboreal
ASTERACEAE undiff.	non-arboreal
ASTERACEAE Vernonia*	non-arboreal
BORAGINACEAE Heliotropium*	non-arboreal
COMMELINACEAE*	non-arboreal
DIPSACACEAE Scabiosa	non-arboreal
ERICACEAE	non-arboreal
EUPHORBIACEAE Euphorbia	non-arboreal
EUPHORBIACEAE undiff.	non-arboreal
FABACEAE	non-arboreal
GERANIACEAE*	non-arboreal
HYPERICACEAE Hypericum*	non-arboreal
IRIDACEAE undiff.	non-arboreal
LAMIACEAE undiff.	non-arboreal
LAMIACEAE Leonotis*	non-arboreal
OXALIDACEAE Oxalis*	non-arboreal
THYMELIACEAE	non-arboreal
ACANTHACEAE	arboreal
ANACARDIACEAE	arboreal
APIACEAE*	arboreal
AQUIFOLIACEAE Ilex mitis*	arboreal
ARALIACEAE	arboreal
BORAGINACEAE Cordia	arboreal
BRASSICACEAE	arboreal
CELASTRACEAE*	arboreal
CELTIDACEAE Celtis	arboreal
CORNACEAE Cornus*	arboreal
EBENACEAE Diospyros*	arboreal
EBENACEAE Euclea	arboreal
EBENACEAE undiff.*	arboreal
MYRICACEAE Myrica*	arboreal
MYRTACEAE	arboreal
OLEACEAE	arboreal
PODOCARPACEAE Podocarpus	arboreal
POLYGALACEAE Polygala*	arboreal
PROTEACEAE	arboreal
ROSACEAE Cliffortia	arboreal
ROSACEAE Leucosidea	arboreal
ROSACEAE undiff.*	arboreal

# **Local Taxa**

CYPERACEAE undiff.	non-arboreal	
ERIOCAULACEAE Eriocaulon	non-arboreal	
HALORAGACEAE	non-arboreal	
LILIACEAE	non-arboreal	
POACEAE	non-arboreal	
MONOLETE spore		
TRILETE spore		
TRILETE Mohria spore		

# Neophytes

POACEAE Zea mays	non-arboreal
MIMOSOIDEAE Type II	arboreal
PINACEAE Pinus	arboreal

# **Non-pollen Palynomorphs**

Pseudoschizea
Undetermined
Non-pollen palynomorphs

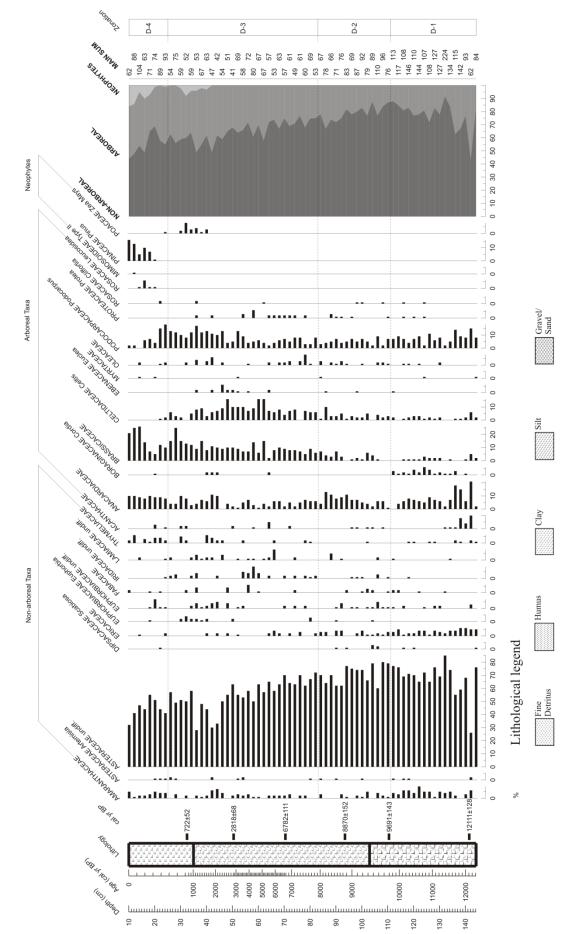


Figure 6.6 Regional pollen plotted against depth and time

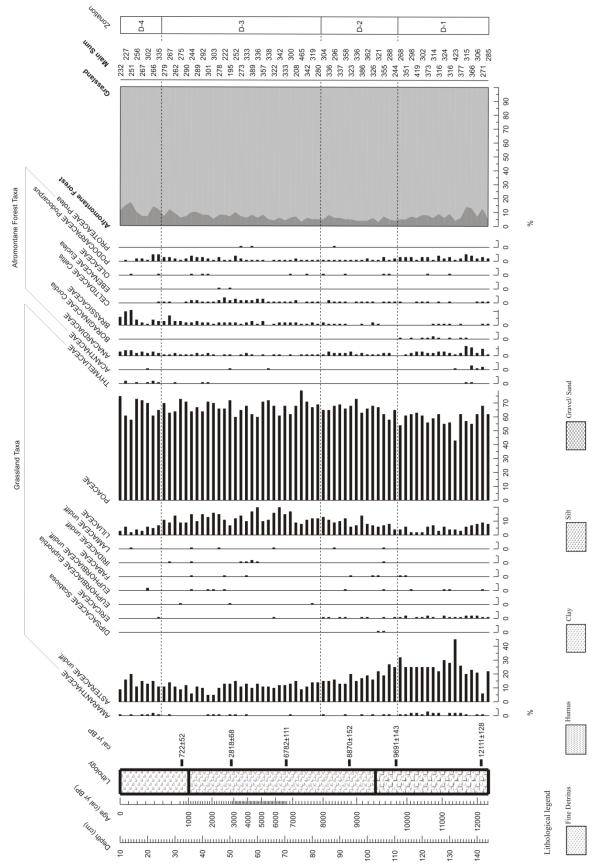


Figure 6.7 Grassland and Indigenous forest taxa plotted against depth and time

#### Zone D1: 144-110 cm; ca.12,100 - 9690 cal yr BP

Regional taxa dominating this zone are Asteraceae, Ericaceae, Anacardiaceae and *Podocarpus*. Asteraceae declines at 12,100 cal yr BP, however the majority of the zone indicates high frequencies of this taxon. Ericaceae is found in highest concentration in this zone, and frequency of Anacardiaceae increases later in the zone. *Podocarpus* does not show drastic change in this zone, although concentrations are relatively high. Brassicaceae and *Celtis* concentrations show a marked decline, whereas *Cordia* indicates a positive increase. Liliaceae concentrations are slightly lower at the early parts of the zone, but increase towards the later in the zone. There are no systematic changes in the concentration of Poaceae, however Cyperaceae frequencies decrease briefly at *ca.* 12,000 cal yr BP and *ca.* 10,300 cal yr BP. Generally, Afromontane forest/arboreal taxa increase in this zone, and regional pollen signals are high.

# Zone D2: 110 - 83 cm; 9690 - 7970 cal yr BP

Asteraceae, Ericaceae, Anacardiaceae and *Podocarpus* dominate this zone in terms of regional taxa, although there is also a marked increase in the frequency of Brassicaceae towards the early part of the zone. Asteraceae decreases marginally, whilst Anacardeaceae and *Celtis* increase towards the early part of the zone. There are no systematic changes in the frequency of *Podocarpus* and Ericaceae. There is a brief increase in *Protea* between *ca*. 8900 and *ca*. 8500 cal yr BP, and Liliaceae frequency begins to increase towards the early part of the zone. Poaceae and Cyperaceae frequencies are mirrored in this zone, with Poaceae increasing in the mid-zone and decreasing towards the early and late stages if the zone. Overall, Afromontane forest/ arboreal pollen signals decrease marginally in this zone, with local pollen signals strengthening towards the early stages of the zone.

# Zone D3: 83 - 25 cm; 7970 - 550 cal yr BP

Zone D3 represents a significant portion of the record of Dartmoor Vlei. Dominant regional taxa in this zone are Asteraceae, Anacardiaceae, Brassicaceae, *Celtis* and *Podocarpus*. Overall, Asteraceae frequencies are lower in this zone. There is a brief decrease between *ca*. 2260 and *ca*. 1160 cal yr BP, and a slight increase towards the younger part of the zone. There are no significant changes in Anacardiaceae frequencies, although a relative increase in frequencies can be noted at *ca*. 1930 and *ca*. 720 cal yr BP. Brassicaceae and *Podocarpus* 

show a generally increasing trend in the frequencies from the base of the zone towards the younger region of the zone, whereas *Celtis* increases significantly in the mid-range of this zone. *Protea* frequencies also increase between *ca.* 7500 and *ca.* 3650 cal yr BP, however decrease again towards the younger region of the zone. *Zea mays* occurs for the first time in the records between *ca.* 1600 and *ca.* 650 cal yr BP, however it is the only exotic taxon recorded in this zone. Locally, Liliaceae frequencies increase. There are no significant changes in Poaceae and Cyperaceae frequencies; however a relative increase in Poaceae frequency at *ca.* 5100 cal yr BP indicates a corresponding decrease in Cyperaceae. Similarly, an increase in Cyperaceae at *ca.* 2700 cal yr BP is mirrored by a decrease in Poaceae frequencies. There are no notable changes in the proportion of regional and local pollen taxa, however the local signal is stronger in this zone than the previous zones. Forest and grassland taxa, however, indicates that there is a slight increase in the number of Afromontane forest taxa in this zone, increasing marginally from the base of the zone towards the top.

#### Zone D4: 25 - 0 cm; 550 - present cal yr BP

Zone D4 indicates a decrease in *Ericaceae*, *Celtis and Protea*, which were more frequent in Zone D3. Brassicaceae and Anacardiaceae frequencies are high in this zone, and Thymeliaceae frequencies increase from previous zones. *Leucocidea sericea* is present for the first time in the record. *Zea mays* is once again found at the base of the zone at *ca.* 530 cal yr BP only, and Mimosoideae Type II occurs singly at *ca.* 240 cal yr BP. *Podocarpus* frequencies decrease notably in zone D4, whilst *Pinus* is present for the first time in the record, and increase significantly from *ca.* 450 cal yr BP towards the top of the zone. Regional pollen taxa increase marginally from the previous zone. Asteraceae frequencies are high, although Liliaceae decreases towards the top of the zone. Poaceae and Cyperaceae frequencies do not differ significantly from the top of the previous zone, however the proportion of Afromontane forest taxa increases slightly.

#### 6.7 CHARCOAL ANALYSIS

Charcoal counts (Bhugeloo, 2011) were divided into four size-classes, being:  $<25 \mu m$ ; 25 - 75  $\mu m$ ; 75 - 150  $\mu m$  and  $>150 \mu m$ . Once raw charcoal counts (Appendix M) were obtained (Bhugaloo, 2011), charcoal diagrams were plotted using Psimpoll 4.25. For ease of

comparison, charcoal zonation was based on the zonation obtained by applying the CONISS function to the regional pollen counts, allowing for four similar zones to be created. For the purpose of interpretation, charcoal diagrams were plotted as frequencies and fragment (Appendix N) counts against the age-profile of the core, and frequencies (Appendix N) and fragment counts (Figure 6.8) against the depth of the core.

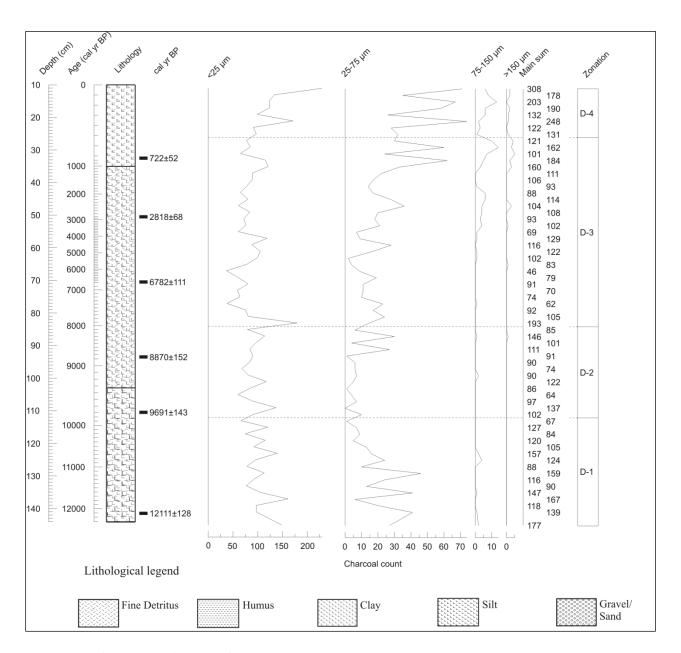


Figure 6.8 Charcoal diagram for Dartmoor Vlei

#### Zone D1: 144-110 cm; ca.12,100 - 9690 cal yr BP

Charcoal fragments in Zone D1 are predominantly in the  $<25~\mu m$  size class. The highest charcoal counts (161 fragments) in this zone are at ca. 11,800 cal yr BP for the  $<25~\mu m$  size class, whilst the lowest count in this size class is at ca. 9850 cal yr BP (66 fragments). Charcoal fragments in the 25-75  $\mu m$  size class peaks at ca. 11,100 cal yr BP (41 fragments), ca. 11,600 cal yr BP (41 fragments) and ca. 12,000 cal yr BP (46 fragments). Although there are no charcoal fragments in the  $>150~\mu m$  size class, fragments in the 75-150  $\mu m$  size class peaks at ca. 10,800 cal yr BP (four fragments).

# Zone D2: 110 - 83 cm; 9690 - 7970 cal yr BP

Charcoal fragments in the  $<25 \mu m$  size class do not differ significantly in numbers from those of zone D1, and are still the dominant size class in this zone. There is a lower count in the 26-75  $\mu m$  size class at the base of the zone; however it increases towards the top of the zone, peaking at ca. 8600 cal yr BP and ca. 8250 cal yr BP with 30 and 27 fragments respectively. Charcoal counts for the 75-150  $\mu m$  and  $>150 \mu m$  size classes remain negligible.

#### Zone D3: 83 - 25 cm; 7970 - 550 cal yr BP

Fragments in the  $<25~\mu m$  size class remain relatively consistent yet again, however there is a relative increase in the number of fragments in the 26-75  $\mu m$  size class, notably at 720 cal yr BP and 630 cal yr BP. There is also a distinct increase in the counts of the 75-150  $\mu m$  and  $>150~\mu m$  size classes at the same period, which indicated very few fragments at the base of the zone. The lowest total count for the core is observed at ca. 6000 cal yr BP, where the total count is at 46 fragments.

# Zone D4: 25 - 0 cm; 550 - present cal yr BP

In Zone D4, charcoal counts at the top of the zone (modern dates) are at its highest (total count 308 fragments). There is a marked increase in charcoal fragments in the >25  $\mu$ m and 75-150  $\mu$ m size classes from the base of the zone to the top of the zone. Charcoal counts in the 26-75  $\mu$ m size class are higher than those of previous zones, peaking at 74 fragments. Although fragments in the >150  $\mu$ m size class are lower than those at the top of the previous zone, they are present in low numbers.

#### CHAPTER SEVEN

#### INTERPRETATION

# 7.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides an interpretation of the palaeo-environmental conditions experienced at Dartmoor Vlei, Mt. Gilboa. The discussion is based on the four zones determined from the regional pollen records, and will be described and discussed based on ecological information composed for each pollen taxa (Appendix O). The interpretation will incorporate previous palaeo-environmental research conducted in the eastern region of South Africa (Chapter 2) and primary similarities and differences in trends are discussed. The dynamics of the grassland/forest relationship will be examined and interpreted based on the results of the various proxies used in this research.

#### 7.2 PALAEO-ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES AT DARTMOOR VLEI

#### 7.2.1 Zone D1: 144-110 cm; ca. 12,100 - 9690 cal yr BP, Early Holocene

Zone D1 denotes an environment at Dartmoor Vlei which is evidently different from the rest of the record, and from the present day environment. Asteraceae, Ericaceae and Boraginaceae frequencies are high, decreasing towards the top of the core, whereas Brassicaceae frequencies increase significantly. Ericaceae, found in cool montane and subalpine grassland and alpine heath, is found in highest concentration at 12,000 - 10,000 cal yr BP, and frequency of Anacardiaceae at approximately the same period is an indication of montane and subalpine grassland. Both Ericaceae and Anacardiaceae (predominately *Rhus*) are present in the contemporary vegetation communities at Dartmoor Vlei (*pers. obs.*), and in comparing Zone D1 frequencies to that of Zone D4, it is evident that Ericaceae and Anacardiaceae must have occurred abundantly at Dartmoor Vlei between *ca.* 12,100 – 9700 cal yr BP, possibly indicating heath dominated vegetation.

At Wonderkrater, warmer conditions are experienced at *ca.* 15,500 cal yr BP (13,000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP), becoming slightly cooler at *ca.* 14,900 cal yr BP (12,700 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP; Scott *et al.*, 2003), although cool moist conditions are indicated at Mfabeni at the same period (Finch and Hill, 2008). Asteraceae briefly declines at Dartmoor Vlei at 12,100 cal yr BP, however the

majority of the zone indicates high frequencies of this taxon, signalling the presence of a grassland vegetation. This is in agreement with Scott (1982b; 1987 and 1990), who suggests the early Holocene was characterised by warmer, dry conditions.

*Podocarpus*, an arboreal taxon, remains consistently high in this zone, although concentrations are relatively high. *Podocarpus* are found in montane and subalpine forests, favouring moist conditions. Brassicaceae and *Celtis* concentrations show a marked decline at this time, both occur in alpine forests and are associated with cool, moist conditions. There is an increase in *Cordia, Podocarpus, Celtis, Brassicaceae* and *Fabaceae* pollen at *ca.* 12,200 cal yr BP, in agreement with records by Grundling *et al.* (1998) who indicate an increase in hydromorphous forests at Mfabeni at *ca.* 13,300 cal yr BP (11,570 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP).

There is a single, brief spike in arboreal pollen at Dartmoor Vlei at *ca.* 11,500 cal yr BP, which coincides with evidence from Mfabeni, however consideration needs to be given to the geographic variability between coastal and inland sites. Generally, the record at Dartmoor Vlei indicates high concentrations of arboreal taxa between *ca.* 12,300 cal yr BP and 8870 cal yr BP, except for a brief but marked decrease at *ca.* 12,200 cal yr BP. Rietvlei indicates low arboreal pollen concentrations between 11,490 and 7730 cal yr BP (Scott and Vogel, 1983), which is not in agreement with results from Dartmoor Vlei. At Lake Eteza (coastal site) where arboreal pollen frequencies decrease at *ca.* 10,500 cal yr BP (Neumann *et al.*, 2010), which may be due to a decrease in forest area.

Liliaceae concentrations are lower at the early parts of the zone, but increase towards the later stages. Although this taxon does not produce large quantities of pollen and are insect pollinated, the concentrations of Liliaceae pollen are high throughout the record. This may be due to Liliaceae species being locally over-represented. There are no systematic changes in the concentration of Poaceae, however Cyperaceae frequencies decrease briefly at ca. 10,300 and ca. 12,000 cal yr BP, indicating slightly drier local conditions. Charcoal fragments increase at this time, suggesting fire frequencies and intensity were greater. A relative increase in  $\delta^{15}$ N indicates a shift from wetter to drier conditions locally (Terwilliger  $et\ al$ ., 2008; Leng  $et\ al$ ., 2006). Afromontane forest/arboreal taxa increase in this zone, and regional pollen signals are high. Although Scott  $et\ al$ . (2005) suggest considerable variation

in climatic conditions in South Africa between ca. 13,600 and 6000 cal yr BP (11,850 and 5400  $^{14}$ C yr BP), local conditions at Dartmoor Vlei do not indicate systematic changes between wet and dry periods in this zone, but rather a cool, locally dry environment. This is supported by geochemical results, which do not indicate significant shifts between wetter and drier conditions or from  $C_3$  to  $C_4$  vegetation locally (Terwilliger  $et\ al.$ , 2008).

#### 7.2.2 Zone D2: 110 - 83 cm; 9690 - 7970 cal yr BP, Mid-Holocene

There is a slight decrease in Ericaceae frequencies in this zone, which can be attributed to warmer conditions, however the frequency of Ericaceae is still high. Although Asteraceae frequencies do not increase significantly, this taxon is abundant in the record at ca. 9500 cal yr BP, a similar result indicated by Scott and Vogel (1978) at Wonderkrater. Scott et al. (1995) suggest a period of noticeable warming at Winterberg and Wonderkrater (Scott, 1982c) at ca. 10,000 cal yr BP. Anacardiaceae frequencies are very low at ca. 9600 cal yr BP, increasing significantly to ca. 8000 cal yr BP, an indication that montane and subalpine grasslands are increasing at this time. This is corroborated by Cyperaceae frequencies which begin to decline at the same time, although beginning to increase again at ca. 8300 cal yr BP. There is a brief increase in Protea between 8500 and 8900 cal yr BP, an indication of montane and sub-alpine grassland and montane forests in the region of Dartmoor Vlei, supported by a general increase in Poaceae at approximately the same time. Similar increases in Poaceae are recorded at Wonderkrater for the same period.  $\delta$ <sup>13</sup>C values indicate a local shift towards more  $C_3$  and  $C_4$  dominated vegetation in Zone D2, whilst  $\delta$ <sup>15</sup>N values and C:N ratios indicate a shift towards locally wetter conditions (Terwilliger et al., 2008).

Podocarpus frequencies do not show marked changes, except for a brief decrease at 9600 and 9400 cal yr BP. Celtis and Brassicaceae frequencies begin to increase in Zone D2. Celtis may be associated with high rainfall regions (Scott, 1982a) and Brassicaceae is commonly found on damp grassy scree slopes of the alpine belt (Court-Picon et al., 2005), however both species are adapted to dry conditions (Scott, 1982a; Court-Picon et al., 2005). Generally, Afromontane forest/ arboreal pollen signals decrease marginally between 9600 and 7900 cal yr BP, with local pollen signals strengthening towards the early stages of the zone. This may be in accordance with record from Tswaing by Partridge et al. (1993), and from Winterberg

by Meadows and Meadows (1988) who indicate dry, moderately warm conditions at *ca*. 8800 cal yr BP (8000 yr BP), followed by wetter conditions at *ca*. 7700 cal yr BP (7000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP).

# 7.2.3 Zone D3: 83 - 25 cm; 7970 - 550 cal yr BP, Late Holocene

Significant environmental change has occurred at Dartmoor Vlei since the mid-Holocene. *Protea* frequencies increase between *ca.* 7500 and *ca.* 3650 cal yr BP, possibly due to the generally wetter conditions experienced during the Holocene Altithermal, between *ca.* 8800 and 4400 cal yr BP (8000 and 4000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP). Locally, a shift towards moister conditions is evident from the geochemical data, indicating very wet conditions (Terwilliger *et al.*, 2008) at *ca.* 8000 cal yr BP. There is a marked decrease in charcoal counts during this period, indicating a decrease in fire frequency and intensity. Again, this may be attributed to the wetter conditions experienced during the time of the Holocene Altithermal.

At Lake Eteza, Neumann *et al.* (2010) indicate an increase in Poaceae frequencies between ca. 8000 and 7000 cal yr BP, followed by a decrease at ca. 6800 cal yr BP. Although Dartmoor Vlei does not indicate a marked increase in Poaceae frequencies for this time period, Poaceae frequencies are high. A similar decease in Poaceae frequencies is recorded at Dartmoor Vlei between ca. 7200 and 6600 cal yr BP. Mfabeni records indicate local drying at about 6800 cal yr BP (6000  $^{14}$ C yr BP; Finch and Hill, 2008), although there is no real indication of similar dry conditions in the pollen record at Dartmoor Vlei, or in the records from Cathedral Peak (Lodder, 2010) and Wonderkrater (Scott, 1982c) where moister conditions are recorded at 6200 cal yr BP and ca. 6800 cal yr BP (6000  $^{14}$ C yr BP) respectively. However, the  $\delta^{13}$ C and  $\delta^{15}$ N results indicate a brief, short period of local drying (Terwilliger et al., 2008) at ca. 6000 cal yr BP, and a slight shift towards  $C_3$  and  $C_4$  vegetation.

Asteraceae frequencies decrease marginally between 4000 and 1000 cal yr BP, reaching its lowest number between *ca.* 2200 and 1100 cal yr BP, however increases again slightly after 1000 cal yr BP. Although Asteraceae is an indicator of grassland conditions, there are no other clear indications of shifts to grassland conditions.

There are no significant changes in Anacardiaceae frequencies, although a relative increase in frequencies can be noted at *ca.* 1900 and *ca.* 700 cal yr BP, indicating possible shift towards montane and subalpine grassland conditions. Brassicaceae show a generally increasing trend in frequency between 8700 and 600 cal yr BP, which may be an indication of moist conditions in the alpine belt. There are no systematic changes in Poaceae and Cyperaceae frequencies; however a relative increase in Poaceae frequency at *ca.* 5100 cal yr BP and a corresponding decrease in Cyperaceae, may be indicative of drier grassland conditions. An increase in Cyperaceae at *ca.* 2700 cal yr BP is mirrored by a decrease in Poaceae frequencies, indicating locally wetter conditions, although geochemical data indicates a general trend towards drier conditions through the record towards the present, and charcoal fragments begin to increase during this period, indicating an increase in fire frequency and intensity.

Although concentrations are high throughout the record, *Podocarpus* reaches a maximum between 2500 and 400 cal yr BP. At 5800 cal yr BP, Podocarpus frequencies are very low. Other arboreal taxa such as Brassicaceae, Anacardiaceae and Celtis, which were relatively abundant after 8000 cal yr BP, show a similar decline at this time, possibly due to a decrease in forest cover. This may be due to environmental conditions becoming drier, as Ericaceae frequencies, favouring drier conditions, momentarily increase at this time. At Mfabeni, Finch and Hill (2008) record a sharp decrease in arboreal pollen after ca. 6800 cal yr BP (6000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP), although the record from Dartmoor Vlei does not coincide with this. The record does not indicate a lesser extent of forest abundance, which appears to be relatively stable throughout. Celtis, favouring high rainfall regions (Scott, 1982a), is significantly higher between 5200 and 2600 cal yr BP, and Euclea is found in montane and subalpine grasslands (Killick, 1963) occurring at higher frequencies during the same period for the first time in the record. This may be associated with the increase in *Podocarpus* concentrations at Cathedral Peak at 3960 cal yr BP, indicating moist conditions (Lodder, 2010). However, records from Mfabeni (Finch and Hill, 2008), Nhlangu (Mazus, 1996) and Lake Eteza (Scott and Steenkamp, 1996) indicate forest retreat in approximately the same period. Again, this may be associated with the location of these sites and the influence of coastal conditions, as moist cool conditions prevail after ca. 1900 cal yr BP (2000 <sup>14</sup>C yr BP) at Mfabeni. Zea mays is present for the first time in the record between ca. 1600 and ca. 650 cal yr BP, and as a cultivated exotic species it is a strong indicator of anthropogenic impacts in the region. The frequency of pollen from this taxon is low, and due to the distance at which Z. mays is dispersed, it could be an indication of human activity within a greater KwaZulu-Natal Midlands region (rather than locally), as Iron age settlers are first recorded in the Karkloof region at ca. 1300 cal yr BP (Mazel, 1989). The increase in Z. mays prior to this date may be attributed to Iron Age farming activities in the eastern parts of South Africa which began at ca. 1600 BP (Neumann et al., 2010).

The existence of *Z. mays* at *ca.* 1600 cal yr BP is a major finding in the pollen record at Dartmoor Vlei, and may warrant a further division of zones at this point due to the significance of this taxon and association with human activities in the region. The occurrence of *Z. mays* coincides with a decline in some arboreal pollen taxa such as *Podocarpus*, *Celtis* and *Olea*, and an increase in fire frequency and intensity, which could be as a result of anthropogenic impacts.

# 7.2.4 Zone D4: 25 - 0 cm; 550 cal yr BP - present

A decrease in *Ericaceae* suggests that conditions become marginally wetter from *ca.* 1600 cal yr BP to the present. A decrease in *Celtis* and *Protea*, is observed from *ca.* 600 cal yr BP to the present, however overall, there is no systematic decrease in forest abundance in the region, as Brassicaceae and Anacardiaceae frequencies remain high. Although previously present in the record, Thymeliaceae frequencies increases notably from *ca.* 550 cal yr BP, indicating a shift towards grassland conditions, and *Leucocidea sericea*, occurring in montane and sub-alpine grasslands (Killick 1963), is present for the first time in the record at *ca.* 400 cal yr BP. As a pioneer species, *L. sericea* may become invasive where overgrazing occurs or erosion is taking place (Pooley, 2005), and possibly appears at this time due to farming activities in the region.

Z. mays is evident at 530 cal yr BP, and is attributed to human activity within the region. Cereal-type Poaceae is first recorded at Cathedral Peak at ca. 890 cal yr BP, and it is therefore likely that Z. mays in the pollen record from Dartmoor Vlei is an indication of human presence in the region, along with other indications of anthropogenic impacts such as

the occurrence of *Pinus* and increase in *L. sericea*. *Z. mays* is not observed in the record beyond 530 cal yr BP, which may be attributed to poor pollen preservation, or simply discontinued cultivation of *Z. mays* in the region. Charcoal fragments increase significantly at the same time, an indication of more frequent and intense fire regimes, again attributed to human activity. This may be an indication that farming activities shifted from crop cultivation (*Z. mays* in particular) towards livestock which required more intensive veld management and therefore an increase in burning. The record does not contain any further cereal-type Poaceae from 530 cal yr BP to the present, and may be attributed to change in land-use in the area, or mis-identification of other cereal-type Poaceae.

Mimosoideae Type II occurs singly at ca. 240 cal yr BP. A possible parent taxon is Acacia mearnsii, introduced into South Africa approximately 150 years ago, therefore it could be argued that the single pollen grain was incorrectly identified or originated from another Acacia species, or due to the error margin in radiocarbon dating, as the pollen record and historical data are inconsistent. Podocarpus frequencies decrease notably from 400 cal yr BP, whilst Pinus increases systematically from ca. 450 cal yr BP towards the top of the zone. This may be attributed to the error margin of the radiocarbon dating of the record, as Pinus did not occur in the region at this time, and these discrepancies preclude the usefulness of this taxon as a time stratigraphic marker horizon. Although vigilance was taken to ensure the correct identification of Podocarpus and Pinus, it is plausible that pollen grains were incorrectly identified, however it is most possibly due to the error margin in the dating of the core, particularly at the top of the core.

Asteraceae frequencies are still high between ca. 550 cal yr BP and the present, indicating grassland conditions, and Liliaceae decreases at this time, indicating slightly drier conditions locally. This is in agreement with records from Cathedral Peak. Poaceae and Cyperaceae frequencies do not differ significantly from ca. 550 cal yr BP to the present, although there is a slight increase in the proportion of Afromontane Forest taxa.  $\delta^{13}$ C records indicate a slight shift towards  $C_4$  dominated vegetation locally in the last 750 years.

#### **CHAPTER EIGHT**

#### **CONCLUSION**

#### **8.1 INTRODUCTION**

The aim of this research was to investigate Holocene palaeo-environmental change in the Midlands Mistbelt grasslands and forests of the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands through the application of a multi-proxy approach (*viz.* fossil pollen, charcoal, carbon and nitrogen isotope analyses). As a conclusion, this chapter will review the objectives originally set out at the outset of the research.

#### 8.2 REVIEW OF AIM AND OBJECTIVES

# To survey, map and develop an inventory of the modern vegetation of the wetland and immediate surrounds

A vegetation survey was conducted at Dartmoor Vlei where 58 1 x 1m quadrats were sampled using the Braun-Blanquet classification system, and an excess of 140 species were recorded and identified where possible. Plots were within the perimeter of the wetland, and on the north-west and south-east facing slopes adjacent to the wetland. An inventory of the vegetation at Dartmoor Vlei was created, and substantiated by the SANBI species list for the quarter degrees adjacent to the study site.

# To develop a local modern pollen reference collection, as an aid to fossil pollen identification

A series of digital microphotographs were taken from approximately 60 pollen reference slides created from known vegetation samples collected at Dartmoor Vlei. Reference material was verified and supported by existing reference material from the Geography Department (UKZN), and the African Pollen Database.

# To identify suitable coring locations and extract a series of minimally disturbed sediment cores from the wetland

Two locations were identified for core extraction at Dartmoor Vlei based on sediment depth established through the use of rods inserted into the wetland sediment, and through reference to sediment depths as recorded by Edwards (2009). Two cores, DA1 (350 cm) and DA2 (240 cm), were extracted using a Russian peat corer, and on completion of Troel-Smith stratigraphic analysis of both cores, core DA2 was chosen for further analysis.

# To select samples from basal and intermediate sections of a selected core for AMS radiocarbon analysis to establish chronological control for the core; and create an age-depth model

Six samples were chosen for AMS radiocarbon analysis to establish chronological control for the sediment core. Two initial samples were chosen based on changes in the lithology of the core, a further three based on changed observed in the geochemical results of the core and a final sample was chosen to fill a gap in the chronology of the core. A linear age-depth model was created for the 12,000 year old record, and no age reversals were observed.

# To identify and quantify fossil pollen along the length of the core to detect local and regional vegetation changes

Sediment core DA2 was subsampled at 2 cm intervals and pollen extracted through the use of a gravitational separation technique. A minimum of 500 pollen grains were counted for each subsample (total of 68 subsamples), identified through the use of antecedent reference material. Local and regional taxa were differentiated, and grassland and forest taxa identified to distinguish between these biomes.

# To conduct geochemical (C and N isotope) analyses along the length of the core to detect changes in the relative proportion of C3 and C4, and aquatic and land plants inhabiting the wetland site.

Geochemical analysis was carried out on eighty-nine samples from the top 190 cm of core DA2, at a resolution of 2 cm, which indicated shifts from aquatic, to C<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>4</sub> land plants.

#### To reconstruct past Holocene environmental history of the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands

An understanding of palaeo-environmental changes which occurred at Dartmoor Vlei during the Holocene was derived through the use of various proxies (viz. fossil pollen, charcoal, carbon and nitrogen isotope analyses). The Dartmoor Vlei record indicates an apparently different environment during the early Holocene, where heath vegetation dominated the landscape, and arboreal pollen concentrations were high. Conditions become moister at between ca. 5200 and 2600 cal yr BP, as arboreal taxa frequencies increase. Anthropogenic influence was detected through the presence of Zea mays for the first time in the record at 1600 cal yr BP., and the impact of humans as a result of burning practices was observed through the charcoal record. Between 1600 cal yr BP and the present, the impact of human activities are evident from an increase in fire frequency and intensity, introduction of the exotic pollen taxon Pinus, and a possible escalation in grazing pressure indicated by an increase in Leucosidea sericea frequencies. Throughout the record, there is a constant reminder of the patch mosaic relationship between grassland and indigenous forests at Mt Gilboa. The results from Dartmoor Vlei were compared to other research from the summer rainfall region of South Africa, presenting similarities and differences in findings from various sites in the country.

#### 8.3 SYNTHESIS

Environmental conditions at Dartmoor Vlei from *ca.* 12,000 to 9700 cal yr BP are distinctly unique from the rest of the core. The regional pollen signal indicates the presence of grassland and heath vegetation, in agreement other cores from the early Holocene characterised by drier conditions. High concentrations of Ericaceae and Anacardiaceae between *ca.* 12,000 and at 10,000 cal yr BP, and high Poaceae and low Cyperaceae concentrations support the deduction that the environment at Dartmoor Vlei was drier locally. Arboreal pollen taxa associated with montane and subalpine forests, are found in high concentrations between *ca.* 12,300 and 9000 cal yr BP, however a brief, marked decrease is recorded at 12,200 cal yr BP. Geochemical data between *ca.* 10,300 and 12,000 cal yr BP indicate drier conditions locally. High concentrations of Poaceae and a brief increase in *Protea* between 8900 and 8500 cal yr BP, suggest that conditions supporting montane and sub-alpine grassland and montane forests remain in the region of Dartmoor Vlei. Locally, conditions become moister after *ca.* 8300 cal yr BP.

Table 8.1 Summary of key environmental changes which occurred at Dartmoor Vlei

Time period	Inferred environmental change
ca. 12,000 to 9700 cal yr BP	Inferred vegetation is distinct from the remainder of the core, regional pollen signal indicates the presence of grassland and heath, possibly representing drier conditions (supported locally by geochemical data).
8900 to 8500 cal yr BP	Increase in taxa associated with montane and sub-alpine grassland and montane forests
ca. 8000 cal yr BP	Transition towards locally wetter conditions, coincident with the Holocene Altithermal
ca. 6000 to 5100 cal yr BP	Vegetation characterised by locally drier grassland with a decrease in arboreal taxa recorded. Supported by geochemical data indicating a brief period of local drying.
ca. 5200 to 2600 cal yr BP	Locally wetter conditions
ca. 2000 to 1500 cal yr BP	The neophyte <i>Zea mays</i> is present for the first time in the record, evidence of human presence in the region. There is also a decrease in arboreal taxa, possibly attributed to human presence.
ca. 1600 cal yr BP	Local conditions at Dartmoor Vlei become marginally wetter.
After <i>ca.</i> 550 cal yr BP	Leucocidea sericea is present for the first time in the record, which may be associated with farming activities in the region.
After 400 cal yr BP	<i>Podocarpus</i> frequencies notably decrease, whilst exotic <i>Pinus</i> increases significantly from <i>ca.</i> 450 cal yr BP to the present.

The mid-Holocene marks a period where significant changes begin to occur. Locally wetter conditions are evident from geochemical data at *ca.* 8000 cal yr BP, associated with the Holocene Altithermal (Chase and Meadows, 2007), and a marked decrease in charcoal counts indicate a decrease in fire frequencies and intensity. A decrease in Poaceae frequencies is recorded between *ca.* 7200 and 6600 cal yr BP, and geochemical data indicates a brief period of drying at *ca.* 6000 cal yr BP. An increase in Poaceae frequency at *ca.* 5100 cal yr BP and a corresponding decrease in Cyperaceae, may be indicative of locally drier grassland conditions, followed by an increase in Cyperaceae at *ca.* 2700 cal yr BP and a decrease in Poaceae frequencies, a possible indication of locally wetter conditions. A short period of drier conditions is experienced at *ca.* 5800 cal yr BP, as Ericaceae frequencies briefly increase and arboreal taxa such as *Podocarpus*, Brassicaceae, Anacardiaceae and *Celtis* decrease. Between *ca.* 5200 and 2600 cal yr BP, *Celtis* and *Euclea* frequencies increase, an indication of conditions becoming moister.

Archaeological evidence suggests that Iron Age settlers first inhabited KwaZulu-Natal approximately 2000 – 1500 years ago (Mazel, 1989), and the palaeo-data derived from Dartmoor Vlei strongly agrees with such findings. After 1600 cal yr BP *Zea mays* is present for the first time in the record, and is a major occurrence in the pollen record at Dartmoor Vlei. *Z. mays* is the first cultivated exotic taxon which appears in the record, a clear indication of farming activity in the region (Scott and Nyakale, 2002). The decline of arboreal pollen taxa such as *Podocarpus*, *Celtis* and *Olea* during the same period, and a marked increase in fire frequency and intensity may be attributed to anthropogenic impacts such as forest clearance for fuel and a source of building material, and burning of vegetation to encourage green growth (Moll, 1976).

From *ca.* 1600 cal yr BP to the present, local conditions at Dartmoor Vlei become marginally wetter. A shift towards grassland conditions from *ca.* 550 cal yr BP is indicated by an increase in Thymeliaceae (Scott, 1982a) and *Leucocidea sericea* is present for the first time in the record, which may be associated with farming activities in the region (Pooley, 2005). *Z. mays* is recorded at 530 cal yr BP attributed to human presence in the region (Scott and Nyakale, 2002). Other indicators of anthropogenic impacts such as the occurrence of *Pinus* (an exotic taxon used in timber plantations) and increase in *L. sericea* (a possible indicator of grazing pressure) are recorded. The increase in charcoal fragments at the same time indicates more frequent and intense fire regimes, attributed to possible early veld management (Clark, 1982; Scott *et al.*, 2000). From 400 cal yr BP *Podocarpus* frequencies notably decrease, whilst exotic *Pinus* increases significantly from *ca.* 450 cal yr BP to the present.

The patch-mosaic relationship of montane and sub-alpine grassland and montane forests in the region of Dartmoor Vlei provides evidence of the mosaic pattern which exists in both the present and the historical landscape. The pollen record indicates slight shifts towards periods of forest expansion and retreat; however there are is evidence of the dynamic relationship between forest and grasslands throughout the Holocene. Although anthropogenic influences such as veld management through burning practices and crop cultivation impacted on this relationship in the recent past, the relationship between forest and grasslands at Mt Gilboa remains evident.

The palaeo-environmental changes which have occurred in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands region specifically are relatively unknown. Dartmoor Vlei provided a suitable site for such research to be conducted. There are many pressures on biodiversity in the Midlands Mistbelt Grasslands and the Karkloof forest, and the impact of land transformation calls for urgent attention to be given to conservation efforts, especially as more of South Africa's landscapes become threatened. Ecosystems are being exposed to change on an extraordinary scale, and caution needs to be taken before irreversible degradation and extinctions occur (Armstrong et al., 1998). Relative to their size, the forest and grassland biomes are home to the largest proportions of threatened plants, and compared to all other grassland types, the Mistbelt grassland contains the largest proportion of threatened plants (Scott-Shaw, 1999). The need for understanding environmental change in a region such as Mt Gilboa where a patch-mosaic of grasslands and indigenous forests exist, is therefore warranted and justified. This research has contributed to the literature and knowledge of Holocene environmental changes in KwaZulu-Natal by providing historical insight into past environmental conditions and human activity in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands. Continued research will further enhance the current understanding of environmental changes in the area, clarify the historical patch-mosaic relationship between grasslands and forests, and so assist in conservation efforts of these biomes in need of preservation.

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### APPENDIX A

### **Preparation Procedure for Reference Material**

Source: Finch (2005) revised from Hill (1992) and Baxter (1996)

**Note:** Centrifuge at 4000 rpm for 3 minutes, unless otherwise specified.

Use 100ml sealable, polypropylene tubes in a swing-out centrifuge.

## A. Chemical Pre-processing

- 1. Place specimen in a 100 ml polypropylene tube
- 2. Add 20 ml 10% NaOH to the tuba and stir
- 3. Heat in a water bath (50-60°C) for 5 minutes, stirring often
- 4. Strain and wash through a clean 200 μm mesh sieve. Lightly crush the material on the screen and wash through with distilled water
- 5. Centrifuge and decant
- 6. Transfer content to a 10 ml centrifuge tube using glacial acetic acid
- 7. Stir, centrifuge and decant
- 8. Add 20 ml acetolysis mixture (comprising 9 parts acetic anhydride: 1 part sulphuric acid). Place in a heated water bath (50-60°C) for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally
- 9. Remove from water bath and place within cold water for a few seconds (this stops the reaction)
- 10. Stir, centrifuge and decant
- 11. Wash 3-5 times with distilled water, adding 1-3 drops of aqueous safranine stain into the final wash
- 12. Wash in a mild solution of phenol to prevent bacteriological and fungal spoilage
- 13. Invert the tubes onto blotting paper and allow them to drain

## **B.** Mounting Slides

- 1. Clean and label the microscope slides (3 replicates for each specimen)
- 2. Cut tiny blocks of glycerine jelly (preferentially a brand which is phenol impregnated) and using a dissecting needle, puck up pollen grains/spores from the blotting paper. Wipe the glycerine around the inside of the centrifuge tube to pick up the pollen residue
- 3. Place glycerine jelly on the centre of the slide and pass over a heating plate to melt the jelly. Caution: do not allow the jelly to boil as the texture of the jelly and the structure of the pollen will be damages (heating plate must be approx. 40-45°C)
- 4. Carefully lower a coverslip over the jelly using a dissecting needle. While allowing the jelly to cool and set, invert the slide so that the pollen grains, suspended in the glycerine jelly, settle on the inside of the cover slip. This ensures that all the grains are in the same focal plane and makes for easier microscopy
- 5. Once the jelly has set, scrape off any excess that may have extruded from the coverslip
- 6. Paint a few coats of clear nail varnish around the edge of the coverslip to act as a sealant

## APPENDIX B

Characteristics of the modified Troels-Smith system of sediment description with original terms in bracets (Kershaw, 1997: 65).

Physical Features	Varios from 0 in the lightest ecourring shades (as sleer (Aliares) sweets and
Degree of darkness	Varies from 0 in the lightest occurring shades (eg. clear (Nigror) quartz sand and lake marl), through 1 (eg. calcareous clay), 2 (eg.fresh swamp peat), 3 (eg. partly humified peat) to 4 in the darkest sediments (eg. completely disintegrated peat).
Degree of stratification	Visual or structural horizontal banding or layering. Varies (Stratification) from 0 where the deposit is completely homogeneous or breaks in all directions, to 4 which consists of clear thin layers or bands.
Degree of elasticity	The sediment's ability to regain its shape after being (Elasticitas) squeezed or bent. Varies from 0 in plastic clay, sand, disintegrated peat etc. to 4 in fresh peat.
Degree of dryness	Deposits fall between 0 (clear water) and 4 (air dry material). (Siccitas)1 indicates very wet runny sediment such as surface lake muds, 2 represents saturated sediments, the normal condition below the water table, while sicc. 3 indicates moist, unsaturated sediments.
Colour	Best determined by reference to Munsell soil colour charts. Changes in colour with exposure to air should be noted.
Structure	The dominant structural feature (eg. fibrous, homogeneous)
Sharpness of boundary	The boundary can be diffuse (> 1cm: lim. 0), very gradual (Limes superior)(<1cm to > 2mm: lim. 1), gradual (< 2mm to >1mm: lim. 2), sharp (<1mm to > 0.5mm) or very sharp (< 0.5mm).
measured by determinatio 0 (fresh peat yielding clear (decomposed pe mass) and 4 (totally decon	gree of humification or disintegration of organic (Humicitas) substances. It is nof the nature and amount of material passing through the fingers on squeezing; water), 1 (slightly decomposed peat yielding dark coloured, turbid water), 2 at yielding half its mass), 3 (very decomposed peat yielding three-quarters of its aposed peat yielding almost all its mass).
Components	
Mosses (Turfa bryophytica)	Sphagnum is the most common peat-former.
Woody plants (Turfa lignosa)	Roots of trees and shrubs together with attached stumps and branches, frequently in growth position.
Herbs (Turfa herbacea)	Roots of herbaceous plants together with attached stems and leaves, frequently in growth position.
Woody detritus (Detritus lignosus)	Fragments of woody plants >2mm.
Herb detritus (Detritus herbosus)	Fragments of herbaceous plants >2mm.
Fine detritus (Detritus granosus)	Fragments of woody or herbaceous plants <2mm.
Charcoal	Carbonised fragments of predominantly woody plants.
Organic lake mud	Homogeneous organic lake sediment composed of remains ( <i>Limus detrituosus</i> , of microplankton and humified remains of macrophytes.
Humus (Substantia humosa)	Completely disintegrated organic substances and precipitated humic acids.
Organosilicates (Limus siliceous)	Siliceous skeletons or skeleton fragments of diatoms, sponges etc.
Carbonates (Limus calcareus)	Calcium carbonate or marl. Similar in colour and texture to <i>L. siliceous</i> but soluble in hydrochloric acid.
Iron oxides (Limus ferrugineus)	Iron oxides of various types and colours.
Clay (Argilla steatodes)	Mineral particles <0.002mm
Silt (Argilla granosa)	Mineral particles 0.002-0.06mm
Sand (Grana minora)	Mineral particles 0.06 - 2mm.
Gravel (Grana majora)	Mineral particles >2mm.

### APPENDIX C

### **Procedure for Subsampling**

Adapted from Finch (2005), revised from Faegri and Iverson (1989)

- 1. Use a clean, sharp scalpel to clean the entire surface of the core. Cut away superficial material using cleaning movements, which are parallel to the strata so as not to contaminate between strata.
- 2. Determine sampling intervals by examining the stratigraphy, and considering the estimated depth of the core in relation to its length. For example, it is important to sample on either side of distinct chronological/stratigraphic boundaries. A sampling interval of 2 cm was used.
- 3. Samples should consist of approximately 2 cm<sup>3</sup> of sediment situated at a depth of 1 cm beneath the wall of the core. Samples can be cut out using a scalpel or spatula where there is no need to determine exact volumes. Subsampling sufficient material for pollen analysis and isotope analysis is recommended.
- 4. Store each sample within an airtight plastic storage bags.
- 5. Samples for C<sup>14</sup> dating need to represent the shortest possible period, i.e. should consist of a short slice across the whole core. These samples should consist of approximately 50 g of peat and should be stored in airtight plastic storage bags and refrigerated.

## APPENDIX D

## **Troels-Smith Data Sheets for Sediment Core DA2**

Fi	eld Do	S	itra noc	tic	Tran	phy sect number:		S. E.	29 30 e nan	. 28 25 ne:_	57 559 DF	14													s.1. March 201	0
De	pth		-		P	hysical Featur	es		100	-		-		Co	ompo	nent	s (To	tal =	4)							
Upper	Lower		0	-4		·	Structure	Upper E	Mosses	Woody plants	Herbs	Woody	Herb detritus	Fine detritus	Charcoal	Organic	Humus	Organosilicates	Carbonates	Iron oxides	Clay	Silt	Sand	Gravel		Humicity
		Darkness	Stratification	Elasticity	Dryness	Colour (Munsell)	rō	Upper Boundary	0,	olants		Woody detritus	, or		=	Organic lake mud		silicates	ites	des					Comments	
			on						Tb	=	Th	ㅁ	Dh	Dg			Sh	Lso	Lc	댝	As	Ag	Gg	Gg		
0	4		_			Air -																				
4	19	3	0		3	d.brown	Fibrous	_																	fibre more organic	
	35	3	0		0.00	d brown	677.00	gr																		
0.00	48	3			3	dbrown	825	gr		1027		100											100		slightly jess fibre.	
48		3	0			d.brown		-																	becoming less	
	144		0		_	d-brown	_	-																	becoming slight ess fibrous	9
1	148		0		3	char	Homogenous	-																		
10000	168	1	0		3	linkt		sh																		
168		i	0		2	light	Hamogenous	ar																		
1	192		0		3	light	Homogenous	kh.																		
	240		0		3	light	Homogenous	-	Г					7.							Г					
110	290				V	turquesc	Tiomogeno a									1000										
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Lab	Stratigraphy
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	0 0

5.29.28571 E 30 25594

Elevation - 1563m. 9.5.1

Site: Dartmor Transect number: Core name: DA 2

Dist. from site edge: Date: 6 March 2010

De	pth		300 0		P	hysical Feature	es							C	omp	onen	ts (To	tal =	4)								
Upper	Lower		0	-4		Colour	Structure	Upper	Mosses	Woody plants	Herbs	Woody	Herb detritus	Fine detritus	Charcoal	Organio	Humus	Organo	Carbonates	Iron oxides	Clay	Silt	Sand	Gravel		Humicity	† ·
		Darkness	Stratification	Elasticity	Dryness	Colour (Munsell)	re	Upper Boundary	s Tb	plants TI	Th	Woody detritus DI		tritus Dg	al	Organic lake mud	Sh	Organosilicates Lso	ates Lc		As	Ag	Gg	Gg	Comments		No upper of
0	5									_													-		Air	-	1
5	19	3	0	2	2	very druk brown	Fibrous	-						2			+				2	+			Organic	1	
19	35	3	0	2	2	very dark brown Very dark brown		gr						2			+				2	+			Organic Fibre Slightly less Fibrous	١	
35	103	3	0	2	3	Dark	Fibrous	gr						l			+				2	1				1	
103	148	3	0	3	3	Choc	Fibrous	gr						-			Ī		5. 5.44			2			Very	2	
148	165	2	0	3	3	Olive	Hamaonis	or									+					1	1	2		2	Main breaks
165	ПS	2	0	2	Z	Dark Brown	Homogenous	qr qr									+				+	1	١	2		2	
	192	0	0	1	3	turquoise	Homogenous														3	i			Tiny shiny . black specks		sophrelite starts.
192	196	3	0	1	2	Dark	Homogenous	sh													+	1	l	Z		3	starrs.
196	240	!	0	1	2	Light	Homogenous	sh													3	i				***	
									$\vdash$	_			-		-	-											
										-			+		$\vdash$	_											
										T			T														

### APPENDIX E

### **Swirling Technique for Pollen and Charcoal Extraction**

### **Procedure:**

Laboratory preparation of sub-samples from sediment and/or peat extracted from pollen cores for pollen analysis using the gravitational separation 'swirling' technique:

### (a) Sub-sampling of pollen cores to extract peat and/or alluvial sediment

1. The pollen cores are taken from the cold room and placed on the bench top. The pollen cores have been stored wrapped in 'Clingfilm' and aluminium foil are unwrapped to expose the peat and/or sediment surface. A scalpel is used to cut 1cm<sup>3</sup> sub-samples along the length of the core (the standard sub-sampling strategy is to extract sub-samples at 8cm points to maximum depth). The 1cm<sup>3</sup> sub-samples are placed in labelled storage tubes/phials prior to processing. If the sub-samples cannot be processed following extraction from the core/s, they will be refrigerated until preparation can be undertaken.

# (b) Pollen extraction using KOH and Na<sub>4</sub>O<sub>7</sub>P<sub>2</sub>, followed by 'swirling' – gravitational separation

- The wet or moist sub-sample 1cm<sup>3</sup> is placed in a 50ml glass beaker. 40ml of 10% KOH is added, along with 5mg of Na<sub>4</sub>O<sub>7</sub>P<sub>2</sub> powder.
- 2. Place the labelled beakers in a heating block that is situated in a fume cupboard, and heat for 10 minutes. The solution will bubble gently.
- 3. Regulate the bubbling of the liquid by placing the beakers in a heating block. Monitor process to ensure that the beakers do not boil dry or reduce below the 20ml mark. If they should, top up the beakers with distilled H<sub>2</sub>O.

- 4. Record the colour of the liquid.
- 5. After 10 minutes remove the beakers from the heat tray. Pour the contents of each beaker through a 140μ sieve onto a Perspex 'swirling' dish and swirl very gently. Mains supply H<sub>2</sub>O is used to swill the sieve onto the swirling dish. The macro remains are examined and recorded. A water filter is used on the laboratory mains H<sub>2</sub>O supply, attached to the tap with rubber tubing, to reduce contamination by modern pollen and to provide H<sub>2</sub>O supply. A ring of sediment will form around the outer edge of the liquid contained within the 'swirling' dish and is indicative of gravitational separation. At this point, the 'swirling' dish is tipped gently allowing the liquid containing the sub-fossil pollen to be tipped onto a 6μ sieve, and the draining liquid can be poured directly down the sink drain run to waste. The 6μ sieve is topped up with filters main H<sub>2</sub>O and rinsed, with the waste liquid running down the sink drain. The 'swirling' dish is rinsed and put to one side.
- 6. The solution contained within the 6μ sieve is aggregated to break the surface tension, being tapped repeatedly to encourage the solution to pass through the sieve. The silts and clays pass through the sieve but particulates, including sub-fossil pollen remain. Add H<sub>2</sub>O to the 6μ sieve to float the particulates and pour onto the 'swirling dish'. Repeat this process a minimum of 3 times (peat may required a minimum of 4 washes).
- 7. On the final wash, when the liquid is in the 6μ sieve, using a disposable plastic pipette, flush the remaining solution through the sieve using the jettison effect of the pipette, but allow enough solution to remain in the base of the sieve to dilute 2 drops of Safranin O solution 1%. If the sub-sample should run dry, a small amount of H<sub>2</sub>O can be added from the filtered mains supply.
- 8. Decant the stained sub-sample into a labelled phial using the same disposable pipette. Secure phial to make sure that so solution will not leak. Dispose of pipette.

9. A preliminary test to ascertain if the extraction process has been successful can be made at this point, prior to the disposal of the pipette, by dropping 1 x droplet of the processed liquid onto a microscope slide. The solution can then be checked under a microscope to reveal sub-fossil pollen and associated particulates.

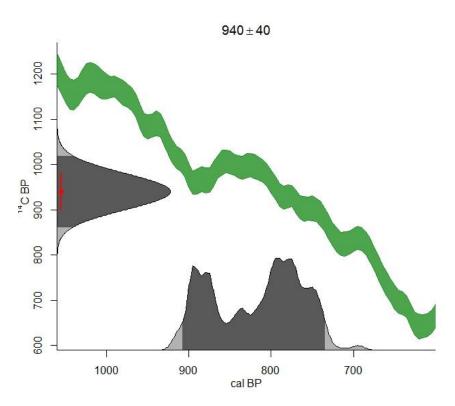
### (c) Mounting process

1. Allow phials containing the processed solution to stand in a refrigerator for twelve hours. Remove sub-samples from refrigerator and using a pipette remove the clear solution above the sediment. Add 2 – 4 droplets of Aquamount to the sediment and shake well. Leave the Aquamount solution for a further twelve hours in the refrigerator. Remove Aquamount solution from refrigerator and using a pipette drop 1 – 2 droplets of solution onto a microscope slide that has been previously labelled with the sub-sample details. If necessary spread the solution thinly across the microscope slide using a wooden cocktail stick. Place a microscope cover slip over the solution onto the slide and place in a refrigerator for twelve hours to settle and set.

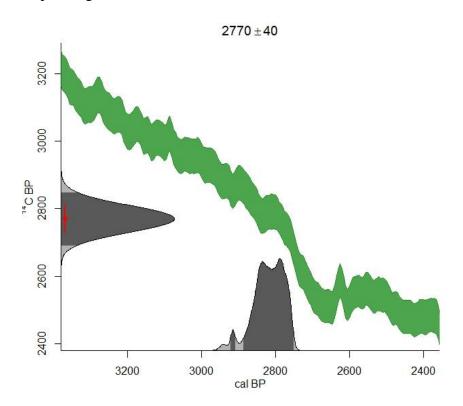
## APPENDIX F

## Calibrated ages of individual samples

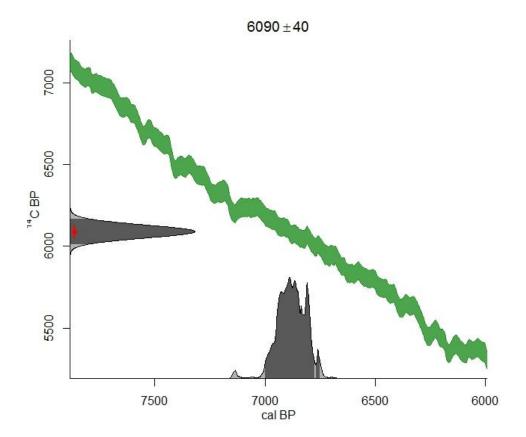
Depth range: 32 cm



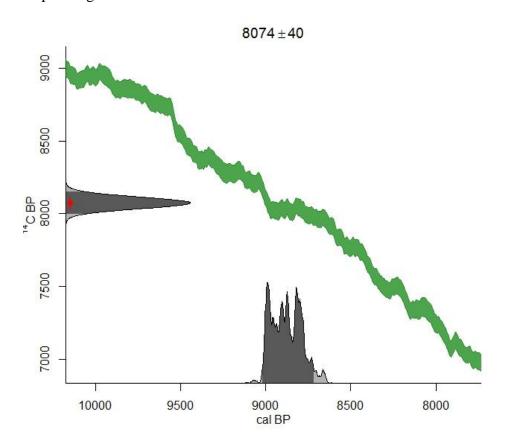
Depth range: 51 cm



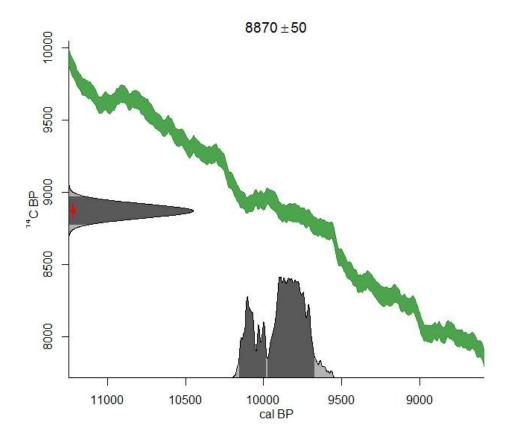
# Depth range: 70 cm



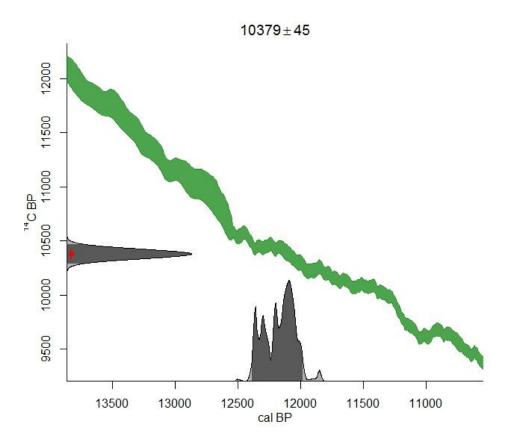
Depth range: 93 cm



# Depth range: 110 cm



Depth range: 141 cm



APPENDIX G
Interpolated Calibrated Ages

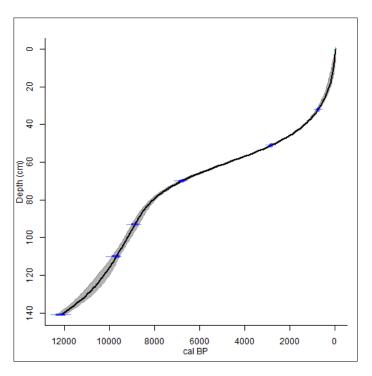
		Cal.				Cal.	
Depth	Cal. Min.	Max.	Best	Depth	Cal. Min.	Max.	Best
(cm)	date	date	Date	(cm)	date	date	Date
0	-59	-41	-50	40	1561	1664	1606
1	-35	-16	-26	41	1671	1776	1716
2	-11	9	-2	42	1781	1889	1826
3	13	34	22	43	1890	2000	1937
4	36	60	46	44	1999	2115	2047
5	59	85	71	45	2108	2229	2158
6	82	111	95	46	2217	2345	2268
7	106	136	119	47	2325	2460	2378
8	129	162	143	48	2433	2575	2489
9	151	188	167	49	2541	2690	2599
10	174	214	191	50	2648	2807	2709
11	197	241	216	51	2755	2922	2820
12	220	267	240	52	2968	3128	3029
13	243	292	264	53	3178	3332	3238
14	266	318	288	54	3387	3536	3447
15	289	344	312	55	3595	3742	3656
16	312	370	336	56	3804	3949	3865
17	334	397	361	57	4011	4156	4074
18	357	424	385	58	4218	4363	4283
19	379	450	409	59	4425	4571	4492
20	402	476	433	60	4631	4779	4701
21	425	502	457	61	4837	4991	4910
22	447	528	481	62	5043	5201	5119
23	470	554	505	63	5249	5413	5328
24	493	580	530	64	5454	5626	5538
25	515	606	554	65	5658	5840	5747
26	538	633	578	66	5863	6054	5956
27	560	659	602	67	6068	6270	6165
28	583	685	626	68	6271	6486	6374
29	606	712	650	69	6475	6701	6583
30	629	738	675	70	6678	6914	6792
31	651	764	699	71	6773	7001	6883
32	674	790	723	72	6867	7086	6974
33	786	899	833	73	6962	7170	7064
34	899	1005	944	74	7056	7257	7155
35	1010	1113	1054	75	7148	7342	7246
36	1120	1222	1164	76	7241	7432	7337
37	1231	1331	1275	77	7331	7523	7427
38	1341	1442	1385	78	7421	7614	7518
39	1452	1553	1495	79	7509	7705	7609

		Cal.				Cal.	
Depth	Cal. Min.	Max.	Best	Depth	Cal. Min.	Max.	Best
(cm)	date	date	Date	(cm)	date	date	Date
80	7600	7797	7700	111	9640	9964	9773
81	7688	7892	7791	112	9723	10039	9853
82	7772	7983	7881	113	9805	10113	9933
83	7859	8076	7972	114	9886	10191	10012
84	7945	8168	8063	115	9967	10270	10092
85	8028	8259	8154	116	10049	10345	10172
86	8109	8351	8245	117	10129	10423	10252
87	8192	8445	8335	118	10210	10500	10332
88	8274	8541	8426	119	10290	10580	10411
89	8354	8634	8517	120	10367	10659	10491
90	8436	8728	8608	121	10447	10737	10571
91	8521	8821	8699	122	10526	10818	10651
92	8600	8918	8789	123	10607	10897	10731
93	8682	9014	8880	124	10685	10976	10810
94	8744	9055	8928	125	10765	11054	10890
95	8804	9100	8976	126	10840	11134	10970
96	8867	9148	9024	127	10917	11213	11050
97	8924	9194	9071	128	10996	11293	11130
98	8981	9244	9119	129	11070	11373	11209
99	9037	9293	9167	130	11144	11452	11289
100	9090	9344	9215	131	11220	11535	11369
101	9144	9399	9263	132	11292	11616	11449
102	9197	9449	9311	133	11365	11700	11529
103	9249	9502	9358	134	11442	11783	11608
104	9297	9554	9406	135	11518	11869	11688
105	9344	9608	9454	136	11595	11955	11768
106	9389	9661	9502	137	11673	12041	11848
107	9432	9715	9550	138	11750	12125	11927
108	9476	9773	9598	139	11825	12210	12007
109	9516	9831	9645	140	11900	12297	12087
110	9556	9891	9693	141	11970	12384	12167

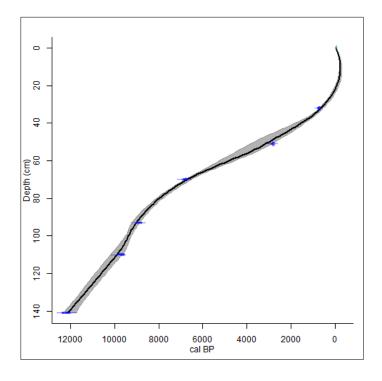
## APPENDIX H

# Age-depth models

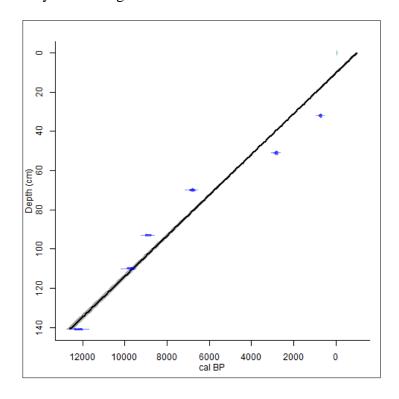
# Cubic spline



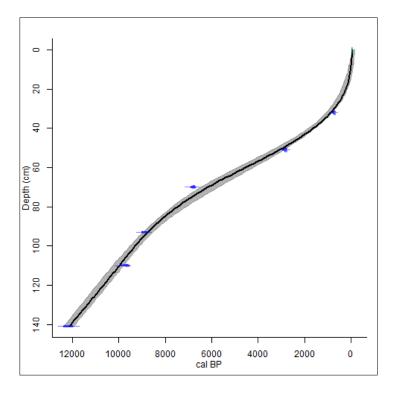
## Loess



# Polynomial Regression



# Smooth Spline



# Appendix I Vegetation Survey – Dartmoor Vlei

Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
1	95	Eriosema sp.	1
		Senecio isatidiodes	1
		Tristachya leucothrix	3
		Trachypogon spicatus	3
		Acalypha sp.	1
		Unidentified Forb E	1
		Sabeae natalensis	1
		Themeda triandra	1
		Poaceae B	2
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
2	95	Acalypha sp.	1
-	75	Eriosema sp.	2
		Senecio isatidiodes	2
		Heteropogon contortus	2
		Themeda triandra	1
		Poaceae B	2
		Eragrostis sp.	1
		Tristachya leucothrix	2
		Poaceae D	1
		Unidentified Forb E	1
			_
		Helichrysum adenocarpum Unidentified Forb C	1 1
		Unidentified Forb C	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
3	90	Watsonia densiflora	3
		Senecio isatidiodes	2
		Helichrysum spp.	2
		Tristachya leucothrix	1
		Poaceae B	1
		Heteropogon contortus	1
		Unidentified Fern A	1
		Unidentified Forb C	1
		Oxalis obliquifolia	1
		Erica woodii	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
5	40	Rhus bicolor	2
		Poaceae sp.	1
		Acalypha sp.	1
		Senecio oxyriifolius	1
		Trachypogon spicatus	3
		Geranium caffrum	1
		Sutera floribunda	2

Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
6	100	Eriosema sp.	2
		Protea simplex	2
		Monocymbium ceresiiforme	2
		Heteropogon contortus	2
		Unidentified Forb L	1
		Acalypha sp.	1
		Helichrysum adenocarpum	1
		Unidentified Forb B	1
		Eragrostis capensis	2
		Aristida junciformis	2
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
7	100	Eragrostis capensis	3
,	100	Monocymbium ceresiiforme	2
		Protea simplex	1
		Trachypogon spicatus	1
		Acalypha sp.	1
		Senecio isatidiodes	1
		Unidentified Forb B	1
		Gladiolus sp.	1
		Unidentified Forb L	
			1
		Heteropogon contortus	1
		Tephrosia sp.	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
8	100	Lotononis sp.	3
		Lobelia flaccida	1
		Aristida junciformis	2
			2
		Acalypha sp.	1
		Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp.	
		Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp. Helichrysum spp.	1
		Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp.	1 1
		Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp. Helichrysum spp.	1 1 1
		Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp. Helichrysum spp. Themeda triandra	1 1 1 3
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp. Helichrysum spp. Themeda triandra Eragrostis curvula	1 1 1 3 1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp. Helichrysum spp. Themeda triandra Eragrostis curvula Oxalis obliquifolia	1 1 1 3 1
		Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp. Helichrysum spp. Themeda triandra Eragrostis curvula Oxalis obliquifolia  Species Eragrostis curvula	1 1 1 3 1 1 1 Braun-Blanquet scale 2
		Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp. Helichrysum spp. Themeda triandra Eragrostis curvula Oxalis obliquifolia  Species Eragrostis curvula Pychnostachys reticulata	1 1 1 3 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 3
		Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp. Helichrysum spp. Themeda triandra Eragrostis curvula Oxalis obliquifolia  Species Eragrostis curvula Pychnostachys reticulata Stiburus allopecuroides	1 1 1 3 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 3 2
		Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp. Helichrysum spp. Themeda triandra Eragrostis curvula Oxalis obliquifolia  Species Eragrostis curvula Pychnostachys reticulata Stiburus allopecuroides Aristida congesta	1 1 1 3 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 3
		Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp. Helichrysum spp. Themeda triandra Eragrostis curvula Oxalis obliquifolia  Species Eragrostis curvula Pychnostachys reticulata Stiburus allopecuroides Aristida congesta Aristida sp.	1 1 1 3 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 3 2 1
	100 Total veg cover (100%)	Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp. Helichrysum spp. Themeda triandra Eragrostis curvula Oxalis obliquifolia  Species Eragrostis curvula Pychnostachys reticulata Stiburus allopecuroides Aristida congesta	1 1 1 3 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 3 2 1 3  Braun-Blanquet scale
9	100	Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp. Helichrysum spp. Themeda triandra Eragrostis curvula Oxalis obliquifolia  Species Eragrostis curvula Pychnostachys reticulata Stiburus allopecuroides Aristida congesta Aristida sp.  Species Helichrysum spp.	1 1 1 3 1 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 3 2 1 3
9 Quadrat no.	100 Total veg cover (100%)	Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp. Helichrysum spp. Themeda triandra Eragrostis curvula Oxalis obliquifolia  Species Eragrostis curvula Pychnostachys reticulata Stiburus allopecuroides Aristida congesta Aristida sp.  Species	1 1 1 3 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 3 2 1 3  Braun-Blanquet scale
9 Quadrat no.	100 Total veg cover (100%)	Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp. Helichrysum spp. Themeda triandra Eragrostis curvula Oxalis obliquifolia  Species Eragrostis curvula Pychnostachys reticulata Stiburus allopecuroides Aristida congesta Aristida sp.  Species Helichrysum spp.	1 1 1 3 1 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 3 2 1 3  Braun-Blanquet scale 2
9 Quadrat no.	100 Total veg cover (100%)	Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp. Helichrysum spp. Themeda triandra Eragrostis curvula Oxalis obliquifolia  Species Eragrostis curvula Pychnostachys reticulata Stiburus allopecuroides Aristida congesta Aristida sp.  Species Helichrysum spp. Stiburus allopecuroides	1 1 1 3 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 3 2 1 3  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 1 3
9 Quadrat no.	100 Total veg cover (100%)	Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp. Helichrysum spp. Themeda triandra Eragrostis curvula Oxalis obliquifolia  Species Eragrostis curvula Pychnostachys reticulata Stiburus allopecuroides Aristida congesta Aristida sp.  Species Helichrysum spp. Stiburus allopecuroides Cyperaceae spp. Eriocaulon dregii Poaceae spp.	1 1 1 3 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 3 2 1 3  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 1 4
9 Quadrat no.	100 Total veg cover (100%)	Acalypha sp. Eriosema sp. Helichrysum spp. Themeda triandra Eragrostis curvula Oxalis obliquifolia  Species Eragrostis curvula Pychnostachys reticulata Stiburus allopecuroides Aristida congesta Aristida sp.  Species Helichrysum spp. Stiburus allopecuroides Cyperaceae spp. Eriocaulon dregii	1 1 1 3 1 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 3 2 1 3  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 1 4 2

Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
11	95	Aristida sp.	2
		Tristachya leucothrix	1
		Eragrostis curvula	2
		Cyperaceae spp.	4
		Unidentified Forb J	1
		Unidentified Forb K	1
		Gladiolus sp.	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
12	97	Acalypha sp.	1
		Helichrysum spp.	1
		Stiburus allopecuroides	1
		Trachypogon spicatus	2
		Eragrostis curvula	2
		Themeda triandra	2
		Tristachya leucothrix	2
		Aristida sp.	2
		Unidentified Monocot. A	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
13	80	Stiburus allopecuroides	1
		Unidentified Monocot. A	1
		Moss (Lycopodium type)	1
		Cyperaceae Type F	4
		Schistostephium crataegifolium	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
14	100	Pychnostachys reticulata	2
		Lobelia flaccida	1
		Cyperaceae spp.	4
		Persicaria serrulata	1
		Carex cognata	2
		Juncus lamatophyllus	1
			2
		Calonsis naniculata	
		Calopsis paniculata Eriocaulon dregii	
		Eriocaulon dregii	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Eriocaulon dregii  Species	1  Braun-Blanquet scale
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%) 98	Eriocaulon dregii  Species Rubus auneifolius	1
		Eriocaulon dregii  Species	1  Braun-Blanquet scale
		Eriocaulon dregii  Species Rubus auneifolius	Braun-Blanquet scale 3
		Eriocaulon dregii  Species  Rubus auneifolius Sateria sp.	Braun-Blanquet scale 3 1
		Eriocaulon dregii  Species  Rubus auneifolius  Sateria sp.  Geranium schlechteri	Braun-Blanquet scale 3 1 2
		Eriocaulon dregii  Species  Rubus auneifolius  Sateria sp.  Geranium schlechteri  Cyperaceae spp.	Braun-Blanquet scale  3 1 2 2
		Eriocaulon dregii  Species  Rubus auneifolius Sateria sp. Geranium schlechteri Cyperaceae spp. Sporobolus sp.	Braun-Blanquet scale  3 1 2 2 1

Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	<b>Braun-Blanquet scale</b>
16	100	Rubus auneifolius	1
		Cyperaceae spp.	3
		Mentha aquatica	3
		Geranium schlechteri	1
		Pychnostachys reticulata	1
		Gladiolus sp.	1
		Aristida sp.	2
		Eragrostis curvula	1
		Eriocaulon dregii	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
17	100	Mentha aquatica	2
		Eriocaulon dregii	2
		Calopsis paniculata	2
		Cyperaceae spp.	2
		Unidentified Lily type	2
		Poaceae spp.	1
		Sebaea natalensis	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
18	65	Carex cognata	3
		Eriocaulon dregii	1
		Unidentified Forb H	1
		Cyperaceae spp.	2
		Gladiolus sp.	1
		Dinekia capensis	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
19	100	Themeda triandra	3
		Eragrostis sp.	1
		Eriosema sp.	2
		•	
		Helichrysum spp.	2
		Helichrysum spp. Cyperaceae spp.	2 2
		Cyperaceae spp.	2
		Cyperaceae spp.  Senecio isatidiodes	2 1
		Cyperaceae spp. Senecio isatidiodes Aristida sp.	2
		Cyperaceae spp. Senecio isatidiodes Aristida sp. Stiburus allopecuroides	2 1 1 1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Cyperaceae spp. Senecio isatidiodes Aristida sp. Stiburus allopecuroides  Species	2 1 1 1 Braun-Blanquet scale
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%) 100	Cyperaceae spp. Senecio isatidiodes Aristida sp. Stiburus allopecuroides  Species Brunsvigia grandiflora	2 1 1 1
_		Cyperaceae spp. Senecio isatidiodes Aristida sp. Stiburus allopecuroides  Species Brunsvigia grandiflora Senecio isatidiodes	2 1 1 1 Braun-Blanquet scale
_		Cyperaceae spp. Senecio isatidiodes Aristida sp. Stiburus allopecuroides  Species Brunsvigia grandiflora Senecio isatidiodes Eriosema sp.	2 1 1 1 Braun-Blanquet scale 2
_		Cyperaceae spp. Senecio isatidiodes Aristida sp. Stiburus allopecuroides  Species Brunsvigia grandiflora Senecio isatidiodes Eriosema sp. Themeda triandra	2 1 1 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 1 2 3
_		Cyperaceae spp. Senecio isatidiodes Aristida sp. Stiburus allopecuroides  Species Brunsvigia grandiflora Senecio isatidiodes Eriosema sp. Themeda triandra Cyperaceae spp.	2 1 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 1 2
_		Cyperaceae spp. Senecio isatidiodes Aristida sp. Stiburus allopecuroides  Species Brunsvigia grandiflora Senecio isatidiodes Eriosema sp. Themeda triandra	2 1 1 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 1 2 3
_		Cyperaceae spp. Senecio isatidiodes Aristida sp. Stiburus allopecuroides  Species Brunsvigia grandiflora Senecio isatidiodes Eriosema sp. Themeda triandra Cyperaceae spp.	2 1 1 1 2 Braun-Blanquet scale 2 1 2 3 2
20	100	Cyperaceae spp. Senecio isatidiodes Aristida sp. Stiburus allopecuroides  Species Brunsvigia grandiflora Senecio isatidiodes Eriosema sp. Themeda triandra Cyperaceae spp. Eragrostis sp.	2 1 1 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 3 2 1
20 Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Cyperaceae spp. Senecio isatidiodes Aristida sp. Stiburus allopecuroides  Species  Brunsvigia grandiflora Senecio isatidiodes Eriosema sp. Themeda triandra Cyperaceae spp. Eragrostis sp.  Species	2 1 1 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 1 2 3 2 1 Braun-Blanquet scale
20 Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Cyperaceae spp. Senecio isatidiodes Aristida sp. Stiburus allopecuroides  Species Brunsvigia grandiflora Senecio isatidiodes Eriosema sp. Themeda triandra Cyperaceae spp. Eragrostis sp.  Species Lobelia flaccida	2 1 1 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 1 2 3 2 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2
20 Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Cyperaceae spp. Senecio isatidiodes Aristida sp. Stiburus allopecuroides  Species  Brunsvigia grandiflora Senecio isatidiodes Eriosema sp. Themeda triandra Cyperaceae spp. Eragrostis sp.  Species  Lobelia flaccida Eriocaulon dregii	2 1 1 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 1 2 3 2 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 2
20 Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Cyperaceae spp. Senecio isatidiodes Aristida sp. Stiburus allopecuroides  Species  Brunsvigia grandiflora Senecio isatidiodes Eriosema sp. Themeda triandra Cyperaceae spp. Eragrostis sp.  Species  Lobelia flaccida Eriocaulon dregii Calopsis paniculata	2 1 1 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 1 2 3 2 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 2 2 2
20 Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Cyperaceae spp. Senecio isatidiodes Aristida sp. Stiburus allopecuroides  Species  Brunsvigia grandiflora Senecio isatidiodes Eriosema sp. Themeda triandra Cyperaceae spp. Eragrostis sp.  Species  Lobelia flaccida Eriocaulon dregii Calopsis paniculata Eragrostis curvula	2 1 1 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 1 2 3 2 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 2 1
20 Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Cyperaceae spp. Senecio isatidiodes Aristida sp. Stiburus allopecuroides  Species Brunsvigia grandiflora Senecio isatidiodes Eriosema sp. Themeda triandra Cyperaceae spp. Eragrostis sp.  Species Lobelia flaccida Eriocaulon dregii Calopsis paniculata Eragrostis curvula Cyperaceae spp.	2 1 1 1 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 1 2 3 2 1  Braun-Blanquet scale 2 2 1  3 2 1  3 4 4 6 6 7 7 8 7 8 7 8 7 8 7 8 8 7 8 8 7 8

Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
22	98	Helichrysum sp.	1
		Stiburus allopecuroides	1
		Cyperaceae Type E	4
		Unidentified Forb D	1
		Moss (Lycopodium type)	2
		Unidentified Monocot. B	1
		Aristida sp.	1
		Asteraceae sp.	1
		Gladiolus sp.	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
23	70	Helichrysum spp.	3
		Eragrostis sp.	2
		Unidetified Forb L	1
		Diclis reptans	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
24	95	Lobelia flaccida	1
		Calopsis paniculata	2
		Eragrostis curvula	1
		Cyperaceae spp.	4
		Unidetified Forb I	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
25	100	Cyperaceae Type D	5
		Unidentified Lily type	1
		Aristida sp.	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
26	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	Unidentified Lily type	1
20	100	Helichrysum spp.	2
		Calopsis paniculata	4
		Senecio isatidiodes	1
		Alectra sessiliflora	1
		· ·	2
		Dinekia capensis	<u> </u>
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
27	100	Standing water channels	
		Dominated by Juncus	_
		lomatophyllus	5
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
28	100	Carex cognata	1
		Juncus lamatophyllus	2
		Schoenoplectus corymbosus	5
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
29	98	Cyperaceae spp.	5
43 43	70	Harpocloa flax	1
		Diclis reptans	2
		Eragrostis curvula	2
		Liagiosus cuivala	<u> </u>

Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
30	98	Tristachya leucothrix	2
		Helichrysum spp.	2
		Stiburus allopecuroides	2
		Monocymbium ceresiiforme	2
		Cyperaceae sp.	2
		Aristida sp.	2
		Heteropogon contortus	2
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
31	100	Eriocaulon dregii	1
		Cyperaceae spp.	3
		Typha capensis	3
		Pychnostachys reticulata	2
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
32	50	Eucomis sp.	2
		Rhus discolor	2
		Rubus auneifolius	2
		Rubus ludwigii	1
		Rubus x proteus	1
		Acalypha sp.	1
		Sutera floribunda	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
33	100	Alectra sessiliflora	1
		Cyperaceae sp.	2
		Juncus lamatophyllus	1
		Scenecio sp.	2
		Typha capensis	5
		Carex cognata	1
		Unidentified Forb H	1
		Eriocaulon dregii	1
		Lobelia flaccida	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
34	100	Scenecio sp.	1
		Eucomis sp.	3
		Pychnostachys reticulata	2
		Senecio isatidiodes	2
		Unidentified Forb 33	1
		Diclis reptans	1
		Geranium schlechteri	1
		Eragrostis curvula	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
35	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	Geranium schlechteri	2
33	100	Carex cognata	3
		Scenecio sp.	2
		Pychnostachys reticulata	1
		Eragrostis curvula	1
		Unidentified Forb 33	1
		Cyperaceae spp.	3
		Persicaria surrulata	J 1
		i cisicana surrata	1

Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	<b>Braun-Blanquet scale</b>
36	100	Eragrostis curvula	1
		Sutera floribunda	1
		Pychnostachys reticulata	1
		Geranium schlechteri	1
		Agapanthus sp.	2
		Cyperaceae spp.	4
		Diclis reptans	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
37	100	Unidentified Forb 33	2
		Cyperaceae spp.	2
		Geranium schlechteri	1
		Helichrysum spp.	2
		Pychnostachys reticulata	1
		Diclis reptans	1
		Unidentified Lily type	1
		Asteraceae sp.	1
		Aristida sp.	3
		Sebaea natalensis	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
38	60	Rusus auneifolius	2
30		Helichrysum spp.	2
		Senecio isatidiodes	1
		Cyperaceae spp.	2
		Eragrostis curvula	1
		_	
		( russula natalensis	
		Crussula natalensis Diclis reptans	1 1
Ovedvet no	Total year acyon (1009/)	Diclis reptans	1
	Total veg cover (100%)	Diclis reptans  Species	1  Braun-Blanquet scale
	<b>Total veg cover (100%)</b> 100	Diclis reptans  Species  Mentha aquatica	Braun-Blanquet scale
		Species  Mentha aquatica Cyperaceae spp.	Braun-Blanquet scale 2 4
		Species  Mentha aquatica Cyperaceae spp. Geranium schlechteri	Braun-Blanquet scale 2 4 1
		Diclis reptans  Species  Mentha aquatica Cyperaceae spp. Geranium schlechteri Eragrostis curvula	Braun-Blanquet scale  2 4 1 2
Quadrat no. 39		Diclis reptans  Species  Mentha aquatica Cyperaceae spp. Geranium schlechteri Eragrostis curvula Persicaria serrulata	Braun-Blanquet scale  2 4 1 2 2
		Diclis reptans  Species  Mentha aquatica Cyperaceae spp. Geranium schlechteri Eragrostis curvula	Braun-Blanquet scale 2 4 1 2
39  Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Diclis reptans  Species  Mentha aquatica Cyperaceae spp. Geranium schlechteri Eragrostis curvula Persicaria serrulata Calopsis paniculata  Species	Braun-Blanquet scale  2 4 1 2 2 2 2 Braun-Blanquet scale
39 Quadrat no.	100	Diclis reptans  Species  Mentha aquatica Cyperaceae spp. Geranium schlechteri Eragrostis curvula Persicaria serrulata Calopsis paniculata	Braun-Blanquet scale  2 4 1 2 2 2 2
39	Total veg cover (100%)	Diclis reptans  Species  Mentha aquatica Cyperaceae spp. Geranium schlechteri Eragrostis curvula Persicaria serrulata Calopsis paniculata  Species	Braun-Blanquet scale  2 4 1 2 2 2 2 Braun-Blanquet scale
39 Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Diclis reptans  Species  Mentha aquatica Cyperaceae spp. Geranium schlechteri Eragrostis curvula Persicaria serrulata Calopsis paniculata  Species Cyperaceae Type G	Braun-Blanquet scale  2 4 1 2 2 2 2 2 Braun-Blanquet scale 5
39  Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Diclis reptans  Species  Mentha aquatica Cyperaceae spp. Geranium schlechteri Eragrostis curvula Persicaria serrulata Calopsis paniculata  Species Cyperaceae Type G Cyperaceae spp.	Braun-Blanquet scale  2 4 1 2 2 2 2  Braun-Blanquet scale  5 1
39  Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species  Mentha aquatica Cyperaceae spp. Geranium schlechteri Eragrostis curvula Persicaria serrulata Calopsis paniculata  Species Cyperaceae Type G Cyperaceae spp. Persicaria serrulata	Braun-Blanquet scale  2 4 1 2 2 2 2 2 Braun-Blanquet scale  5 1 1
39  Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species  Mentha aquatica Cyperaceae spp. Geranium schlechteri Eragrostis curvula Persicaria serrulata Calopsis paniculata  Species Cyperaceae Type G Cyperaceae spp. Persicaria serrulata Mentha aquatica	1  Braun-Blanquet scale  2 4 1 2 2 2 2 2  Braun-Blanquet scale  5 1 1 1
Quadrat no. 40  Quadrat no.	100  Total veg cover (100%) 80	Species  Mentha aquatica Cyperaceae spp. Geranium schlechteri Eragrostis curvula Persicaria serrulata Calopsis paniculata  Species Cyperaceae Type G Cyperaceae spp. Persicaria serrulata Mentha aquatica Calopsis paniculata	Braun-Blanquet scale  2 4 1 2 2 2 2  Braun-Blanquet scale  5 1 1 1 2
Quadrat no. 40  Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%) 80  Total veg cover (100%)	Species  Mentha aquatica Cyperaceae spp. Geranium schlechteri Eragrostis curvula Persicaria serrulata Calopsis paniculata  Species Cyperaceae Type G Cyperaceae spp. Persicaria serrulata Mentha aquatica Calopsis paniculata  Species Juncus lamatophyllus	Braun-Blanquet scale  2 4 1 2 2 2 2 2  Braun-Blanquet scale  5 1 1 1 2  Braun-Blanquet scale
Quadrat no. 40  Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%) 80  Total veg cover (100%)	Species  Mentha aquatica Cyperaceae spp. Geranium schlechteri Eragrostis curvula Persicaria serrulata Calopsis paniculata  Species Cyperaceae Type G Cyperaceae spp. Persicaria serrulata Mentha aquatica Calopsis paniculata  Species Juncus lamatophyllus Mentha aquatica	Braun-Blanquet scale  2 4 1 2 2 2 2 2  Braun-Blanquet scale  5 1 1 1 2  Braun-Blanquet scale 2
Quadrat no. 40  Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%) 80  Total veg cover (100%)	Species  Mentha aquatica Cyperaceae spp. Geranium schlechteri Eragrostis curvula Persicaria serrulata Calopsis paniculata  Species Cyperaceae Type G Cyperaceae spp. Persicaria serrulata Mentha aquatica Calopsis paniculata  Species Juncus lamatophyllus Mentha aquatica Pychnostachys reticulata	1
Quadrat no. 40  Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%) 80  Total veg cover (100%)	Species  Mentha aquatica Cyperaceae spp. Geranium schlechteri Eragrostis curvula Persicaria serrulata Calopsis paniculata  Species Cyperaceae Type G Cyperaceae spp. Persicaria serrulata Mentha aquatica Calopsis paniculata  Species Juncus lamatophyllus Mentha aquatica Pychnostachys reticulata Scenecio sp.	1
Quadrat no. 40	Total veg cover (100%) 80  Total veg cover (100%)	Species  Mentha aquatica Cyperaceae spp. Geranium schlechteri Eragrostis curvula Persicaria serrulata Calopsis paniculata  Species Cyperaceae Type G Cyperaceae spp. Persicaria serrulata Mentha aquatica Calopsis paniculata  Species Juncus lamatophyllus Mentha aquatica Pychnostachys reticulata	1

Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
42	80	Pychnostachys reticulata	2
		Sateria sp.	1
		Scenecio sp.	1
		Geranium schlechteri	1
		Mentha aquatica	1
		Calopsis paniculata	2
		Cyperaceae spp.	3
		Panicum sp.	2
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
43	100	Cyperaceae spp.	4
		Trachypogon spicatus	2
		Eragrostis curvula	3
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
44	85	Pychnostachys reticulata	1
44	63	Senecio isatidiodes	1
		Panicum sp.	1
		Unidentified Forb 33	1
		Trachypogon spicatus	1
		Poaceae C	5
		Scenecio sp.	1
		scenecio sp.	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
45	95	Rubus auneifolius	1
		Lobalia flaccida	1
		Themeda triandra	2
		Eragrostis curvla	2
		Hypochaeris radicata	1
		Geranium sp.	1
		Unidentified Forb L	1
		Commelia africana	1
		Poaceae spp.	5
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
46	100	Themeda triandra	2
		Aristida junciformis	2
		Eriosema distinctum	2
		Vernonia hirsuta	1
		Rhus discolor	2
		Berkheya achinacea	_ 1
		Lotonis sp. 98	1
		Cyanotis speciosa	1
		Unidentified Forb G	2
		Sutera floribunda	1
		Poaceae 67	1
		Tristachya leucothrix	1
		1. isiacitya iciacomita	1

Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
47	95	Eriosema distinctum	2
		Themeda triandra	4
		Aristea woodii	1
		Lotononis sp. 98	1
		Tephrosia sp.	1
		Silene burchellii	1
		Tristachya leucothrix	1
		Unidentified Forb B	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
48	90	Agrimonia procera	1
		Eragrostis curvula	3
		Poaceae spp.	3
		Rubus auneifolius	2
		Cyperaceae Type A	1
		Themeda triandra	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
49	100	Lobelia flaccida	1
		Themeda triandra	3
		Tristachya leucothrix	3
		Pteridium aquilinum	1
		Scenecio sp. 34	1
		Helichrysum spiralepis	1
		Habenaria dives	1
		Hypochaeris radicata	1
		Hypoxis parvula	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
50	100	Helishrysum spiralepis	1
		Eriosema distinctum	2
		Tristachya leucothrix	3
		Eragrostis capensis	2
		Poaceae spp.	3
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
51	85	Unidentified Forb G	1
		Eriocema distinctum	1
		Tephrosia sp.	1
		Tristachya leucothrix	1
		Eragrostis capensis	1
		Themeda triandra	1
		Poaceae spp.	4
		Bherkeya rhapontica	1
		* *	1
		Acalypha sp.	1

Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
52	90	Acalypha sp.	1
		Eriocema distinctum	2
		Tephrosia sp.	2
		Eragrostis capensis	3
		Eragrostis racemosa	2
		Eragrostis curvula	2
		Zornia linearis	1
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
53	100	Acalypha sp.	2
		Pteridium aquilinum	2
		Eragrostis curvula	3
		Eragrostis capensis	3
		Polygala hottentota	1
		Macowania corymbosa	2
		Themeda triandra	2
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
54	98	Cyperaceae Type A	3
	70	Helichrysum aureonitens	2
		Eriocaulon dregei	2
		Cyperaceae Type B	2
		Eragrostis sp.	2
		Zi ugi esus spi	-
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
55	100	Helichrysum aureonitens	2
		Monopsis decepiens	1
		Aristida junciformis	2
		Cyperaceae Type B	2
		Xyris capensis	3
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
56	90	Eriosema distinctum	2
		Tephrosia sp.	1
		Heteropogon sp.	1
		Themeda triandra	2
		Tristachya leucothrix	2
		Eragrostis capensis	3
		Acalypha sp.	2
		Sutera floribunda	1
		Poaceae spp.	2
Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	Braun-Blanquet scale
57	90	Eragrostis capensis	2
	•	Themeda triandra	3
		Eragrostis curvula	1
		Eriosema distinctum	3
		Kniphofia laxiflora	1
		Vernonia thodey	1
		Lotononis sp. 98	1
		Stachys natalensis	1
		Tephrosia sp.	1
		Cyanotis speciosa	1

Quadrat no.	Total veg cover (100%)	Species	<b>Braun-Blanquet scale</b>
58	90	Macowania corymbosa	1
		Hypochaenis radicata	2
		Eriosema distinctum	2
		Acalypha sp.	2
		Hypoxis filiformus	1
		Eragrostis curvula	2
		Eragrostis capensis	2
		Eragrostis racemosa	2
		Themeda triandra	2

# Quadrat no. 4 Canopy cover: 40%

Leucocidia sericea dominated\*

Number of individuals	Number of stems >20cm diameter	Average height (m)
1	5	6.5
1	4	3
1	4	2.75
1	1	2
1	1	2
1	3	6
1	2	6
1	5	4.5
1	2	3
_ 1	4	5.5

<sup>\*</sup>Leucocidia sericea dominated quadrat was measured as a 5 x 5 m quadrat

APPENDIX J
Geochemical Data (UCT)

	Analysis		Voltage				Stdcorrctd	Voltage				Stdcorrctd	
Sample	No.	Wt (mg)	(mv)	Area	$^{8}$	d 15N/14N	d 15N/14N	(miv)	Area	2 %	d 13C/12C	d13C/12C	C:N ratio
10	66737	4.53	3884	87.5	2.24	3.26	2.98	9835	273.9	34.85	-19.50	-20.15	15.56
12	66739	6.27	5358	124.8	2.31	3.26	2.99	11669	379.9	34.92	-18.74	-19.44	15.13
14	66741	4.97	4095	91.1	2.13	3.10	2.81	10572	292.1	33.87	-18.15	-18.89	15.93
16	66743	4.89	3375	7.97	1.82	3.64	3.38	8935	246.4	29.04	-18.43	-19.15	15.97
18	66745	5.01	3607	84.4	1.95	4.07	3.84	9361	283.7	32.64	-17.78	-18.53	16.72
20	66747	4.67	3178	74.2	1.84	4.22	4.00	6218	256.6	31.67	-17.92	-18.66	17.19
22	66749	5.09	3067	68.1	1.55	3.99	3.75	9193	241.3	27.32	-17.87	-18.62	17.62
24	66751	5.52	3756	84.0	1.76	4.23	4.00	10835	303.4	31.68	-17.85	-18.60	17.96
26	66753	9.65	4459	103.5	1.80	4.36	4.15	11774	370.9	32.14	-17.84	-18.59	17.82
28	96755	6.25	4316	101.6	1.89	4.28	4.06	11011	347.6	32.05	-17.66	-18.42	17.00
30	66757	5.87	3717	84.4	1.67	4.51	4.31	11199	323.6	31.77	-18.22	-18.95	19.06
32	69299	7.38	4508	103.1	1.62	4.66	4.47	12809	404.8	31.61	-18.50	-19.21	19.52
34	66764	6.53	3615	84.1	1.49	4.86	4.68	11580	348.7	30.78	-19.13	-19.81	20.61
36	99/99	9.13	4943	111.4	1.41	4.85	4.67	14815	483.1	30.50	-19.36	-20.02	21.57
38	89/99	10.14	4935	113.1	1.29	5.02	4.85	14530	498.5	28.33	-20.11	-20.72	21.91
42	02/29	11.16	5631	122.5	1.27	5.15	4.98	16291	548.1	28.30	-20.10	-20.71	22.24
44	66772	10.72	5338	121.8	1.32	5.47	5.32	15699	556.5	29.92	-21.01	-21.56	22.71
46	66774	11.66	5934	135.0	1.34	5.42	5.27	16952	616.4	30.46	-21.13	-21.68	22.69
48	9//99	12.76	6053	133.1	1.21	5.14	4.97	17329	599.3	27.07	-21.32	-21.86	22.39
20	8//99	12.1	5701	123.7	1.18	5.04	4.86	17136	579.1	27.58	-21.37	-21.90	23.28
52	08/99	13.31	4987	109.5	0.95	4.82	4.64	16456	554.0	23.99	-21.96	-22.45	25.14
54	66782	13.49	3806	8.98	0.75	4.28	4.06	14684	476.7	20.37	-21.56	-22.08	27.32
99	66784	13.57	4350	6:86	0.85	4.62	4.42	16172	545.3	23.16	-21.49	-22.02	27.40
28	98/99	15.88	4527	100.0	0.73	4.41	4.20	16731	564.8	20.50	-20.95	-21.51	28.09
09	66791	16.24	4318	99.5	0.71	4.50	4.29	16816	6.695	20.22	-20.73	-21.30	28.47
62	66793	16.86	4127	91.2	0.63	4.33	4.11	16581	553.4	18.92	-20.21	-20.82	30.16
64	96/99	16.81	3460	80.1	0.55	4.36	4.14	14472	474.9	16.28	-19.70	-20.34	29.46
99	<i>16</i> 299	19.99	4798	105.8	0.61	3.34	3.07	15984	529.9	15.28	-19.08	-19.76	24.90
89	66/99	22.46	4345	5.86	0.51	4.24	4.02	16112	555.1	14.24	-19.24	-19.91	28.01
70	66801	22.87	3970	91.1	0.46	4.20	3.97	15603	524.1	13.21	-19.38	-20.04	28.59
72	66803	22.29	3411	80.5	0.42	4.16	3.93	14394	474.5	12.27	-19.74	-20.38	29.30
74	90899	23.33	3390	78.4	0.39	4.16	3.93	14787	475.8	11.75	-20.04	-20.66	30.16
9/	20899	22.52	3586	82.4	0.42	4.75	4.56	14998	504.3	12.91	-20.63	-21.21	30.42
78	60899	23.6	3990	93.1	0.46	6.15	6.05	17801	641.2	15.66	-21.55	-22.07	34.24
08	66811	24.02	3850	7.76	0.45	5.02	4.84	18445	707.2	16.97	-21.63	-22.14	37.93

	Analysis		Voltage				Stdcorrctd	Voltage				Stdcorrctd	
Sample	No.	Wt (mg)	(mv)	Area	$^{\rm N}$	d 15N/14N	d 15N/14N	(mv)	Area	2 %	d 13C/12C	d13C/12C	C:N ratio
82	66813	23.76	3460	84.7	0.41	5.15	4.99	17059	653.6	15.85	-21.42	-21.95	38.37
84	66818	24.24	3593	84.8	0.41	6.04	5.93	18519	2.689	16.40	-21.96	-22.45	40.44
98	02899	24.07	3409	9.6/	0.38	5.24	5.08	17565	610.5	14.62	-21.65	-22.17	38.11
88	66822	23.99	2901	70.1	0.34	5.84	5.71	15323	520.0	12.49	-21.45	-21.97	36.88
06	66824	24.02	2729	68.4	0.33	5.33	5.18	14254	482.7	11.58	-21.18	-21.73	35.08
92	97899	24.32	2620	6.79	0.32	4.84	4.66	13228	443.4	10.51	-20.84	-21.41	32.48
96	82899	25.54	2965	74.8	0.34	5.07	4.90	14236	483.0	10.90	-20.80	-21.37	32.09
86	08899	26.61	3013	76.1	0.33	4.85	4.66	13814	462.4	10.02	-20.29	-20.89	30.22
100	66832	28.16	5696	2.89	0.28	4.59	4.39	13004	415.5	8.50	-19.91	-20.54	30.07
102	66834	27.58	2470	64.1	0.27	4.08	3.85	11728	363.7	7.60	-19.55	-20.20	28.21
104	98899	28.89	2383	62.9	0.26	3.84	3.60	11076	351.0	7.00	-19.14	-19.81	26.49
106	88838	30.1	2511	2.99	0.26	3.47	3.20	11031	334.9	6.41	-18.57	-19.28	24.97
108	66840	29.87	2561	2.89	0.27	3.37	3.10	10702	323.2	6.23	-18.13	-18.86	23.37
110	66845	30.42	2120	9.69	0.23	3.38	3.11	2128	270.6	5.13	-17.89	-18.64	22.56
112	66847	31.93	2157	6.09	0.22	3.24	2.96	8852	271.2	4.90	-17.87	-18.62	22.12
114	66849	31.59	2023	58.1	0.21	3.05	2.76	8540	259.7	4.74	-17.89	-18.64	22.21
116	66851	31.68	2018	58.3	0.21	3.26	2.98	8088	248.4	4.52	-17.91	-18.65	21.19
118	66853	31.84	2091	58.2	0.21	3.29	3.01	8489	252.7	4.57	-17.95	-18.70	21.57
120	67703	35.12	2843	6.07	0.23	3.26	2.94	9293	278.5	4.75	-17.89	-18.80	21.10
122	67705	33.32	2780	9.59	0.22	3.45	3.14	9705	271.2	4.88	-17.96	-18.87	22.22
124	20219	32.24	2749	68.5	0.24	2.55	2.21	9719	288.2	5.36	-17.96	-18.87	22.61
126	60/19	33.58	2981	72.8	0.24	2.15	1.79	10516	314.2	5.61	-18.16	-19.06	23.20
128	67711	33.40	3025	0.97	0.25	2.52	2.17	10366	324.2	5.82	-18.49	-19.38	22.92
130	67713	33.25	3288	81.7	0.27	3.05	2.72	11333	351.4	6.33	-18.27	-19.17	23.13
132	67715	33.81	3239	81.1	0.27	2.46	2.11	11487	364.4	97.9	-18.55	-19.44	24.16
134	67720	33.05	3605	86.2	0.29	2.69	2.35	12359	385.4	66.9	-18.72	-19.61	24.02
136	67722	35.87	3430	6.62	0.25	2.95	2.62	11898	359.9	6.01	-19.33	-20.20	24.20
138	67724	34.12	3005	75.1	0.25	3.45	3.14	11943	387.7	6.81	-20.89	-21.74	27.76
140	67726	36.73	3755	0.68	0.27	2.82	2.49	13045	421.1	6.87	-18.29	-19.19	25.44
142	67728	36.01	4384	104.3	0.32	2.35	2.00	14578	505.6	8.41	-17.27	-18.19	26.07
144	67730	40.73	4653	107.9	0.30	3.21	2.89	14449	482.4	7.10	-18.38	-19.28	24.03
146	67732	38.24	2012	48.3	0.14	3.02	2.69	8274	224.3	3.52	-19.67	-20.54	24.97
148	67734	56.56	1728	41.9	80.0	2.88	2.79	7427	198.3	2.10	-20.64	-21.49	25.43
150	67736	51.62	1392	33.7	0.07	3.67	3.62	4750	116.7	1.35	-20.40	-21.26	18.63
152	67738	63.70	1536	37.5	0.07	4.19	4.16	4194	102.4	96:0	-20.43	-21.29	14.67

	Analysis		Voltage				Stdcorrctd	Voltage				Stdcorrctd	
Sample	No.	Wt (mg)	(mv)	Area	$^{N\%}$	d 15N/14N	d 15N/14N	(mv)	Area	2 % C	d 13C/12C	d13C/12C	C:N ratio
154	67740	58.85	1558	42.4	80.0	3.69	3.63	2057	48.5	0.51	-21.20	-22.03	6.15
156	67742	55.51	1533	36.4	0.07	3.81	3.76	4924	119.3	1.29	-20.32	-21.17	17.60
158	67747	57.30	1446	35.7	0.07	3.65	3.59	4581	112.3	1.18	-20.45	-21.30	16.90
160	67749	65.65	1258	31.1	0.05	3.48	3.42	4423	105.1	96'0	-20.19	-21.05	18.14
162	67751	62.40	1495	37.9	0.07	3.51	3.45	4643	111.8	1.07	-20.84	-21.69	15.84
164	67753	69.79	1768	45.8	80.0	4.18	4.15	5109	129.2	1.14	-20.79	-21.63	15.17
166	67755	62.44	2422	58.5	0.10	4.22	4.19	7828	205.7	1.97	-20.76	-21.60	18.90
168	67757	98.69	2462	59.3	60.0	4.44	4.42	8112	214.6	1.84	-20.73	-21.57	19.45
170	62/19	69.20	1560	43.5	0.07	3.25	3.17	2809	9.79	0.59	-21.12	-21.95	8.35
172	67761	68.02	1793	45.4	0.07	3.97	3.93	4798	118.2	1.04	-20.82	-21.66	14.00
174	99//9	72.25	1681	43.1	0.07	90.9	6.12	2441	58.2	0.48	-20.48	-21.33	7.26
176	008/9	138.57	498	13.1	0.01	3.04	2.88	2127	52.8	0.23	-21.68	-22.38	20.83
178	67802	144.09	480	12.5	0.01	3.13	2.97	1977	48.6	0.20	-21.66	-22.36	19.98
180	67804	125.31	551	13.4	0.01	3.26	3.11	2362	55.9	0.27	-21.89	-22.59	21.51
182	908/9	148.46	406	11.1	0.01	3.17	3.01	1672	42.0	0.17	-21.54	-22.25	19.60
184	67811	137.71	390	10.6	0.01	2.54	2.35	1807	45.5	0.20	-22.20	-22.89	22.06
186	67783	124.34	307	8.7	0.01	1.17	0.91	1245	31.2	0.15	-22.61	-23.29	18.50
188	67785	138.42	433	10.9	0.01	3.07	2.91	1975	47.0	0.20	-21.91	-22.61	22.18
190	06/19	129.20	391	10.1	0.01	2.46	2.27	1923	46.4	0.21	-22.56	-23.25	23.66

# APPENDIX K

# **Raw Pollen Count Data**

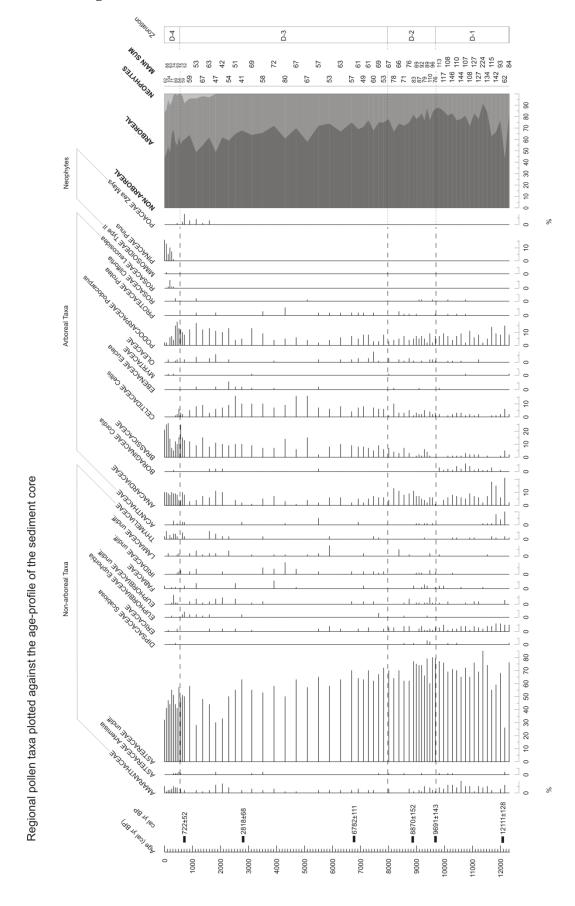
	10	12	14	16	18	20							36		40	42	44	46	48	20	23	54
ACANTHACEAE	,	,	,		,	2						1 .	•							1		,
ANACARDIACEAE	9	6	6	2	7	7							2		4	2	4		2	1	1	က
APIACEAE	,	,	,	,	,			1											,		,	,
AQUIFOLIACEAE Ilex mitis	,		,		,				,			٠										,
ARALIACEAE	1	1	2	2	1	,						•					,	1		,	,	,
BORAGINACEAE Cordia	,		,		,	1						•			1	1	1				,	,
BRASSICACEAE	13	22	27	6	2	4	11	6	00						2	2	4	2	2	4	9	4
CELASTRACEAE	,		,	2	1	,															·	,
CELTIDACEAE Celtis	,		,		,	,	1	2	33						2	es	33	2	00	4	7	9
CORNACEAE Cornus	,					1																
EBENACEAE Diospyros	,							1													·	
EBENACEAE Euclea	,		0															က	1	1		
EBENACEAE undiff.	1																				·	
MYRICACEAE Myrica	,					1		1									,					,
MYRTACEAE	,		1			1															1	,
OLEACEAE	,	,	2	,	,	,		2	,						2	e	,	1	,	,	,	,
PODOCARPACEAE Podocarpus	1	2	,	4	2	3									œ	2	4	7	2	2	6	2
POLYGALACEAE Polygala	1		,		,	1									,				,	,		,
PROTEACEAE	,	,	,	,	,	,									,	1	,	,	,	,	,	2
ROSACEAE Cliffortia	,	,	,	,	,	,										,	,			,	,	,
ROSACEAE Leucosidea	,	,	1	4	1	1									,	,	,	,	,	,	,	,
ROSACEAE undiff.	2		1	,	,	,										,	,			,	,	,
AMARANTHACEAE	3	1	2	1	2	4	4								1	es	3	2	,	1	2	1
ASTERACEAE Artemisia	,	,	,	,	,	1										1			,	,	1	1
ASTERACEAE Stoebe	1	,	,	,	,	,									2	,	2		,	,		,
ASTERACEAE undiff.	20	36	49	28	39	88									28	14	14	27	28	79	38	31
ASTERACEAE Ve monia	,		2		,	,														,	,	,
BORAGINACEAE Heliotropium	,		,																			,
COMMELINACEAE	,	,	,		,												2		,			,
DIPSACACEAE Scabiosa																						
ERICACEAE			1														П		1		П	
EUPHORBIACEAE EUphorbia					٦,										٦,					7		
EOPHORBIACEAE UIIUIII.					٠.	n									7	7	7		7 (		4	7
GEBANIACEAE	٠,				-														7			
HYPERICACEAE Hypericum	-																					
IRIDACE AF undiff	٠,																-					c
LAMIACEAE undiff.	,		2		,										1	1	٠.	2	,	,	1	, ,
LAMIACEAE Leonotis	,	,	,	,	1	,									,	,	,	,	,	,	,	,
OXALIDCEAE Oxalis	,	,	,	,	,	,									,	,	,	,	,	,	,	,
THYMELIACEAE		2	, ;	2		en :									4	2	., :	. :	. :	. :	. !	, ;
CYP EKACEAE UNGITT.	777	717	617	770	587	303									157	710	733	677	552	987	97	743
EKIOCAULACEAE ENOCAUION	٦,	4	٦,	7	7											- T		T ~			1	7
IIIACEAE	7	. 2		. =	6	. 2									44	4 E	49	41	25	13	33	38
POACEAE	173	138	146	188	192	211									187	215	212	183	146	141	152	177
POACEAE Ze a Mays	,	,	,	,	,	,									2		,	,	,	,	,	,
MIMOSOIDEAE Type II	,	1	,	,	,																,	,
PINACEAE Pinus	10	П	2	9	2	1													,		,	,
MONOLETE	,	1	1		,	1																1
PSEUDOSCHIZAE		4 0	m +	m +	٠ .	00	4								7	9	9 ,	σ .	9 ,	o 0	15	9 ,
TRILETE Mohria	٠,	י מ	٠,	٠,	٠ ,												7	٠,	7 -	ю ,	5 0	7 -
Non-pollen Palynomorphs	4	10	6	4	4	4	7								n		2	2	m	2	e	1
Undetermined	7	10	2	∞	8	4									9	S	2	4	9	7	00	∞
Main Gim	776	787	792	200	025	629	790	637	181	481	200	515	191	280	5.41	276	252	579	798	202	553	240
	2	4	2	3	8	3	3	-					1	3	5	3	3	3	3	8	-	2

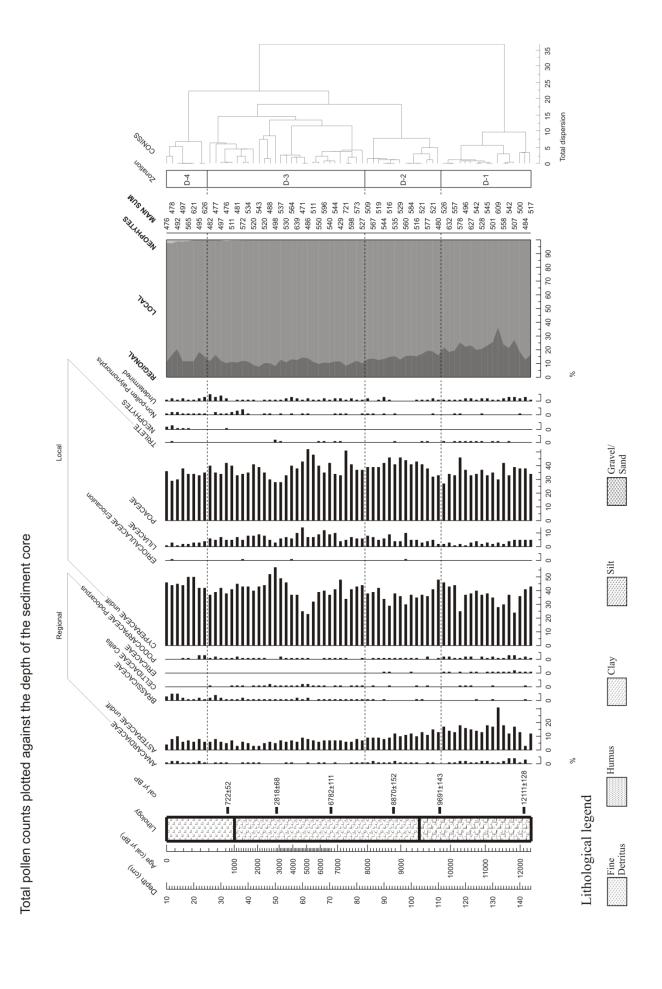
TATO ALTHOUGH	96	ž .	9	79	<b>z</b> ,	9	8	2	7 .						£	8	25	76	\$	£ -	86	100
ACAMINACEAE	, .	٦ ,			0 -										, ç	, ,	, (	, ,		- L		
ANACARDIACEAE	n	7	-	n	-	n	4	٦.							OT	_	٥	_	n	n	Д	'n
APIACEAE	,		,	,	,	,	,	,							,	,	,	,	,	,	,	,
AQUIFO LIACE AE II ex mitis	,			,	1	Ţ															,	
ARALIACEAE															1							
BORAGINACEAE Cordia					1																	
BRASSICACEAE	2	11	4	10	1	4	9	2							m	2	2	2	,	1	2	1
CELASTRACEAE																					,	
CELTIDACEAE Celtis	2	7	11	11	4	3	2	2	4						00	2	2	4	1	2	2	2
CORNACE AE Cornus	,	,	,	,	,	,	,	,							,	,		,	,	,	,	,
EBENACEAE Diospyros	,	,	,	,	1	,	,								,		,	,	,	,	,	,
EBENACEAE Euclea	1	,	,	,	1	,	,	,							1	,	,	,	,	,	1	,
EBENACEAE undiff.	,																			,		
MYRICACEAE Myrica																						
MYRTACEAE	,	,	,		,	,	,								,	,	,	,	,	,	,	,
OLEACEAE	1	,		,	1	,	1	1								1	1	2	1		,	П
PODOCARPACEAE Podocarpus	6	4	4	3	1	2	4	4							m	3	2	æ	4	2	4	9
POLYGALACEAE Polygala	,	,			,	,														,		,
PROTEACEAE	,	2	,	,	1	1	1								,	2	1	1	,	1	,	,
ROSACEAE Cliffortia				1																	1	1
ROSACEAE Leucosidea	,	,	,	,	,	,												,	,	,		,
ROSACEAE undiff.	,	,			,	,														,		,
AMARANTHACEAE	2	1	1	,	1	1	1	1								,	,	2	1	,	2	1
ASTERACEAE Artemisia	,	,	,	,	,	,	,										1	,	,	,	,	1
ASTERACEAE Stoebe		,			,	,													,			,
ASTERACEAE undiff.	42	40	42	38	37	31	40								20	46	4	47	29	25	64	89
ASTERACEAE Ve monia		,			,																	
BORAGINACEAE Heliotropium		,	,	,			,								,				,	,	,	,
COMMELINACEAE	,	,	,	,	,	,	,								,	,	,	1	,	,	,	,
DIPSACACEAE Scabiosa	,	,			,	,											1	,	1	,		,
ERICACEAE	,	,	,	,	П	2	1								2	,	М	С	,	,	2	4
EUPHORBIACEAE Euphorbia	,	,	,		,	,											П	,		,		,
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FABACEAE	4	,	1																2	,		1
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HYPERICACEAE Hypericum				,			,												,			
IRIDACEAE undiff.	n ·	٠,	n		٠,	, ,													,	_	-	-
LAMIACEAE undiff.	1	ī		-	_	4	,									n		ī				
OXALIDGE AF DESTRUCTION																						
THYMEIACEAE					,	-												,		,		
CYPERACE AF undiff.	206	235	120	111	167	713	238								221	717	184	150	204	189	167	218
ERIOCAULACEAE Eriocaulon	2	1			2	1	1								1					1	8	
HALORAGACEAE	,	,		,			,								,	,		,		,	,	,
UUACEAE	33	98	98	36	37	21	29								38	28	33	44	20	23	54	30
POACEAE	228	243	203	254	244	218	209	225							220	202	231	238	220	244	245	240
POACEAE Ze a Mays	,			,															,	,		
MIMOSOIDEAE Type II	,						,															
PINACEAE Pinus																			,			
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Non-pollen Palvnomombs	4		. 4	1 4			٠ ,								٦ ٣							
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Main Sum	95	4	4//	424	513	155	709	545	74x	453	7.74	7/5 285	555	STS.	5/4	524	35	175	242	534	263	286

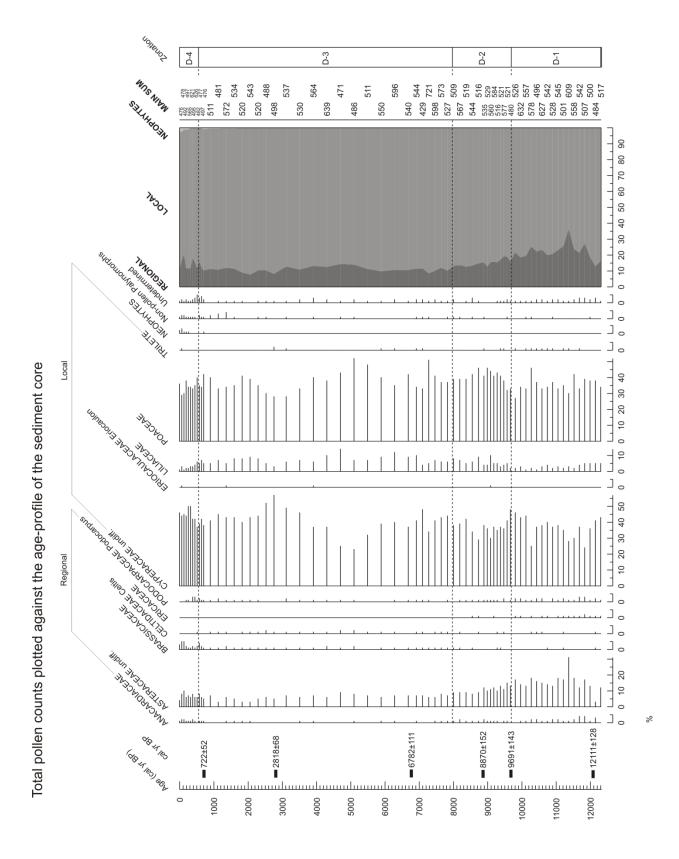
ACANTHACEAE	102	104	001	108	OI .	71 .	114	9	~	021				871				130	138	140	142	<u> </u>
ANACABOIACEAE	1 0	٠ ,		- u			, ,	. 4	. =									7 .	7 17	t u	2 2	, ,
APIACEAE	, ,	۷ ،	. ,	، د	٠,		٠,											1,	1 ,		ą ,	۷ ،
AOUIFOLIACEAE Ilex mitis																						
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BORAGINACEAE	,		٠,	٠,	,	m	-	2										4	,	-	,	
BRASSICACEAE	7.	4				, ,												. ,				2
CELASTRACEAE		2	. ,					. ,											,	. ,		
CELTIDACEAE Celtis	4		4	2	2	2	,	1										1	1	2	4	2
CORNACEAE Comus	-	,	. ,				,											. ,	. ,	. ,	. ,	
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MYRICACEAE Myrica																						
MYRTACEAE																						-
DIFACEAE			, (																			٠,
PODOCARPACEAE Podocamus	4	2	1 01	2 6	4 15	00	11											16	13	7	6	7
POLYGALACEAE Polygala	. ,		١,		, ,	, ,	١.											} ,	١,	. ,	, ,	. ,
PROTEACEAE	,				-	,	,											,	,		,	
ROSACEAE Cliffortia			,																,		,	
ROSACEAE Leucosidea	,		,		,	,	,												,			
ROSACEAE undiff.		,																				
AMARANTHACEAE	4	,	4	2	1	4	3											2		3	4	,
ASTERACEAE Arte misia	,		,	,	,	1	,											,	,	,	1	,
ASTERACEAE Stoebe																					,	
ASTERACEAE undiff.	25	2	98	77	09	87	88											8	\$	83	16	64
ASTERACEAE Vernonia																					,	
BORAGINACEAE HEIIOTOPIUM																						
DIPSACACEAE Scabiosa			1 (																			_
ERICACEAE	1	ı	2	1	2	e	9											2	6	9	3	4 4
EUPHORBIACEAE Euphorbia	,	1	,		,																	
EUPHORBIACEAE undiff.	1	1	2	1	1	1	,											,	,	,	2	,
FABACEAE	2	2	,	,	1	2	2											,	,		,	,
GERANIACEAE																						
HYPERICACEAE Hypericum	,					,	,											,	,		,	
INDACEAE undiff.			n c		-																	
LAMIACEAE Leonotis			7 -			٠,																
OXAUDCEAE Oxalis	,	,	,	,	,	,	,											,	,	,	,	,
THYMELIACEAE	1	,	,	,	,	,	,											2	2	,	1	1
CYPERACEAE undiff.	181	191	206	215	230	244	272											201	124	179	197	224
ERIOCAULACEAE Eriocaulon	2	,			,	1	,	,													1	
HALUKAGACEAE	. 10	. 0	, K	٠,		. =	٠ ٧											, 01	٠ ،	. 10	. 70	
POACEAE	223	214	220	168	159	14	214											181	200	189	185	177
POACEAE Zea Mays	,		,		,	,																
MIMOSOIDEAE Type II	,	,	,	,	,	,	,											,	,	,	,	,
PINACEAE Pinus	,	,	,	,	,	,	,											,	,	,	,	,
MONOLETE				, (			, ,											, ;	, 8	п (	, (	
PSEUDOSCHIZAE	m +	4 -	1	7 (	Т	7	9 6											or o	S.	חר	×0 +	4 +
TRILETE Mohria	٠,	n ,	р ,	7 -		n ,	n ,	n ,	о,	n ,	р,	0 1	<b>.</b>		t ,	n ,		0 ,		7 -	٠,	٠,
Non-pollen Palynomorphs	,		2	8	,	2	2													3	1	2
Undetermined	9	4	9	13	9	7	4											18	17	6	13	4
Main Sum	510	525	278	523	341	5.28	638	561	584	502	628	545	534	725	505	624	270	557	537	509	492	521
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# APPENDIX L

# Pollen diagrams







D-3

40penos

D-4

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20 30 40 CORRECTED STATE OF THE PARTY OF 10 20 30 40 50 60 0 OLIN PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY 3000 5000 0009 8000 7000 Total pollen counts plotted against the age-profile and depth of the ediment core 488 481 372 526 469 10 20 30 40 50 10 20 30 40 50 60 0 OF TA INS **■** 12111±128 ■ 8870±152 **■** 9691±143 ■ 6782±111 **■** 2818±68 Lithological legend ■ 722±52 3000 4000 5000 2000 40 20 9 20 80 110 120

xxxviii

APPENDIX M

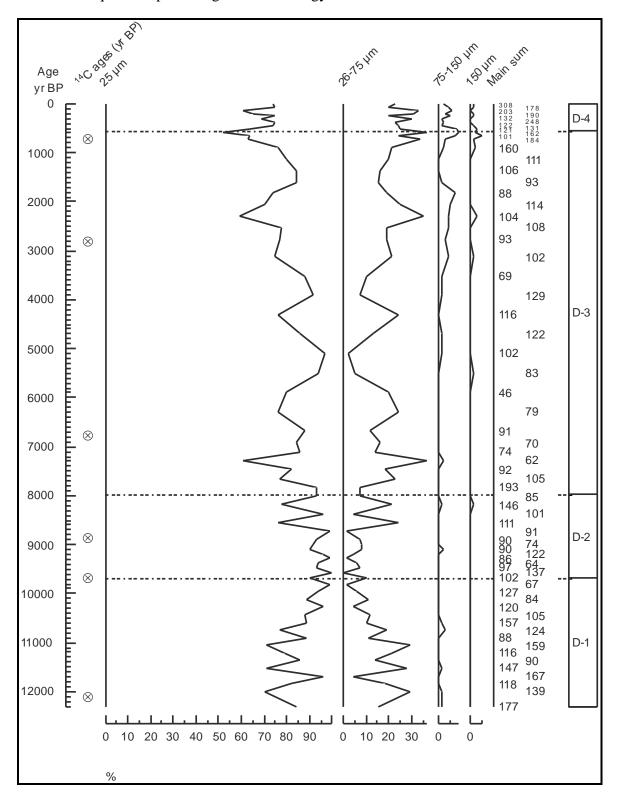
Raw charcoal data (Bhugeloo, 2010)

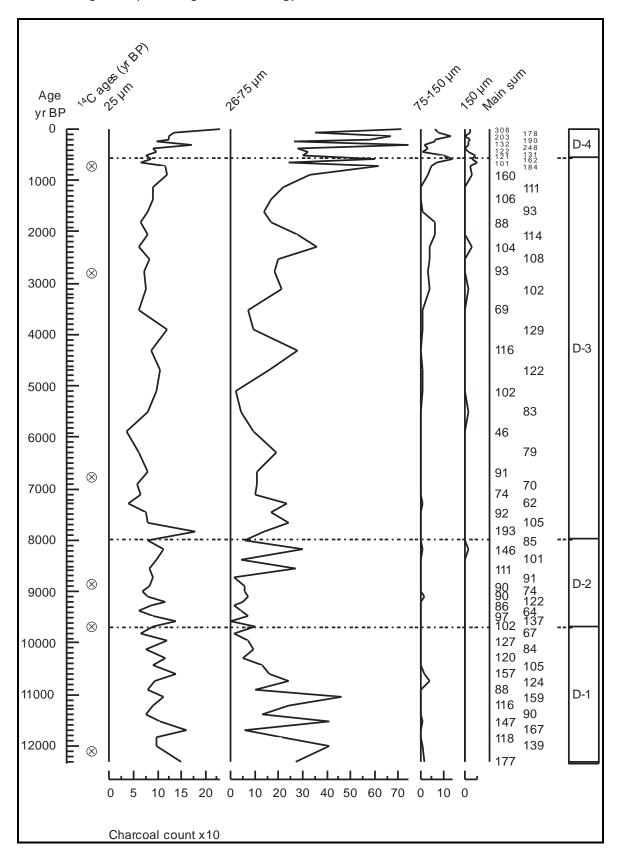
Depth (cm)	<25 μm	26-75 μm	75-150 μm	> 150 µm	Depth (cm)	<25 μm	26-75 μm	75-150 μm	
10	229	71	6	2	80	81	24	0	
12	133	35	8	2	82	179	14	0	
14	123	67	13	0	84	79	6	0	
16	124	58	6	2	86	114	30	1	
18	99	26	6	1	88	97	4	0	
20	171	74	2	1	90	84	27	0	
22	91	28	3	0	92	90	1	0	
24	97	32	1	1	94	84	6	0	
26	77	30	10	4	96	68	6	0	
28	85	60	14	3	98	81	7	2	
30	65	24	7	5	100	117	5	0	
32	115	62	5	2	102	85	1	0	
34	121	33	3	3	104	60	4	0	
36	89	22	0	0	106	90	7	0	
38	89	17	0	0	108	137	0	0	
40	78	14	1	0	110	92	10	0	
42	65	17	6	0	112	66	1	0	
44	80	28	6	0	114	120	7	0	
46	61	36	4	3	116	75	9	0	
48	84	20	4	0	118	115	5	0	
50	72	18	3	0	120	92	13	0	
52	76	21	4	1	122	139	16	2	
54	61	7	1	0	124	96	24	4	
56	119	9	1	0	126	78	10	0	
58	88	28	0	0	128	113	46	0	
60	105	16	1	0	130	92	24	0	
62	99	2	1	0	132	77	13	0	
64	78	4	0	1	134	105	41	1	
66	37	9	0	0	136	161	6	0	
68	60	19	0	0	138	97	21	0	
70	80	11	0	0	140	97	41	1	
72	59	11	0	0	144	148	27	2	
74	64	10	0	0	Total	6396	1415	130	
76	38	23	1	0					
78	75	17	0	0					

# **APPENDIX N**

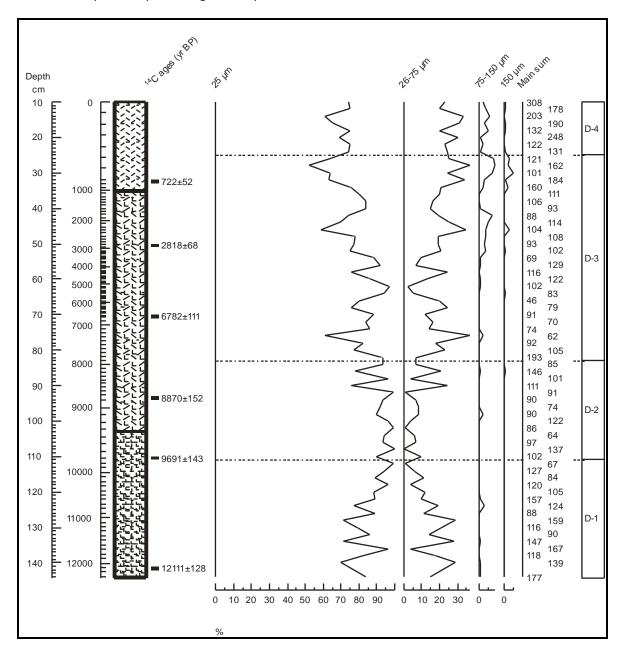
# **Charcoal diagrams**

# Charcoal frequencies plotted against chronology





# Charcoal frequencies plotted against depth



### APPENDIX O

Morphological, preservation and dispersal characteristics of major palynomorphs (adapted from Lodder, 2011)

Morphological, preservation and dispersal characteristics of major palynomorphs encountered at Dartmoor Vlei, Mt Gilboa, South Africa, palaeoecological records and associated ecological and indicator values of likely parent taxa.

### **ACANTHACEAE**

**Identified as:** Undifferentiated

Genus found at Dartmoor Vlei: Adhatoda, Barleria, Chaetacanthus, Crabbea, Dicliptera, Hypoestes, Isoglossa, Justica, Ruellia, Sclerochiton, Thunbergia

Likely parent taxa: Unknown

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level):</u> Acanthaceae pollen can be divided up into six morphological types; i) *Blepharis*, ii) *Justicia*-type, iii) *Monechma*-type, iv) *Macrorungia*-type, v) *Dicliptera*-type,vi) Acanthaceae no 462, vii) Acanthaceae no 452. Types vi and vii are rare and recorded only in the Rietvlei deposits, and no herbarium reference material of such grains is available; they are tentatively identified as Acanthaceae (Scott, 1982a).

<u>Ecology:</u> Acanthaceae is a large family of herbs and trees with 43 genera found in South Africa (Pooley, 2005) usually indicative of open veld environments rather than swamp environments (Scott, 1982a).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> Acanthaceae is considered to be widely distributed (Scott, 1982a) but poorly dispersed (Hamilton, 1972).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

# **AMARANTHACEAE**

Identified as: Undifferentiated

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Achyranthes, Alternanthera, Cyathula, Gomphrena

<u>Likely parent taxa</u>: Amaranthaceae

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level)</u>: cribellate; spherical; ellipsoidal or polyhedral with rounded edges; 12-35  $\mu$ m diameter. Foramina: 12-60  $\mu$ m; circular, sometimes wavy margins; 2.5-8.6  $\mu$ m diameter, sometimes situated in deep, straight or funnel shaped depressions; membrane has the same sculpturing as rest of exine or is flecked with granules which tend to aggregate towards centre and fuse; or with operculum; Exine: 1-5.7  $\mu$ m; thick; granulate; sexine baculate; sometimes tegillate; nexine only 0.5-1.5  $\mu$ m thick (van Zinderen Bakker, 1953).

<u>Ecology:</u> Amaranthaceae are halophytes favouring dry, saline conditions with summer rainfall and warmer evaporative conditions (Scott *et al.*, 2005; Scott, 1993; Scott, 1982a).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics</u>: Amaranthaceae are wind-pollinated (van Zinderen Bakker, 1953), dispersed over long distances (Hamilton, 1972) and occur in most parts of the country in a wide-range of habitats (Scott, 1982a).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-Arboreal

#### **ANACARDIACEAE**

Identified as: Rhus

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Rhus spp.

Likely parent taxa: Rhus

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics:</u> No morphological features are available for this research.

Ecology: Montane and subalpine grasslands (Killick 1963).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics</u>: There are over 20 species of trees and shrubs belonging to the genera *Rhus* occupying a wide range of habitats. While the genus is insect pollinated, it does produce pollen in large numbers. It is considered to be moderately to well dispersed over long distances, often found in pollen samples although not in high numbers (Scott, 1982a; Hamilton, 1972).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

# **APIACEAE**

Identified as: Undifferentiated

Genus found at Dartmoor Vlei: Afrosciadium, Alepidea, Apium, Cantella, Conium, Heteromorpha, Notobubon, Sanicula, Sium

Likely parent taxa: Unknown

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level):</u> No morphological characteristics available for this research.

Ecology: Occurs in a wide range of habitats (Palgrave, 2002)

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics</u>: No dispersal or preservation characteristics available for this research.

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

# **AQUIFOLIACEAE**

Identified as: Ilex mitis

Genus found at Dartmoor Vlei: Ilex mitis

<u>Likely parent taxa:</u> *Ilex mitis* 

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level):</u> No morphological characteristics available for this research.

Ecology: Most frequently on river banks, and in moist evergreen forests (Palgrave, 2002).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> No dispersal or preservation characteristics available for this research.

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

# **ARALIACEAE**

Identified as: Undifferentiated

Genus found at Dartmoor Vlei: Cussonia, Hydrocotyle, Schefflera

Likely parent taxa: Unknown

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level):</u> No morphological characteristics available for this research.

<u>Ecology:</u> Occurs at the margins of montane forests, in woodland, and on hill slopes (Palgrave, 2002)

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> No dispersal or preservation characteristics available for this research.

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

#### **ASTERACEAE**

Identified as: Artemisia

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Artemisia afra

Likely parent taxa: Artemisia afra

Pollen morphological characteristics (on Genus level): Low spined (Scott et al., 2006).

<u>Ecology:</u> *Artemisia* is found in grasslands (Scott, 1982a), sandy areas under local sub-humid conditions (Scott and Nyakale, 2002) with relatively even seasonal moisture distribution (Scott, 1999). It is an indication of somewhat drier conditions (Scott, 1982a).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> *Artemisia* occurs in a wide range of habitats in eastern South Africa. It is often rare in pollen samples although it is considered moderately well dispersed (Scott, 1982a; Hamilton, 1972) over long distances (Hamilton, 1972).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-Arboreal

Identified as: Stoebe

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Stoebe vulgaris

<u>Likely parent taxa</u>: *Stoebe vulgaris* 

Pollen morphological characteristics (on Genus level): Low spined (Scott et al., 2006).

<u>Ecology</u>: *Stoebe* occurs in grasslands (Scott, 1982a), shrubland, and dry karroid veld under conditions of less summer rain (Scott and Nyakale, 2002) but with a relatively even seasonal moisture distribution (Scott 1999). It is indicative of different seasonal climatic distributions with weaker summer rainfall. It is not usually dominant in summer rain regions (Scott *et al.* 2005).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics</u>: *Stoebe* is common in disturbed habitats and suggest cooler, drier conditions. It is considered a moderately well dispersed pollen (Scott 1982a; Hamilton 1972) being dispersed over long distances (Hamilton 1972).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-Arboreal

Identified as: Vernonia-type

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Vernonia dregeana, V. fastigiata, V. gerardii, V. hirsute, V. mespilifolia, V. natalensis, V. oligocephala

Likely parent taxa: Vernonia species

Pollen morphological characteristics (on Genus level): highly distinctive palynomorph. Trizonocolporate, echinate, fenestrate. 25-48 μm (Finch *et al.* 2009).

<u>Ecology:</u> A well represented genus of herbs, shrubs and small trees commonly occurring within secondary or disturbed forest types between 2000 and 3200 m. Ecology is variable due to a large number of potential parent taxa; nevertheless, *Vernonia* pollen has been viewed as indicative of agriculturally-related disturbance (Finch *et al.* 2009).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> This pollen type is dispersed over long distances but is considered poorly dispersed (Hamilton 1972).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-arboreal

#### **BORAGINACEAE**

Identified as: Cordia

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Cynoglossum, Echium, Ehretia, Lithospermum, Myosotis, Tysonia

Likely parent taxa: Unknown

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics</u>: No morphological description available for this research.

<u>Ecology</u>: *Cordia* is found typically in lowland forest (Finch *et al.* 2009) and as forest patches in edaphic grasslands (Mumbi *et al.* 2008)

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics</u>: *Cordia* is typically insect pollinated and thus produce pollen in relatively low concentrations, as a result it is generally under-represented in pollen record (Connor *et al.* 2004).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

Identified as: Heliotropum

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Cynoglossum, Echium, Ehretia, Lithospermum, Myosotis, Tysonia

Likely parent taxa: Unknown

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics</u>: No morphological description available for this research.

Ecology: *Heliotrpum* occurs in Lowland forest (Finch et al. 2009)

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> No dispersal or preservation characteristics available for this research.

<u>Local / Regional</u>: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-Arboreal

#### BRASSICACEAE

Identified as: Undifferentiated

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Heliophila

Likely parent taxa: *Heliophila* 

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics</u>: No morphological description available for this research.

Ecology: Brassicaceae can occur along lake edges (Darbyshire *et al.* 2003) and in the Cape Florsitic Region it is found along arid northern margins (Linder 2003). It is adapted to tolerate salt and cold conditions (van de Mortel and Aarts 2006). It commonly found on damp grassy scree slopes of in the alpine belt (Court-Picon *et al.* 2005).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics</u>: No dispersal or preservation characteristics available for this research.

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

# **CELASTRACEAE**

Identified as: Undifferentiated

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Cassine tetragonal, Maytenus acuminatus, M.

mossambicensis, M. peduncularis, M. undata, Pterocelastrus galpini

Likely parent taxa: Unknown

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics:</u> No morphological description available for this research.

Ecology: Celastraceae is commonly found in montante forests, woodlands, riverine forest, evergreen and coastal bushland as well as dry forest and savanna. Celastracea are well adapted to arid conditions and thud reflect suggest drier conditions with lower precipitation (Gil-Romera *et al.* 2007; Finch *et al.* 2009; Dupont *et al.* 2008; Sangu and Bracebridge 2005).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> This pollen is considered to be dispersed over long distances (Hamilton 1972).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

### **CELTIDACEAE**

Identified as: Celtis

Genus found at Dartmoor Vlei: Celtis africana

Likely parent taxa: Celtis africana

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level)</u>: Mostly tripolate, spheroidal and of equatorial diameter of  $17 - 27 \mu m$ . Pores nearly circular in outine, membrane with a fleck or with some granules (van Zinderen Bakker 1953).

<u>Ecology:</u> Occurs in various habitats. Usually associated with high rainfall area, but can be drought tolerant (Scott, 1982a).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> Very well dispersed in East Africa, found in high numbers in surface samples from mountainous slopes near Ladybrand (Scott, 1982a)

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

#### **COMMELINACEAE**

**Identified as:** Undifferentiated

Genus found at Dartmoor Vlei: Commelina, Cyanotis

Likely parent taxa: Commelina africana, Cyanotis speciosa

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level):</u> Grains are momosulcate, bean-shaped or ellipsoidal,  $30 - 90 \mu m$ . Exine almost spilate, granulate, echinate, verrucate or areolate (van Zinderen Bakker 1953).

<u>Ecology:</u> Widespread herb with many species in South Africa, found in moist areas, grasslands, and forest margins (Pooley, 2005) and also recorded in open veld (Scott, 1982a).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> Have been recorded in surface samples of the open bushveld conditions (Scott, 1982a).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-arboreal

### **CORNACEAE**

Identified as: Cornus

Genus found at Dartmoor Vlei: Unknown

Likely parent taxa: Cornus

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level):</u> No morphological characteristics available for this research.

<u>Ecology:</u> Occurs over a wide altitude range, in evergreen forests and on grassy mountain slopes (Palgrave, 2002)

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> No dispersal or preservation characteristics available for this research.

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

# **CYPERACEAE**

Identified as: Undifferentiated

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Large array of Cyperaceae genera and species occur

Likely parent taxa: members of the Cyperaceae family

Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level): Pseudomonads of subglobose, ovoid /elongated ovoid shape; wedge / gourd-shaped; one irregularly defined germ spore situated on a slightly elevated or flat area in the middle of the broader end; aperture sometimes irregulary perforated; 21-76μm; dry conditions cause 3-4 concavities to originate nthe sides and on ebroad end causing grain to become polyhedral, varying from elongated tetrahedrous to more irregular shapes; after acetolysis is shows folds when supporting intine is lost; exine thin 1-2.5μm; granulate, scrobiculate or reticulate sculpturing (van Zinderen Bakker 1953).

<u>Ecology:</u> Cyperaceae are herbaceous plants found in aquatic (Scott 1982a) moist environments including forest margins, streamsides or swamps (Finch *et al.* 2009).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> Due to the local nature of the parent vegetation Cyperaceae pollen often dominates the pollen sum (Finch *et al.* 2009).

Local / Regional: Local

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-Arboreal

# **DIPSACACEAE**

Identified as: Scabiosa

Genus found at Dartmoor Vlei: Cephalaria, Scabiosa

Likely parent taxa: Scabiosa columbaria

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level):</u> No morphological characteristics available for this research.

Ecology: Found in marshy damp areas, grassland and open woodland (Pooley, 2005)

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> No dispersal or preservation characteristics available for this research.

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-arboreal

#### **EBENACEAE**

Identified as: Diospyros

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Diospyros lycioides, D. pallens, D. scabrida, D. whyteana

Likely parent taxa: Diospyros

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics</u>: No morphological description available for this research.

Ecology: Found in montane and subalpine grasslands (Killick 1963).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> Rare to common in fossil and surface samples often occurring in dry bushveld where grass pollen production is apparently low (Scott 1982a).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

Identified as: Euclea

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Euclea crispa, E. natalensis

Likely parent taxa: Euclea crispa, E. natalensis

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics</u>: No morphological description available for this research.

<u>Ecology:</u> *Euclea* are found in montane and subalpine grasslands of Cathedral peak (Killick 1963).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics</u>: *Euclea* are regarded as rare to common in fossil and surface samples often occurring in dry bushveld where grass pollen production is apparently low (Scott 1982a).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

### **ERICACEAE**

Identified as: Undifferentiated

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Erica

Likely parent taxa: Erica

Pollen morphological characteristics (on Genus level): An unmistakable palynomorph. Inaperturate, psilate, scabrate, fossulate, rugulate tetrad. 28-55 μm (Coetzee 1955).

<u>Ecology:</u> Ericaceae are found in montane and subalpine grasslands and the alpine heath environments of Cathedral Peak (Scott 1982a; Killick 1963). The presence of >5% of this taxa indicates the lowering of vegetation belts. At 23°S Ericaceae usually occurs up to 1000m (Scott 1982a). It is often associated with fynbos environments that have cool, sub humid conditions with a relatively even seasonal moisture distribution (Scott 1999).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> Ericaceae is considered to be moderately well dispersed (Hamilton 1972)

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-Arboreal

# **ERIOCAULACEAE**

Identified as: Eriocaulon

Genus found at Dartmoor Vlei: Eriocaulon

Likely parent taxa: Eriocaulon

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level):</u> Grains spherical, anaperturate and of uniform size. Exine folded into a spiral creating 4 – 5 low ridges, separated by narrow grooves on the sides (van Zinderen Bakker, 1953).

Ecology: *Eriocaulon* is found in damp, marshy areas (Pooley, 2005)

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics</u>: No dispersal or preservation characteristics available for this research.

Local / Regional: Local

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-arboreal

# **EUPHORBIACEAE**

<u>Identified as:</u> *Euphorbia* 

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Numerous Euphorbia species

<u>Likely parent taxa</u>: Pollen morphological characteristics: No morphological description available for this research.

Ecology: Herbaceous species found in the sub-alpine grasslands (Scott 1982a; Killick 1963).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics</u>: Herbaceous, have very well, long distance dispersal pollen (Hamilton 1972) which occur as montane forests in East Africa. They can have unrealistic over-representation and should be considered excluded from pollen sum (Scott 1982a).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-Arboreal

Identified as: Undifferentiated

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Acalypha, Adenocline, Clutia, Dalechampia, Euphorbia, Excoecaria, Jatropha, Leidesia, Micrococca, Phyllanthus, Sclerocroton, Surgada

Likely parent taxa: Unknown

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Genus level):</u> No morphological description available for this research.

<u>Ecology:</u> Herbaceous, have very well, long distance dispersal pollen (Hamilton 1972) which occur as montane forests in East Africa. They can have unrealistic over-representation and should be considered excluded from pollen sum (Scott 1982a).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics</u>: Well dispersed pollen over long distances (Hamilton 1972).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

### **FABACEAE**

Identified as: Undifferentiated

Genus found at Dartmoor Vlei: Large array of genus and species

Likely parent taxa: Unknown

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level):</u> No morphological characteristics available for this research.

<u>Ecology:</u> Second largest plant family. Found in grasslands, varying from damp to rocky (Pooley, 2005)

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> No dispersal or preservation characteristics available for this research.

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-arboreal

# **GERANIACEAE**

**Identified as:** Undifferetiated

Genus found at Dartmoor Vlei: Geranium, Monsonia, Pelargonium

Likely parent taxa: Geranium, Monsonia, Pelargonium

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level):</u> No morphological description available for this research.

Ecology: Found in damp, sheltered places, and montane grassland (Pooley, 2005).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics</u>: No dispersal or preservation characteristics available for this research.

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-arboreal

# **HALORAGACEAE**

Identified as: Gunnera

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Gunnera perpensa

Likely parent taxa: Gunnera perpensa

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Genus level):</u> No morphological description available for this research.

<u>Ecology</u>: *Gunnera* are found in the subalpine grasslands of Cathedral Peak (Killick 1963) under aquatic conditions (Scott 1982a); *Gunnera* is a large semi-aquatic, perennial herb common in marshy environments up to 2400 m growing typically on the edge of wetlands and in drier areas of the wetland. This species is thought to be highly responsive to changes in the hydrological budget (Finch *et al.* 2009).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics</u>: Pollen is considered to be over-represented due to its local dominance at the swamp site (Finch *et al.* 2009).

Local / Regional: Local

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-Arboreal

#### **HYPERICACEAE**

Identified as: Hypericum

Genus found at Dartmoor Vlei: Hypericum

<u>Likely parent taxa:</u> *Hypericum* 

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level):</u> monad, isopolar, radio-symmetric, tricolporate, colpi lengthy and narrow, recessed, constricted at the equator, pores distinct (Heusser, 1971)

Ecology: Herb, found in grassland and marshy areas (Pooley, 2005).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> No dispersal or preservation characteristics available for this research.

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-arboreal

# **IRIDACEAE**

Identified as: Undifferentiated

Genus found at Dartmoor Vlei: Aristea, Crocosmia, Dierama, Dietes, Gladiolus, Hesperantha, Morea, Sisyrnchium, Tritonia, Watsonia

Likely parent taxa: Unknown

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level):</u> Grains generally large in size, acolpate, monosulcate, disulcate or with 1 or 2 anastomosing furrows. Exine is thin, psilate, minutely granulate, verrucate, reticulate or with blunt or spiny projections (van Zinderen Bakker, 1953).

<u>Ecology:</u> Found in a variety of conditions, from grassland to marshy, damp areas and stream banks (Pooley, 2005).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> Insect pollinated, not very likely to occur in air or in geological deposits (van Zinderen Bakker, 1953).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-arboreal

### **LAMIACEAE**

<u>Identified as</u>: *Undifferentiated* 

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Ajuga, Chlerodendrum, Hemizygia, Leonotis, Leucas, Mentha, Micromeria, Ocimum, Plectranthus, Pycnostachys, Rabdosiella, Rotheca, Stachys, Syncolostemon, Teucrium

Likely parent taxa: Unknown

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics:</u> No morphological description available for this research.

**Ecology**: No ecological data is available for this research.

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> No dispersal or preservation characteristics available for this research.

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-Arboreal

Identified as: Leonotis

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Ajuga, Chlerodendrum, Hemizygia, Leonotis, Leucas, Mentha, Micromeria, Ocimum, Plectranthus, Pycnostachys, Rabdosiella, Rotheca, Stachys, Syncolostemon, Teucrium

Likely parent taxa: Leonotis

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics:</u> No morphological description available for this research.

**Ecology**: No ecological data is available for this research.

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> No dispersal or preservation characteristics available for this research.

Local / Regional: Regional

<u>Arboreal / Non-Arboreal</u>: Non-Arboreal

### LILIACEAE

Identified as: Undifferentiated

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Agapanthus, Aloe, Eriospermum, Kniphofia, Scilla

Likely parent taxa: Unknown

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level):</u> mostly monosulcate, sometimes anaperturate or trichotomosulcate; exine psilate, pitted, granulate or reticulate, subchinate or echinate (van Zinderen Bakker 1953).

<u>Ecology</u>: Liliaceae are insect pollinated with low concentrations of pollen being produced; therefore the pollen may be under-represented in pollen rain and sediment records (van Zinderen Bakker 1953).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics</u>: No dispersal or preservation characteristics available for this research.

Local / Regional: Local

<u>Arboreal / Non-Arboreal:</u> Non-Arboreal

# **MIMOSOIDEAE**

Identified as: Type II

Genus found at Dartmoor Vlei: Introduced species

Likely parent taxa: Acacia

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level):</u> No morphological characteristics available for this research.

Ecology: Native to Australia, introduced to South Africa in 1964 (Sherry, 1968; Owen and van der Zel, 2000).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> No dispersal and preservation characteristics available for this research.

Local / Regional: Regional

<u>Arboreal / Non-Arboreal</u>: Arboreal (Neophytes)

# **MYRICACEAE**

Identified as: Myrica

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Myrica

Likely parent taxa: Myrica

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Genus level):</u> usually triporate, aspidate, oblate, with equatorial diameter 22-36 µm; 2,4, or 6 pores; ambit triangular with convex sides; irregular arrangement pores; mostly circular, sometime elliptical; thickening of exine under aspis is of tarsus pattern or transition between this and club-shaped pattern; exine is two layers surface slightly roughened or minutely granulate (van Zinderen Bakker 1953).

<u>Ecology:</u> *Myrica* is found in montane grasslands and forests of Cathedral Peak (Killick 1963) occurring within and on the forest margins under sub-humid conditions (Scott 1982a, 1999).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> This pollen is considered moderately well dispersed over long distances in East Africa (Scott 1982a; Hamilton 1972).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

#### **MYRTACEAE**

Identified as: Undifferentiated

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Eugenia, Syzigium

Likely parent taxa: Unknown

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level):</u> No morphological description available for this research.

<u>Ecology:</u> Eucalyptus is an exotic neophyte associated with human activity but also occurring within montane forest types (Finch *et al.* 2009).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> The pollen is moderately well dispersed (Finch *et al.* 2009).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

#### **OLEACEAE**

Identified as: Undifferentiated

Genus found at Dartmoor Vlei: Chionanthusm, Jasminum, Olea

Likely parent taxa: Olea

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level):</u> May be difficult to distinguish from Celastraceae pollen (Scott, 1982a)

Ecology: Most likely pollen grains of *Olea africana*, associated with rocky slopes

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> Considered to be well dispersed in East Africa (Scott, 1982a)

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

# **OXALIDACEAE**

<u>Identified as:</u> Oxalis

Genus found at Dartmoor Vlei: Oxalis

Likely parent taxa: Oxalis

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level):</u> Monad, isopolar, radio-symmetric, tricolpate, colpi narrow and lengthy, largely subprolate (Heusser, 1971)

Ecology: Found in damp grassland, marshy areas, and rocky outcrops (Pooley, 2005).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> No dispersal or preservation characteristics available for this research.

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-arboreal

#### **PINACEAE**

Identified as: Pinus

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Not native; introduced

Likely parent taxa: Pinus

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Genus level):</u> No morphological description available for this research.

Ecology: Exotic neophyte associated with human activity (Finch et al. 2009).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristic</u>: *Pinus* is an emophilous and therefore extremely well dispersed, contributing to over-representation in the pollen signal (Finch *et al.* 2009).

Local / Regional: Regional (neophytes)

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

# **POACEAE**

Identified as: Undifferentiated

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Large array of genera and species

<u>Likely parent taxa</u>: Members of the Poaceae family

Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level): spheroidal or more or less ovoidal; 22-little +100μm; single germ spore surrounded by thickened rim; psilate; wild grass usually 20-25μm; spherical / ellipsoidal; less 1μm exine; ulcus lee 2μm across; impossible to ID different grasses spp based on size (van Zinderen Bakker 1953).

<u>Ecology:</u> *Poaceae* are found in regional humid conditions with summer rainfall (Scott and Nyakale 2002) under strong evaporative conditions (Scott *et al.* 2005).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristic</u>: Poaceae are well dispersed (Hamilton 1972).

Local / Regional: Local

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-Arboreal

Identified as: Zea mays

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Not native, introduced crop

<u>Likely parent taxa:</u> Members of the Poaceae family

Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level): spheroidal or more or less ovoidal; cereal grass 35-40μm; exine 1-2μm; uluc 2-7μm across; most SA grass could be classified as cereal probably due to polypoidy; impossible to ID different grasses spp based on size (van Zinderen Bakker 1953).

<u>Ecology</u>: Introduced crop, not native. *Poaceae* are found in regional humid conditions with summer rainfall (Scott and Nyakale 2002) under strong evaporative conditions (Scott *et al.* 2005).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristic:</u> Poaceae are well dispersed (Hamilton 1972)

<u>Local / Regional:</u> Local (neophytes)

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-Arboreal

#### **PODOCARPACEAE**

Identified as: Podocarpus

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Podocarpus falcatus, P. henkelii, P. latifolius

Likely parent taxa: Podocarpus falcatus, P. henkelii, P. latifolius

Pollen morphological characteristics (on Genus level): Six species in South Africa occur in mountainous regions from the Cape Peninsula coastal belt to KwaZulu-Natal and into Mpumalanga; wind pollinated; grains: monosulcate, spherical to ellipsoidal, saccate, provided with 2,3 and exceptionally 4 air-sacs; 2 sac grains range 23-45μm diameter; proximal side arched; thick exine; sulcus on distal face, sharply defined, surrounded airsacs,; Bladders: at the inside with reticulate thickenings, which merge with structure of proximal face; large, but mostly weak and flaccid (van Zinderen Bakker 1953).

<u>Ecology:</u> *Podocarpus* are found in the montane forests and subalpine grasslands of Cathedral Peak (Killick 1963). It is often a forest-dweller (Scott 1982a) favouring relatively moist conditions (Scott 1999).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristic</u>: Pollen grains produced large numbers, each with air bladders making the grains very buoyant with the ability to be well dispersed by wind over long distances (Scott 1982a; Hamilton 1972). As such they can be easily overrepresented in pollen sums (Scott 1982a).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

#### **POLYGALACEAE**

Identified as: Polygala

Genus found at Dartmoor Vlei: Muraltia, Polygala

Likely parent taxa: Polygala

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Family level)</u>: Grain diameter ranging from 16 - 18 µm, with or without furrows (van Zinderen Bakker 1956).

Ecology: Widespread, more common in grassland than marshy conditions (Scott, 1982a).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristics:</u> Partly insect-, partly wind-pollinated (van Zinderen Bakker 1956). Rarely recorded in peat deposits, occasionally found in surface samples (Scott, 1982a).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

#### **PROTEACEAE**

Identified as: Protea

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Protea

<u>Likely parent taxa:</u> *Protea* 

Pollen morphological characteristics (on Genus level): triporate, oblate, disc-shaped, 23-39μm equatorial diameter; ambit triangular with rounded angles; angles slightly bent towards proximal side; pores at angles slightly elliptical; thin exine 1.1-1.5μm; two layers, nearly devoid of sculpturing; some scattered granules or scrobiculate (van Zinderen Bakker 1953).

<u>Ecology:</u> *Protea* is found in the montane and sub-alpine grasslands and montane forests of Cathedral Peak (Killick 1963). It is also found in upland and mesic savanna under sub-humid conditions (Scott 1999).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristic:</u> *Protea* is found under wide range temperatures (Scott 1999); 100-130 spp in SA mostly SW districts of Cape Province, but extending into Natal Transvaal Basutoland, Swaziland (van Zinderen Bakker 1953).

Local / Regional: Regional

<u>Arboreal / Non-Arboreal:</u> Arboreal

### ROSACEAE

Identified as: Cliffortia

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Cliffortia linearifolia, C. repens, C. strobilifera

<u>Likely parent taxa:</u> Cliffortia linearifolia, C. repens, C. strobilifera

Pollen morphological characteristics (on Genus level): grains 3-4 porate; spheroidal to suboblate; ambit circular; medium sized; pori: protruding; surrounded thick collar; often irregular outline; surrounded granules and small cracks in exine; exine: 2-3µm thick; nexine 0.5µm; baculate; crassitegillate; punctitegillate (van Zinderen Bakker and Coetzee 1959).

<u>Ecology:</u> *Cliffortia* is found in montane and sub-alpine grasslands and alpine heath environments of Cathedral Peak (Killick 1963), usually under moist but also drier conditions (Scott 1982a).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristic:</u> There are 78 species of *Cliffortia* occurring mostly in the south-west Cape but with a few species extending eastwards along the coastal belt (van Zinderen Bakker and Coetzee 1959).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

Identified as: Leucosidea

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Leucosidea sericea

Likely parent taxa: Leucosidea sericea

Pollen morphological characteristics (on Genus level): 3 colpate; prolate to prolate spheroidal; sometimes slightly constricted at equator; fossaperturate; size: 22.4-28μm; Apertures: long, pointed end at poles; 5.5μm apart; membrane psilate; constricted at equator over distance of 4-5.5μm; equatorial area sometimes protruding;; ora oblongata; exine: 2-2.5μm thick; stratification obscure; with regular striate pattern (van Zinderen Bakker and Coetzee 1959).

<u>Ecology:</u> *Leucosidea* is found in the montane and sub-alpine grasslands of Cathedral Peak (Killick 1963). It is found at high altitudes, in grasslands, on mountain slopes and often near water. May become invasive in overgrazed or eroded areas (Pooley, 2005).

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristic:</u> *Leucosidea* is endemic with one species occurring from Limpopo through to the mountains of the eastern escarpment as far south as Queenstown in the Eastern Cape (van Zinderen Bakker and Coetzee 1959).

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

Identified as: Undifferentiated

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Agrimonia, Alchemilla, Cliffortia, Duchesnea, Leucosidea, Prunus. Rubus

<u>Likely parent taxa:</u> Agrimonia, Alchemilla, Cliffortia, Duchesnea, Leucosidea, Prunus, Rubus

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics (on Genus level):</u> No morphological description available for this research.

**Ecology**: No ecological description is found for this research.

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristic</u>: No dispersal or preservation characteristics available for this research.

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Arboreal

#### **THYMELEACEAE**

**Identified as:** Undifferentiated

Genera found at Dartmoor Vlei: Englerodaphne, Gnidia, Passerina, Peddiea

Likely parent taxa: Unkown

<u>Pollen morphological characteristics</u>: No morphological description available for this research.

Ecology: Occurs in grasslands (Scott 1982a)

<u>Dispersal and preservation characteristic:</u> No dispersal or preservation characteristics available for this research.

Local / Regional: Regional

Arboreal / Non-Arboreal: Non-Arboreal

## Appendix P

# Species list of Dartmoor Vlei (adapted from SANBI Integrated Biodiversity Information System)

Family	Scientific Name	CollectionCode
ACANTHACEAE	Adhatoda densiflora	PRECIS (KZN)
ACANTHACEAE	Barleria elegans	PRECIS
ACANTHACEAE	Barleria ovata	PRECIS
ACANTHACEAE	Chaetacanthus burchellii	PRECIS
ACANTHACEAE	Chaetacanthus setiger	PRECIS
ACANTHACEAE	Crabbea hirsuta	PRECIS
ACANTHACEAE	Dicliptera clinopodia	Acocks
ACANTHACEAE	Dicliptera extenta	PRECIS
ACANTHACEAE	Dicliptera quintasii	Acocks
ACANTHACEAE	Dicliptera zeylanica	Acocks
ACANTHACEAE	Hypoestes aristata var. aristata	PRECIS
ACANTHACEAE	Hypoestes forskaolii	PRECIS
ACANTHACEAE	Isoglossa eckloniana	PRECIS
ACANTHACEAE	Isoglossa grantii	PRECIS (KZN)
ACANTHACEAE	Isoglossa woodii	PRECIS
ACANTHACEAE	Justicia campylostemon	PRECIS
ACANTHACEAE	Justicia protracta subsp. protracta	PRECIS
ACANTHACEAE	Ruellia baurii	PRECIS (KZN)
ACANTHACEAE	Ruellia cordata	PRECIS
ACANTHACEAE	Ruellia woodii	PRECIS
ACANTHACEAE	Sclerochiton harveyanus	Acocks
ACANTHACEAE	Sclerochiton odoratissimus	PRECIS
ACANTHACEAE	Thunbergia atriplicifolia	PRECIS
ACANTHACEAE	Thunbergia natalensis	PRECIS
ACANTHACEAE	Thunbergia venosa	PRECIS
ACHARIACEAE	Ceratiosicyos laevis	PRECIS
ACHARIACEAE	Kiggelaria africana	Acocks
ACROBOLBACEAE	Tylimanthus africanus	PRECIS
AGAPANTHACEAE	Agapanthus campanulatus subsp. Campanulatus*	PRECIS
AGAPANTHACEAE	Agapanthus campanulatus subsp. patens	PRECIS
AGAPANTHACEAE	Agapanthus praecox subsp. praecox	Gardens (KBG)
AIZOACEAE	Delosperma lineare	Bolus Herbarium
AIZOACEAE	Delosperma spp*	Anel Geer
ALLIACEAE	Alepdea setifera*	Anel Geer
ALLIACEAE	Tulbaghia acutiloba	PRECIS (KZN)
ALLIACEAE	Tulbaghia ludwigiana	PRECIS
ALLIACEAE	Tulbaghia natalensis	PRECIS
AMARANTHACEAE	Achyranthes aspera var. aspera	Acocks
AMARANTHACEAE	Alternanthera pungens	Acocks
AMARANTHACEAE	Cyathula cylindrica var. cylindrica	PRECIS
AMARANTHACEAE	Gomphrena celosioides	Acocks
AMARYLLIDACEAE	Apodolirion buchananii	PRECIS (KZN)
AMARYLLIDACEAE	Boophone disticha	PRECIS
AMARYLLIDACEAE	Brunsvigia grandiflora	PRECIS PRECIS
AMARYLLIDACEAE	Brunsvigia natalensis	
AMARYLLIDACEAE	Brunsvigia radulosa	PRECIS PRECIS
AMARYLLIDACEAE AMARYLLIDACEAE	Brunsvigia undulata Crinum bulbispermum	PRECIS
AMARYLLIDACEAE	Cyrtanthus breviflorus*	
AMARYLLIDACEAE	Cyrtanthus contractus	PRECIS PRECIS
AMARYLLIDACEAE	Cyrtantnus contractus Cyrtanthus falcatus	PRECIS PRECIS
AMARYLLIDACEAE	Cyrtanthus galpinii	PRECIS
AMARYLLIDACEAE	Cyrtanthus sp.	PRECIS
AMARYLLIDACEAE	Cyrtanthus sp. Cyrtanthus stenanthus var. stenanthus	PRECIS (KZN)
I MITIK I ELIDAÇLAE	Cyrianius sienanius var. sienanius	I KLUD (KZN)

ScientificName CollectionCode **Family** AMARYLLIDACEAE Cyrtanthus tuckii var. transvaalensis **PRECIS** AMARYLLIDACEAE Cyrtanthus tuckii var. tuckii Gardens (KBG) PRECIS AMARYLLIDACEAE Cyrtanthus tuckii var. viridilobus AMARYLLIDACEAE Nerine appendiculata **PRECIS** AMARYLLIDACEAE **PRECIS** Nerine pancratioides\* AMARYLLIDACEAE **PRECIS** Nerine sp. AMARYLLIDACEAE **PRECIS** Scadoxus puniceus ANACARDIACEAE Protorhus longifolia Acocks ANACARDIACEAE Rhus species\* Anel Geer ANACARDIACEAE Rhus chirindensis Acocks ANACARDIACEAE Rhus discolor\* Acocks ANACARDIACEAE Rhus lucida forma lucida Acocks ANACARDIACEAE Rhus transvaalensis Acocks ANACARDIACEAE **PRECIS** Searsia dentata ANACARDIACEAE **PRECIS** Searsia discolor ANACARDIACEAE Searsia leptodictya forma leptodictya PRECIS ANACARDIACEAE Searsia lucida forma lucida **PRECIS** ANACARDIACEAE Searsia pentheri **PRECIS** ANACARDIACEAE Searsia pyroides var. gracilis **PRECIS** PRECIS (KZN) ANACARDIACEAE Searsia pyroides var. integrifolia ANACARDIACEAE Searsia rehmanniana var. glabrata **PRECIS ANEMIACEAE** Anemia dregeana **PRECIS ANEMIACEAE** Mohria caffrorum\* Acocks **ANEMIACEAE** Mohria vestita **PRECIS ANEURACEAE** Riccardia fastigiata **PRECIS** ANNONACEAE Monanthotaxis caffra Acocks ANNONACEAE Uvaria caffra Acocks ANOMODONTACEAE Anomodon pseudotristis **PRECIS** ANTHERICACEAE Anthericum fasciculatum PRECIS (KZN) ANTHERICACEAE Chlorophytum comosum PRECIS (KZN) ANTHERICACEAE Chlorophytum cooperi **PRECIS** ANTHERICACEAE Chlorophytum krookianum **PRECIS** ANTHOCEROTACEAE Anthoceros natalensis **PRECIS** APIACEAE Afrosciadium caffrum **PRECIS** APIACEAE Alepidea amatymbica var. amatymbica PRECIS (KZN) APIACEAE Alepidea peduncularis **PRECIS** APIACEAE Apium sp. **PRECIS** APIACEAE Centella asiatica Acocks APIACEAE Centella sp. **PRECIS** APIACEAE Conium fontanum var. silvaticum **PRECIS** APIACEAE Conium sp. **PRECIS** APIACEAE Heteromorpha arborescens var. abyssinica **PRECIS** APIACEAE Notobubon laevigatum **PRECIS** APIACEAE Sanicula elata Acocks APIACEAE Sium repandum **PRECIS** APOCYNACEAE Asclepias albens **PRECIS** APOCYNACEAE Asclepias bicuspis PRECIS (KZN) APOCYNACEAE **PRECIS** Asclepias brevicuspis APOCYNACEAE Asclepias cucullata subsp. cucullata **PRECIS** APOCYNACEAE Asclepias cultriformis **PRECIS** APOCYNACEAE **PRECIS** Asclepias dregeana var. calceola APOCYNACEAE **PRECIS** Asclepias macropus APOCYNACEAE **PRECIS** Asclepias sp. APOCYNACEAE **PRECIS** Asclepias woodii APOCYNACEAE **PRECIS** Aspidoglossum araneiferum APOCYNACEAE **PRECIS** Aspidoglossum biflorum APOCYNACEAE **PRECIS** Aspidoglossum fasciculare **PRECIS** APOCYNACEAE Aspidoglossum glanduliferum APOCYNACEAE **PRECIS** Aspidoglossum ovalifolium APOCYNACEAE Aspidoglossum woodii Acocks

Family	Scientific Name	CollectionCode
APOCYNACEAE	Aspidonepsis diploglossa	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Aspidonepsis flava	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Carissa bispinosa	Acocks
APOCYNACEAE	Ceropegia linearis subsp. linearis	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Ceropegia linearis subsp. woodii	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Cryptolepis capensis	PRECIS (KZN)
APOCYNACEAE	Cynanchum ellipticum	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Fanninia caloglossa	PRECIS (KZN)
APOCYNACEAE	Miraglossum pilosum	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Miraglossum pulchellum	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Pachycarpus campanulatus var. campanulatus*	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Pachycarpus campanulatus var. sutherlandii	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Pachycarpus grandiflorus subsp. grandiflorus	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Pachycarpus natalensis	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Pentarrhinum insipidum	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Periglossum angustifolium	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Raphionacme hirsuta	Acocks
APOCYNACEAE	Raphionacme palustris	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Riocreuxia torulosa var. torulosa	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Schizoglossum flavum	PRECIS (KZN)
APOCYNACEAE	Schizoglossum hamatum	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Schizoglossum stenoglossum subsp. stenoglossum	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Secamone alpini	Acocks
APOCYNACEAE	Secamone filiformis	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Sisyranthus trichostomus	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Strophanthus speciosus	Acocks
APOCYNACEAE	Woodia verruculosa	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Xysmalobium gerrardii	PRECIS (KZN)
APOCYNACEAE	Xysmalobium involucratum*	PRECIS
APOCYNACEAE	Xysmalobium stockenstromense	PRECIS (KZN)
APOCYNACEAE	Xysmalobium undulatum var. undulatum	PRECIS
APONOGETONACEAE	Aponogeton junceus*	PRECIS
APONOGETONACEAE	Aponogeton junceus subsp. natalense	PRECIS (KZN)
APONOGETONACEAE	Aponogeton natalensis	PRECIS
APONOGETONACEAE	Aponogeton sp.	PRECIS
AQUIFOLIACEAE	Ilex mitis var. mitis	PRECIS
ARACEAE	Zantedeschia aethiopica	PRECIS
ARACEAE	Zantedeschia albomaculata subsp. albomaculata	PRECIS
ARALIACEAE	Cussonia nicholsonii	PRECIS
ARALIACEAE	Cussonia spicata	Acocks
ARALIACEAE	Hydrocotyle sibthorpioides	PRECIS
ARALIACEAE	Schefflera umbellifera	Acocks
ARTHONIACEAE	Arthonia trilocularis	PRECIS
ASPARAGACEAE	Asparagus africanus	PRECIS
ASPARAGACEAE	Asparagus asparagoides	PRECIS (WZN)
ASPARAGACEAE	Asparagus cooperi	PRECIS (KZN)
ASPARAGACEAE ASPARAGACEAE	Asparagus devenishii	PRECIS (KZN) PRECIS
	Asparagus laricinus	
ASPARAGACEAE	Asparagus ramosissimus	PRECIS
ASPARAGACEAE ASPARAGACEAE	Asparagus setaceus	PRECIS
	Asparagus virgatus	Acocks Acocks
ASPARAGACEAE	Asparagus volubilis	
ASPHODELACEAE ASPHODELACEAE	Aloe arborescens Aloe cooperi subsp. cooperi	PRECIS PRECIS
ASPHODELACEAE	Aloe cooperi suosp. cooperi Aloe ecklonis	PRECIS PRECIS
ASPHODELACEAE	Aloe linearifolia	PRECIS PRECIS
ASPHODELACEAE	Aloe unearijoua Aloe maculata	PRECIS PRECIS
ASPHODELACEAE	Aloe micracantha	PRECIS PRECIS
ASPHODELACEAE	Aloe micracanina Aloe mudenensis	PRECIS PRECIS
ASPHODELACEAE	Atoe muaenensis Bulbine abyssinica	PRECIS PRECIS
ASPHODELACEAE	Биіріне abyssinica Kniphofia brachystachya	PRECIS (KZN)
ASITIODELACEAE	ктрпојш отиснумиснуи	I RECID (RZN)

Family	Scientific Name	CollectionCode
ASPHODELACEAE	Kniphofia buchananii	PRECIS
ASPHODELACEAE	Kniphofia fluviatilis	PRECIS
ASPHODELACEAE	Kniphofia ichopensis var. aciformis	PRECIS (KZN)
ASPHODELACEAE	Kniphofia ichopensis var. ichopensis	PRECIS
ASPHODELACEAE	Kniphofia latifolia	PRECIS
ASPHODELACEAE	Kniphofia laxiflora*	PRECIS (KZN)
ASPHODELACEAE	Kniphofia linearifolia	Gardens (KBG)
ASPHODELACEAE	Kniphofia sp.*	Gardens (KBG)
ASPHODELACEAE	Kniphofia tysonii subsp. tysonii	PRECIS
ASPHODELACEAE	Trachyandra asperata*	Anel Geer
ASPHODELACEAE	Trachyandra asperata var. stenophylla	PRECIS (KZN)
ASPHODELACEAE	Trachyandra gerrardii	PRECIS
ASPHODELACEAE	Trachyandra saltii var. saltii*	PRECIS
ASPHODELACEAE	Trachyandra sp.	PRECIS
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium aethiopicum	PRECIS
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium aethiopicum subsp. aethiopicum	Acocks
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium boltonii	PRECIS
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium dregeanum	PRECIS
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium erectum	PRECIS (KZN)
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium erectum var. erectum	PRECIS
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium gemmiferum	PRECIS
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium inaequilaterale	PRECIS (WZN)
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium lobatum	PRECIS (KZN)
ASPLENIACE AE	Asplenium lobatum var. lobatum	PRECIS Acocks
ASPLENIACEAE ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium lunulatum Asplenium monanthes	Acocks
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium monanines Asplenium preussii	PRECIS
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium protensum	Gardens (KBG)
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium rutifolium	PRECIS
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium sandersonii	PRECIS
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium simii	PRECIS (KZN)
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium splendens subsp. splendens	PRECIS
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium stoloniferum	PRECIS
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium theciferum var. concinnum	PRECIS
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium trichomanes subsp. quadrivalens	PRECIS
ASPLENIACEAE	Asplenium varians subsp. fimbriatum	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Acanthospermum australe	Acocks
ASTERACEAE	Adenostemma caffrum var. caffrum	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Arctotis arctotoides	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Artemisia afra var. afra	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Aster bakerianus*	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Aster bakerianus subsp. intermedius	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Aster pleiocephalus	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Athanasia sp.	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Athrixia fontana	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE ASTERACEAE	Berkheya acanthopoda	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Berkheya echinacea* Berkheya erysithales	Anel Geer PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Berkheya maritima	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Berkheya rhapontica*	Anel Geer
ASTERACEAE	Berkheya rhapontica subsp. platyptera	PRECIS (KZN)
ASTERACEAE	Berkheya setifera	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Berkheya speciosa subsp. ovata	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Berkheya speciosa subsp. speciosa	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Bidens bipinnata	Acocks
ASTERACEAE	Bidens pilosa	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Brachylaena elliptica	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Brachylaena huillensis	Gardens (KBG)
ASTERACEAE	Centaurea melitensis	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Cineraria deltoidea	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Cineraria grandibracteata	PRECIS

Family	Scientific Name	CollectionCode
ASTERACEAE	Cineraria sp.	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Cirsium vulgare*	Acocks
ASTERACEAE	Conyza albida	PRECIS (KZN)
ASTERACEAE	Conyza bonariensis	Acocks
ASTERACEAE	Conyza canadensis	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Conyza pinnata	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Conyza scabrida	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Conyza sumatrensis var. sumatrensis	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Conyza ulmifolia	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Cotula australis	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Cotula hispida	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Cotula nigellifolia var. nigellifolia	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Cotula nigellifolia var. tenuior	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Crepis hypochaeridea	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Delairea odorata	Acocks
ASTERACEAE	Denekia capensis*	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Dimorphotheca caulescens	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Dimorphotheca jucunda	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Euryops laxus*	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Euryops transvaalensis subsp. setilobus	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Felicia muricata subsp. muricata	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Felicia quinquenervia	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Felicia wrightii*	Anel Geer
ASTERACEAE	Galinsoga parviflora	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Gamochaeta pensylvanica	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Gamochaeta subfalcata	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Garuleum sonchifolium	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Gazania krebsiana subsp. krebsiana	PRECIS (KZN)
ASTERACEAE	Gazania linearis var. linearis	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Gazania rigens var. uniflora	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Gazania rigens*	Anel Geer
ASTERACEAE	Gerbera ambigua*	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Gerbera aurantiaca	PRECIS (KZN)
ASTERACEAE	Gerbera natalensis	PRECIS (KZN)
ASTERACEAE	Gerbera piloselloides	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Gnaphalium austroafricanum	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Gnaphalium confine	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Gnaphalium declinatum	Acocks
ASTERACEAE	Gnaphalium griquense	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Gymnanthemum corymbosum	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Gymnanthemum crataegifolium	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Gymnanthemum mespilifolium	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Haplocarpha scaposa	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum acutatum	PRECIS (KZN)
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum adenocarpum subsp. Adenocarpum*	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum allioides*	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum appendiculatum*	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum argentissimum	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum argyrolepis	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum aureonitens*	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum aureum*	Anel Geer
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum aureum var. monocephalum	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum auriceps	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum caespititium	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum callicomum	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum cooperi	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum glomeratum	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum herbaceum	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum krebsianum	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum melanacme	PRECIS
ASTERACEAE	Helichrysum natalitium	PRECIS

**Family** Scientific Name CollectionCode **ASTERACEAE** Helichrysum nudifolium var. nudifolium **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Helichrysum nudifolium var. pilosellum **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Helichrysum oligopappum PRECIS (KZN) **ASTERACEAE** Helichrysum pallidum **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Helichrysum pilosellum\* PRECIS (KZN) **ASTERACEAE** Helichrysum platypterum **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Helichrysum rugulosum **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Helichrysum simillimum Acocks **ASTERACEAE** Helichrysum spiralepis\* **PRECIS** ASTERACEAE Helichrysum spodiophyllum **PRECIS** ASTERACEAE Helichrysum spp\* Anel Geer **ASTERACEAE** Helichrysum sutherlandii **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Helichrysum umbraculigerum Acocks **ASTERACEAE** Helichrysum vernum PRECIS (KZN) **ASTERACEAE** Hilliardia zuurbergensis Acocks **ASTERACEAE** Hilliardiella aristata **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Hilliardiella hirsuta **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Hilliardiella nudicaulis **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Hilliardiella oligocephala **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Hirpicium armerioides **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Hypochaeris radicata\* **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Inulanthera dregeana **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Inulanthera tridens **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Lactuca inermis Acocks **ASTERACEAE** Lactuca tysonii **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Laggera crispata Acocks **ASTERACEAE PRECIS** Launaea nana **ASTERACEAE PRECIS** Leucanthemum vulgare **ASTERACEAE** Macowania corymbosa\* Anel Geer **ASTERACEAE PRECIS** Matricaria sp. **ASTERACEAE PRECIS** Mikania capensis **ASTERACEAE** Mikania cordata **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Nidorella anomala **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Nidorella auriculata PRECIS (KZN) **ASTERACEAE** Nidorella hottentotica PRECIS Nidorella resedifolia subsp. resedifolia PRECIS **ASTERACEAE ASTERACEAE** Oligocarpus calendulaceus **PRECIS** ASTERACEAE **PRECIS** Othonna natalensis ASTERACEAE Phymaspermum acerosum Acocks ASTERACEAE Plecostachys serpyllifolia Acocks ASTERACEAE PRECIS (KZN) Printzia auriculata ASTERACEAE Printzia pyrifolia Acocks **PRECIS** ASTERACEAE Pseudognaphalium luteo-album ASTERACEAE **PRECIS** Pseudognaphalium oligandrum **ASTERACEAE** Pulicaria scabra Acocks **ASTERACEAE** Scenecio oxyriifolius\* Anel Geer ASTERACEAE Schistostephium crataegifolium\* **PRECIS** ASTERACEAE Schkuhria pinnata Acocks ASTERACEAE **PRECIS** Senecio affinis ASTERACEAE Senecio albanensis var. albanensis **PRECIS** ASTERACEAE Senecio albanensis var. doroniciflorus **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio barbatus **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio breviscapus **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio bupleuroides Acocks **ASTERACEAE** Senecio burchellii Acocks **ASTERACEAE** Senecio cathcartensis **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio caudatus Acocks **ASTERACEAE** Senecio coronatus **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio decurrens **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio deltoideus Acocks

**Family** Scientific Name CollectionCode **ASTERACEAE PRECIS** Senecio discodregeanus **ASTERACEAE** PRECIS (KZN) Senecio dregeanus **ASTERACEAE** Senecio erubescens var. erubescens **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio glaberrimus **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio harveianus\* **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio heliopsis **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio helminthioides **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio inaequidens **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio inornatus Acocks ASTERACEAE Senecio isatideus **PRECIS** ASTERACEAE Senecio isatidiodes\* Anel Geer **ASTERACEAE** Senecio lydenburgensis **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio macrocephalus PRECIS (KZN) **ASTERACEAE** Senecio macroglossoides **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio madagascariensis **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio oxyriifolius subsp. oxyriifolius **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio paludaffinis **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio panduriformis Acocks **ASTERACEAE** Senecio paucicalyculatus **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio polyodon var. polyodon **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio polyodon var. subglaber **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio pterophorus Acocks **ASTERACEAE** Senecio quinquelobus **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio retrorsus **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio serratuloides **PRECIS ASTERACEAE PRECIS** Senecio sp. **ASTERACEAE** Senecio speciosus **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Anel Geer Senecio spp\* **ASTERACEAE** Senecio striatifolius **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio subcoriaceus **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio submontanus **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Senecio tamoides Acocks **ASTERACEAE** Seriphium plumosum Acocks **ASTERACEAE** Sonchus dregeanus Acocks **ASTERACEAE PRECIS** Sonchus jacottetianus **ASTERACEAE PRECIS** Sonchus nanus **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Sonchus wilmsii **ASTERACEAE** Spilanthes mauritiana **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Tagetes minuta Acocks **ASTERACEAE** Taraxacum officinale Acocks **ASTERACEAE** Tenrhynea phylicifolia Acocks ASTERACEAE PRECIS Tolpis capensis **ASTERACEAE** PRECIS Tragopogon sp. **ASTERACEAE** Ursinia sp. PRECIS ASTERACEAE Ursinia tenuiloba **PRECIS** ASTERACEAE Ursinia tenuiloba **PRECIS ASTERACEAE** Vernonia dregeana Acocks **ASTERACEAE** Vernonia fastigiata PRECIS ASTERACEAE **PRECIS** Vernonia gerrardii **ASTERACEAE** Vernonia hirsuta\* Anel Geer ASTERACEAE Vernonia mespilifolia Acocks ASTERACEAE Vernonia natalensis Acocks **ASTERACEAE** Vernonia oligocephala\* Anel Geer ASTERACEAE Vernonia sp. **PRECIS** ASTERACEAE **PRECIS** Vernonia thodei\* ASTERACEAE **PRECIS** Xanthium strumarium AYTONIACEAE **PRECIS** Asterella bachmannii AYTONIACEAE **PRECIS** Asterella marginata **PRECIS** AYTONIACEAE Plagiochasma rupestre var. rupestre AYTONIACEAE PRECIS Plagiochasma rupestre var. volkii BAEOMYCETACEAE PRECIS Baeomyces roseus

Family	Scientific Name	CollectionCode
BALSAMINACEAE	Impatiens hochstetteri subsp. hochstetteri	Acocks
BARTRAMIACEAE	Bartramia capensis	PRECIS
BARTRAMIACEAE	Breutelia diffracta	PRECIS
BARTRAMIACEAE	Philonotis dregeana	PRECIS
BARTRAMIACEAE	Philonotis falcata	PRECIS
BARTRAMIACEAE	Philonotis globosa	PRECIS
BARTRAMIACEAE	Philonotis hastata	PRECIS
BEGONIACEAE	Begonia geranioides	PRECIS
BEGONIACEAE	Begonia sutherlandii	PRECIS
BEGONIACEAE	Begonia sutherlandii subsp. sutherlandii	PRECIS
BEHNIACEAE	Behnia reticulata	PRECIS (KZN)
BLECHNACEAE	Blechnum attenuatum	PRECIS (KZN)
BLECHNACEAE	Blechnum australe subsp. australe	PRECIS
BLECHNACEAE	Blechnum inflexum	PRECIS
BLECHNACEAE	Blechnum punctulatum var. atherstonei	PRECIS (KZN)
BORAGINACEAE	Cynoglossum hispidum	PRECIS
BORAGINACEAE	Cynoglossum lanceolatum	PRECIS
BORAGINACEAE	Echium plantagineum	PRECIS
BORAGINACEAE	Ehretia rigida subsp. rigida	PRECIS
BORAGINACEAE	Lithospermum papillosum	PRECIS (KZN)
BORAGINACEAE	Myosotis afropalustris	PRECIS
BORAGINACEAE	Myosotis sylvatica	PRECIS
BRACHYTHECIACEAE	Brachythecium implicatum	PRECIS
BRACHYTHECIACEAE	Brachythecium subrutabulum	PRECIS
BRACHYTHECIACEAE BRACHYTHECIACEAE	Palamocladium leskeoides	PRECIS PRECIS
BRACHYTHECIACEAE	Rhynchostegiella zeyheri Rhynchostegium raphidorrhynchum	PRECIS
BRASSICACEAE	Cardamine flexuosa	PRECIS
BRASSICACEAE	Cardamine trichocarpa subsp. trichocarpa	PRECIS
BRASSICACEAE	Heliophila rigidiuscula	PRECIS
BRASSICACEAE	Nasturtium officinale	PRECIS
BRASSICACEAE	Raphanus raphanistrum	PRECIS
BRUCHIACEAE	Trematodon intermedius	PRECIS
BRUCHIACEAE	Trematodon longicollis	PRECIS
BRYACEAE	Anomobryum julaceum	PRECIS
BRYACEAE	Brachymenium acuminatum	PRECIS
BRYACEAE	Brachymenium leptophyllum	PRECIS
BRYACEAE	Brachymenium pulchrum	PRECIS
BRYACEAE	Brachymenium sp.	PRECIS
BRYACEAE	Bryum alpinum	PRECIS
BRYACEAE	Bryum andicola	PRECIS
BRYACEAE	Bryum argenteum	PRECIS
BRYACEAE	Bryum aubertii	PRECIS
BRYACEAE	Bryum sp.	PRECIS
BRYACEAE	Bryum subapiculatum	PRECIS
BRYACEAE	Rhodobryum umbraculum	PRECIS
BUDDLEJACEAE	Buddleja auriculata	PRECIS
BUDDLEJACEAE	Buddleja dysophylla	Acocks
BUDDLEJACEAE	Buddleja dysophylla	Acocks
BUDDLEJACEAE BUDDLEJACEAE	Buddleja dysophylla Buddleja dysophylla	Gardens (KBG) PRECIS
BUDDLEJACEAE	Buddleja loricata	PRECIS
BUDDLEJACEAE	Buddleja pulchella	Acocks
BUDDLEJACEAE	Buddleja salviifolia	Acocks
BUDDLEJACEAE	Gomphostigma virgatum	PRECIS
BUDDLEJACEAE	Nuxia floribunda	PRECIS
CALYMPERACEAE	Syrrhopodon gaudichaudii	PRECIS
CALYPOGEIACEAE	Calypogeia fusca	PRECIS
CAMPANULACEAE	Craterocapsa tarsodes	PRECIS
CAMPANULACEAE	Wahlenbergia krebsii subsp. Krebsii*	PRECIS
CAMPANULACEAE	Wahlenbergia pallidiflora	PRECIS

**Family** Scientific Name CollectionCode CAMPANULACEAE **PRECIS** Wahlenbergia paucidentata CAMPANULACEAE **PRECIS** Wahlenbergia sp. CAMPANULACEAE Wahlenbergia undulata **PRECIS CAPPARACEAE** Cadaba natalensis PRECIS (KZN) **CAPPARACEAE** Capparis fascicularis var. fascicularis Acocks CARYOPHYLLACEAE Cerastium arabidis **PRECIS** CARYOPHYLLACEAE Cerastium capense **PRECIS** CARYOPHYLLACEAE Dianthus crenatus PRECIS (KZN) CARYOPHYLLACEAE Dianthus zeyheri subsp. natalensis **PRECIS** CARYOPHYLLACEAE Drymaria cordata subsp. diandra Acocks CARYOPHYLLACEAE Scleranthus annuus **PRECIS** CARYOPHYLLACEAE Silene bellidioides PRECIS (KZN) CARYOPHYLLACEAE Silene burchellii var. angustifolia **PRECIS** CARYOPHYLLACEAE Silene undulata **PRECIS** CARYOPHYLLACEAE Stellaria pallida **PRECIS** CELASTRACEAE Elaeodendron croceum Acocks CELASTRACEAE Gymnosporia buxifolia **PRECIS** CELASTRACEAE Gymnosporia glaucophylla **PRECIS** CELASTRACEAE Gymnosporia grandifolia **PRECIS** CELASTRACEAE Gymnosporia harveyana PRECIS (KZN) CELASTRACEAE Gymnosporia harveyana subsp. harveyana Acocks CELASTRACEAE Gymnosporia mossambicensis Gardens (KBG) CELASTRACEAE Gymnosporia rubra Acocks CELASTRACEAE Gymnosporia sp. PRECIS (KZN) CELASTRACEAE Lauridia tetragona Acocks CELASTRACEAE Maytenus acuminata var. acuminata **PRECIS** CELASTRACEAE Maytenus heterophylla subsp. heterophylla Acocks CELASTRACEAE Maytenus peduncularis **PRECIS** CELASTRACEAE Maytenus sp. Gardens (KBG) CELASTRACEAE Maytenus undata **PRECIS** CELASTRACEAE Mystroxylon aethiopicum subsp. aethiopicum Acocks CELASTRACEAE Pristimera bojeri var. leioclada **PRECIS** CELTIDACEAE Celtis africana Acocks CELTIDACEAE Trema orientalis Acocks CEPHALOZIACEAE **PRECIS** Alobiella sp. CEPHALOZIELLACEAE **PRECIS** Cylindrocolea atroviridis CERATOPHYLLACEAE **PRECIS** Ceratophyllum demersum var. demersum COLCHICACEAE Colchicum longipes **PRECIS** COLCHICACEAE **PRECIS** Gloriosa modesta COLCHICACEAE **PRECIS** Gloriosa superba COLCHICACEAE Littonia modesta **PRECIS** COLCHICACEAE Gardens (KBG) Sandersonia aurantiaca COLCHICACEAE Wurmbea kraussii PRECIS (KZN) COMBRETACEAE Combretum apiculatum subsp. apiculatum PRECIS COMBRETACEAE PRECIS Combretum edwardsii COMBRETACEAE **PRECIS** Combretum erythrophyllum COMBRETACEAE Combretum kraussii Acocks COMMELINACEAE Commelina africana var. africana\* Acocks COMMELINACEAE PRECIS Commelina africana var. krebsiana COMMELINACEAE **PRECIS** Commelina africana var. lancispatha COMMELINACEAE Commelina benghalensis Acocks COMMELINACEAE PRECIS Commelina diffusa subsp. diffusa COMMELINACEAE PRECIS Cyanotis speciosa\* CONVOLVULACEAE **PRECIS** Convolvulus farinosus **PRECIS** CONVOLVULACEAE Convolvulus natalensis **PRECIS** CONVOLVULACEAE Convolvulus sagittatus **PRECIS** CONVOLVULACEAE Cuscuta campestris CONVOLVULACEAE Ipomoea crassipes var. crassipes Acocks CONVOLVULACEAE Ipomoea indica Acocks CONVOLVULACEAE PRECIS Ipomoea pellita CONVOLVULACEAE PRECIS Ipomoea purpurea

Family	Scientific Name	CollectionCode
CRASSULACEAE	Cotyledon orbiculata var. oblonga	PRECIS
CRASSULACEAE	Crassula alba var. alba	PRECIS
CRASSULACEAE	Crassula brachypetala*	Anel Geer
CRASSULACEAE	Crassula expansa subsp. fragilis	PRECIS
CRASSULACEAE	Crassula lanceolata subsp. transvaalensis	PRECIS (KZN)
CRASSULACEAE	Crassula lanceolata*	Anel Geer
CRASSULACEAE	Crassula natalensis*	Anel Geer
CRASSULACEAE	Crassula obovata var. obovata	PRECIS
CRASSULACEAE	Crassula pellucida subsp. brachypetala	PRECIS
CRASSULACEAE	Crassula perfoliata var. heterotricha	PRECIS (KZN)
CRASSULACEAE	Crassula sarcocaulis subsp. rupicola	PRECIS (KZN)
CRASSULACEAE	Crassula sarmentosa var. sarmentosa	PRECIS
CRASSULACEAE	Crassula setulosa Harv. var. rubra	PRECIS
CRASSULACEAE	Crassula setulosa var. setulosa forma setulosa	PRECIS
CRASSULACEAE	Crassula spathulata	Acocks
CRASSULACEAE	Crassula vaginata subsp. vaginata*	PRECIS
CRASSULACEAE	Kalanchoe crenata subsp. bieensis	PRECIS (KZN)
CRASSULACEAE	Kalanchoe rotundifolia	PRECIS
CRASSULACEAE	Kalanchoe thyrsiflora	PRECIS
CUCURBITACEAE	Coccinia hirtella	PRECIS
CUCURBITACEAE	Coccinia rehmannii	PRECIS
CUCURBITACEAE	Cucumis hirsutus	PRECIS
CUCURBITACEAE	Cucumis zeyheri	PRECIS
CUCURBITACEAE	Gerrardanthus macrorhizus	Gardens (KBG)
CUCURBITACEAE	Kedrostis foetidissima	PRECIS
CUCURBITACEAE	Momordica foetida	PRECIS
CUCURBITACEAE	Zehneria scabra subsp. scabra	PRECIS
CUNONIACEAE	Cunonia capensis	Acocks
CYATHEACEAE	Cyathea capensis var. capensis	PRECIS
CYATHEACEAE	Cyathea dregei*	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Abildgaardia ovata	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Ascolepis capensis*	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Bolboschoenus maritimus	Acocks
CYPERACEAE	Bulbostylis humilis	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE CYPERACEAE	Bulbostylis oritrephes	PRECIS PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Bulbostylis oritrephes Bulbostylis schoenoides	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Bulbostylis schoenolaes Bulbostylis scheropus	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Carex austro-africana	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Carex cognata*	Anel Geer
CYPERACEAE	Carex mossii	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Carex spicato-paniculata	Acocks
CYPERACEAE	Carex special paraculata  Carex zuluensis	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Costularia natalensis	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus albostriatus	Acocks
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus albostriatus	Acocks
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus bellus	Acocks
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus capensis	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus congestus	Acocks
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus cyperoides subsp. cyperoides	Acocks
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus denudatus var. denudatus	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus esculentus var. esculentus	Acocks
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus fastigiatus	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus indecorus var. indecorus	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus keniensis	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus latifolius	PRECIS (KZN)
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus longus var. longus	Acocks
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus obtusiflorus var. flavissimus	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus obtusiflorus var. obtusiflorus	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus owanii	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus rupestris var. rupestris	PRECIS

Family	Scientific Name	CollectionCode
Family CYPERACEAE	Cyperus sp.	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus sphaerospermus*	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Cyperus spinierospermus  Cyperus textilis	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Eleocharis dregeana	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Ficinia cinnamomea	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Ficinia gracilis	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Ficinia stolonifera	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis complanata	Acocks
CYPERACEAE	Fimbristylis dichotoma	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Fuirena pubescens var. pubescens	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Isolepis costata	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Isolepis costata var. macra	PRECIS (KZN)
CYPERACEAE	Isolepis fluitans var. fluitans	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Isolepis natans	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Isolepis sepulcralis	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Kyllinga alata	Acocks
CYPERACEAE	Kyllinga erecta var. erecta	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Kyllinga melanosperma	Acocks
CYPERACEAE	Kyllinga odorata	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Kyllinga pauciflora	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Kyllinga pulchella	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Mariscus sumatrensis	PRECIS (KZN)
CYPERACEAE	Mariscus uitenhagensis	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Pycreus cooperi	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Pycreus intactus	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Pycreus macranthus	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Pycreus niger subsp. elegantulus	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Pycreus nitidus	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Pycreus polystachyos var. laxiflorus	Acocks
CYPERACEAE	Pycreus rehmannianus	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Schoenoplectus corymbosus*	Anel Geer
CYPERACEAE	Schoenoplectus paludicola	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Schoenoxiphium lehmannii	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Schoenoxiphium sp.	PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Schoenoxiphium sparteum	PRECIS (KZN)
CYPERACEAE CYPERACEAE	Scleria bulbifera	PRECIS PRECIS
CYPERACEAE	Scleria dregeana Scleria welwitschii	
CYPERACEAE	Scieria weiwiiscnii Scleria woodii	PRECIS PRECIS
DENNSTAEDTIACEAE	Pteridium aquilinum subsp. Aquilinum*	PRECIS
DENNSTAEDTIACEAE	Pteridium aquilinum subsp. centrali-africanum	Acocks
DICRANACEAE	Campylopus bicolor subsp. atroluteus	PRECIS
DICRANACEAE	Campylopus hensii	PRECIS
DICRANACEAE	Campylopus pyriformis	PRECIS
DICRANACEAE	Campylopus robillardei	PRECIS
DICRANACEAE	Campylopus stenopelma	PRECIS
DICRANACEAE	Leucoloma rehmannii	PRECIS
DIOSCOREACEAE	Dioscorea diversifolia	PRECIS
DIOSCOREACEAE	Dioscorea rupicola	PRECIS
DIOSCOREACEAE	Dioscorea sp.	Gardens (KBG)
DIPSACACEAE	Cephalaria humilis	PRECIS (KZN)
DIPSACACEAE	Cephalaria natalensis	PRECIS
DIPSACACEAE	Scabiosa columbaria*	PRECIS
DIPSACACEAE	Scabiosa tysonii	PRECIS
DITRICHACEAE	Ditrichum brachypodum	PRECIS
DRACAENACEAE	Dracaena aletriformis	Acocks
DROSERACEAE	Drosera natalensis*	PRECIS
DRYOPTERIDACEAE	Arachniodes foliosa	PRECIS
DRYOPTERIDACEAE	Arachniodes webbiana subsp. foliosa	Gardens (KBG)
DRYOPTERIDACEAE	Cyrtomium caryotideum var. caryotideum	PRECIS (KZN)
DRYOPTERIDACEAE	Cyrtomium caryotideum var. micropterum	PRECIS

Family	Scientific Name	CollectionCode
DRYOPTERIDACEAE	Cyrtomium micropterum	Gardens (KBG)
DRYOPTERIDACEAE	Didymochlaena truncatula	PRECIS
DRYOPTERIDACEAE	Dryopteris athamantica	PRECIS
DRYOPTERIDACEAE	Dryopteris inaequalis	PRECIS
DRYOPTERIDACEAE	Dryopteris pentheri	PRECIS
DRYOPTERIDACEAE	Nothoperanema squamiseta	PRECIS
DRYOPTERIDACEAE	Polystichum incongruum	Gardens (KBG)
DRYOPTERIDACEAE	Polystichum luctuosum	Acocks
DRYOPTERIDACEAE	Polystichum pungens	PRECIS
DRYOPTERIDACEAE	Polystichum sp.	Gardens (KBG)
DRYOPTERIDACEAE	Polystichum transkeiense	PRECIS
DRYOPTERIDACEAE	Polystichum transvaalense	PRECIS
EBENACEAE	Diospyros lycioides subsp. sericea	PRECIS
EBENACEAE	Diospyros pallens	Acocks
EBENACEAE	Diospyros scabrida var. cordata	Acocks
EBENACEAE	Diospyros whyteana	PRECIS
EBENACEAE	Euclea crispa subsp. crispa	Acocks
EBENACEAE	Euclea natalensis subsp. angustifolia	Acocks
ELAPHOGLOSSACEAE	Elaphoglossum acrostichoides	PRECIS
ELAPHOGLOSSACEAE	Elaphoglossum aubertii	PRECIS
ELAPHOGLOSSACEAE	Elaphoglossum hybridum	PRECIS
ELATINACEAE	Elatine ambigua	PRECIS
ENTODONTACEAE	Entodon macropodus	PRECIS
ERICACEAE	Erica alopecurus var. alopecurus	PRECIS
ERICACEAE	Erica binaria	Acocks
ERICACEAE	Erica caffrorum var. caffrorum	PRECIS
ERICACEAE	Erica cooperi var. cooperi	PRECIS
ERICACEAE	Erica trichoclada	PRECIS
ERICACEAE	Erica woodii var. woodii*	PRECIS
ERIOCAULACEAE	Eriocaulon dregei*	PRECIS
ERIOCAULACEAE	Eriocaulon sonderianum	Acocks
ERIOSPERMACEAE	Eriospermum cooperi var. natalense	PRECIS
ERIOSPERMACEAE	Eriospermum mackenii subsp. mackenii	PRECIS
ERYTHROXYLACEAE	Erythroxylum pictum	PRECIS
ESCALLONIACEAE	Choristylis rhamnoides	Acocks
EUPHORBIACEAE	Acalypha angustata	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Acalypha caperonioides var. caperonioides	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Acalypha depressinerva	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Acalypha ecklonii	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Acalypha glabrata var. glabrata	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Acalypha peduncularis	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Acalypha punctata var. punctata	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Acalypha sp.	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Acalypha wilmsii	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Adenocline pauciflora	PRECIS (KZN)
EUPHORBIACEAE	Clutia cordata	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Clutia monticola var. monticola	Acocks
EUPHORBIACEAE	Clutia natalensis	Acocks
EUPHORBIACEAE	Clutia pulchella var. pulchella	Acocks
EUPHORBIACEAE	Clutia sp.	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Dalechampia capensis	PRECIS (KZN)
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia cooperi var. cooperi	Gardens (KBG)
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia epicyparissias	PRECIS (KZN)
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia gueinzii var. albovillosa	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia helioscopia	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia inaequilatera var. inaequilatera	Acocks
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia kraussiana var. erubescens	Acocks
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia kraussiana var. kraussiana	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia natalensis	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia striata var. striata	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Euphorbia woodii	PRECIS
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Family	Scientific Name	CollectionCode
EUPHORBIACEAE	Excoecaria simii	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Jatropha hirsuta var. hirsuta	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Leidesia procumbens	Acocks
EUPHORBIACEAE	Micrococca capensis	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Phyllanthus maderaspatensis	PRECIS (KZN)
EUPHORBIACEAE	Sclerocroton integerrimus	PRECIS
EUPHORBIACEAE	Suregada procera	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Abrus laevigatus	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Acacia ataxacantha	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Acacia dealbata	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Acacia farnesiana	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Acacia gerrardii subsp. gerrardii var. gerrardii	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Acacia luederitzii var. retinens	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Acacia melanoxylon	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Acacia nilotica subsp. kraussiana	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Acacia robusta subsp. clavigera	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Acacia sieberiana var. woodii	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Acacia sp.*	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Adenopodia spicata	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Aeschynomene micrantha	Acocks
FABACEAE FABACEAE	Alysicarpus rugosus subsp. perennirufus  Argyrolobium amplexicaule	Acocks PRECIS
FABACEAE	Argyrolobium ampiexicauie Argyrolobium harveyanum	PRECIS PRECIS
FABACEAE	Argyrolobium hunile	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Argyrolobium numite Argyrolobium molle	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Argyrolobium sericosemium	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Argyrolobium sp.	PRECIS (RE21)
FABACEAE	Argyrolobium speciosum	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Argyrolobium stipulaceum	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Argyrolobium sutherlandii	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Argyrolobium tomentosum	Acocks
FABACEAE	Argyrolobium tuberosum	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Baphia racemosa	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Calpurnia aurea subsp. aurea	Acocks
FABACEAE	Calpurnia intrusa	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Calpurnia villosa var. intrusa	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Canavalia virosa	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Chamaecrista capensis var. flavescens	PRECIS
FABACEAE FABACEAE	Chamaecrista mimosoides	Acocks PRECIS
FABACEAE	Chamaecrista stricta Crotalaria capensis	Acocks
FABACEAE	Crotalaria cupensis Crotalaria dura subsp. dura	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Crotalaria globifera	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Crotalaria pallida var. pallida	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Crotalaria sp.	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Cytisus scoparius	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Dalbergia obovata	Acocks
FABACEAE	Desmodium repandum	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Dichrostachys cinerea subsp. nyassana	Acocks
FABACEAE	Dolichos angustifolius	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Dumasia villosa var. villosa	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Eriosema cordatum	Acocks
FABACEAE	Eriosema cordatum E.Mey. x E. salignum E.Mey.	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Eriosema distinctum*	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Eriosema kraussianum	Acocks
FABACEAE	Eriosema populifolium subsp. capensis	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Eriosema psoraleoides	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Eriosema salignum	PRECIS (WZN)
FABACEAE	Flemingia sp.	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE FABACEAE	Hoffmannseggia sandersonii Indigastrum fastigiatum	PRECIS (KZN) Acocks
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Family	Scientific Name	CollectionCode
FABACEAE	Indigofera arrecta	Acocks
FABACEAE	Indigofera dimidiata	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Indigofera eriocarpa	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Indigofera foliosa*	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Indigofera hedyantha	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Indigofera hilaris var. hilaris	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Indigofera natalensis	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Indigofera ormocarpoides	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Indigofera oxytropis	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Indigofera rostrata	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Indigofera sp.	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Indigofera torulosa var. torulosa	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Indigofera tristis*	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Indigofera tristoides	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Indigofera woodii var. woodii	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Lablab purpureus subsp. purpureus	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Lessertia perennans var. perennans	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Lotononis calycina	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Lotononis corymbosa	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Lotononis eriantha*	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Lotononis pulchra	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Lotonotis lotononoides*	Anel Geer
FABACEAE	Lotus discolor subsp. discolor	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Macrotyloma axillare var. axillare	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Medicago lupulina	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Medicago polymorpha	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Otholobium caffrum	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Otholobium polyphyllum	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Otholobium polystictum	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Pearsonia grandifolia subsp. grandifolia	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Pearsonia grandifolia subsp. latibracteolata	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Pseudarthria hookeri var. hookeri	Acocks
FABACEAE	Psoralea glabra	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Psoralea pinnata	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Rhynchosia adenodes	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Rhynchosia caribaea	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Rhynchosia cooperi	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Rhynchosia harmsiana var. harmsiana	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Rhynchosia minima*	Anel Geer
FABACEAE	Rhynchosia nervosa var. nervosa	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Rhynchosia pentheri var. pentheri	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Rhynchosia reptabunda	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Rhynchosia sordida	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Rhynchosia villosa	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Robinia pseudoacacia	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Senna septemtrionalis	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Smithia erubescens	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Tephrosia capensis var. acutifolia	Acocks
FABACEAE	Tephrosia capensis var. capensis	PRECIS (WZD)
FABACEAE	Tephrosia macropoda var. diffusa	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Tephrosia macropoda var. macropoda	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Tephrosia multijuga	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Tephnosia natalensis subsp. natalensis	PRECIS (VZN)
FABACEAE	Tephrosia polystachya var. hirta	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Tephnosia polystachya var. latifolia	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Tephrosia polystachya var. polystachya	PRECIS (VZN)
FABACEAE	Tephrosia purpurea subsp. leptostachya	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Tephrosia semiglabra	PRECIS (VZN)
FABACEAE FABACEAE	Tephrosia shiluwanensis	PRECIS (KZN) Anel Geer
FABACEAE	Tephrosia sp.* Teramnus labialis subsp. labialis	Anei Geer Acocks
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Family	Scientific Name	CollectionCode
FABACEAE	Trifolium africanum var. africanum	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Trifolium burchellianum subsp. johnstonii	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Trifolium dubium	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Trifolium repens	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Vigna marina	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Vigna nervosa	Acocks
FABACEAE	Vigna oblongifolia var. oblongifolia	PRECIS (KZN)
FABACEAE	Vigna schlechteri	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Vigna sp.	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Vigna unguiculata subsp. protracta	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Vigna vexillata var. vexillata	PRECIS
FABACEAE	Zornia capensis subsp. capensis	PRECIS
FABRONIACEAE	Fabronia pilifera	PRECIS
FABRONIACEAE	Levierella neckeroides	PRECIS
FISSIDENTACEAE	Fissidens asplenioides	PRECIS
FISSIDENTACEAE	Fissidens bogosicus	PRECIS
FISSIDENTACEAE	Fissidens bryoides	PRECIS
FISSIDENTACEAE	Fissidens curvatus var. curvatus	PRECIS
FISSIDENTACEAE	Fissidens enervis	PRECIS
FISSIDENTACEAE	Fissidens erosulus	PRECIS
FISSIDENTACEAE	Fissidens ovatus	PRECIS
FISSIDENTACEAE	Fissidens palmifolius	PRECIS
FISSIDENTACEAE	Fissidens submarginatus	PRECIS
FLACOURTIACEAE	Gerrardina foliosa	PRECIS
FUMARIACEAE	Fumaria muralis subsp. muralis	PRECIS
FUNARIACEAE	Funaria bergiana	PRECIS
FUNARIACEAE	Funaria hygrometrica	PRECIS
FUNARIACEAE	Funaria limbata	PRECIS
FUNARIACEAE	Physcomitrium spathulatum var. spathulatum	PRECIS
GENTIANACEAE	Chironia krebsii*	PRECIS
GENTIANACEAE	Chironia purpurascens subsp. humilis	PRECIS
GENTIANACEAE	Chironia purpurascens subsp. purpurascens	PRECIS (KZN)
GENTIANACEAE	Sabeae leiostyla*	Anel Geer
GENTIANACEAE	Sabeae natalensis*	Anel Geer
GENTIANACEAE	Sebaea filiformis	PRECIS
GENTIANACEAE	Sebaea junodii	PRECIS
GENTIANACEAE	Sebaea natalensis	PRECIS
GENTIANACEAE	Sebaea sedoides var. confertiflora	PRECIS
GENTIANACEAE	Sebaea sedoides var. schoenlandii	Acocks
GENTIANACEAE	Sebaea sedoides var. sedoides	PRECIS
GENTIANACEAE	Sebaea sp.	PRECIS (KZN)
GEOCALYCACEAE	Leptoscyphus expansus	PRECIS
GEOCALYCACEAE	Lophocolea cuspidata	PRECIS
GEOCALYCACEAE	Lophocolea difformis	PRECIS
GEOCALYCACEAE	Lophocolea martiana	PRECIS
GEOCALYCACEAE	Lophocolea sp.	PRECIS
GERANIACEAE	Geranium caffrum	PRECIS
GERANIACEAE	Geranium flanaganii Geranium natalense	PRECIS PRECIS
GERANIACEAE	Geranium naiatense Geranium ornithopodioides	
GERANIACEAE GERANIACEAE	Geranium ornitnopoaioiaes Geranium ornithopodon	Acocks PRECIS
GERANIACEAE	Geranium orninopoaon  Geranium schlechteri*	PRECIS
GERANIACEAE	Geranium schiechien Geranium wakkerstroomianum	PRECIS
GERANIACEAE	Geranium wakkerstroomianum  Monsonia attenuata*	Anel Geer
GERANIACEAE	Monsonia duenuaia · Monsonia burkeana	PRECIS
GERANIACEAE	Monsonia parkeana Monsonia grandifolia	PRECIS
GERANIACEAE	Monsonia granayona Pelargonium alchemilloides	PRECIS
GERANIACEAE	Pelargonium dispar	PRECIS
GERANIACEAE	Pelargonium luridum*	Acocks
GERANIACEAE	Pelargonium schlechteri	PRECIS
GESNERIACEAE	Streptocarpus fanniniae	PRECIS
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**Family** Scientific Name CollectionCode **GESNERIACEAE** Gardens (KBG) Streptocarpus gardenii **GESNERIACEAE** Streptocarpus grandis subsp. grandis PRECIS (KZN) **GESNERIACEAE** Streptocarpus polyanthus subsp. polyanthus Gardens (KBG) PRECIS (KZN) **GESNERIACEAE** Streptocarpus silvaticus **GESNERIACEAE** Streptocarpus wendlandii Acocks **GLEICHENIACEAE** Gleichenia polypodioides **PRECIS GLEICHENIACEAE** Gleichenia umbraculifera\* **PRECIS GRIMMIACEAE** Schistidium apocarpum **PRECIS GUNNERACEAE** Gunnera perpensa\* **PRECIS GUTTIFERAE** Hypericum aethiopicum\* Anel Geer HAEMODORACEAE Barberetta aurea **PRECIS** HEDWIGIACEAE Hedwigia ciliata **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE Albuca humilis PRECIS (KZN) HYACINTHACEAE Albuca setosa PRECIS (KZN) HYACINTHACEAE Albuca sp. **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE Dipcadi marlothii **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE Dipcadi viride **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE Drimia calcarata **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE Drimia delagoensis **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE Drimia depressa **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE Drimia elata **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE Drimia macrocentra **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE Drimia multisetosa **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE Drimiopsis burkei subsp. burkei **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE Eucomis pallidiflora subsp. pallidiflora **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE Galtonia princeps PRECIS (KZN) HYACINTHACEAE Ledebouria cooperi\* **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE Ledebouria floribunda **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE Ledebouria marginata **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE Ledebouria ovatifolia **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE Ledebouria revoluta Acocks HYACINTHACEAE Ledebouria sandersonii **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE Merwilla dracomontana PRECIS (KZN) HYACINTHACEAE Merwilla natalensis PRECIS (KZN) HYACINTHACEAE Merwilla plumbea **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE Ornithogalum graminifolium **PRECIS** HYACINTHACEAE **PRECIS** Ornithogalum juncifolium var. juncifolium PRECIS HYACINTHACEAE Ornithogalum paludosum HYACINTHACEAE **PRECIS** Ornithogalum tenuifolium subsp. tenuifolium HYACINTHACEAE Schizocarphus nervosus PRECIS (KZN) HYACINTHACEAE Urginea macrocentra\* Anel Geer HYDROCHARITACEAE Lagarosiphon major **PRECIS** HYDROCHARITACEAE Lagarosiphon muscoides PRECIS HYDROCHARITACEAE Lagarosiphon sp. PRECIS HYDROSTACHYACEAE Hydrostachys polymorpha PRECIS HYMENOPHYLLACEAE **PRECIS** Crepidomanes inopinatum HYMENOPHYLLACEAE Crepidomanes melanotrichum PRECIS (KZN) HYMENOPHYLLACEAE Didymoglossum reptans **PRECIS** HYPERICACEAE Hypericum aethiopicum subsp. sonderi **PRECIS** HYPERICACEAE Hypericum lalandii **PRECIS** HYPERICACEAE Hypericum natalense PRECIS HYPNACEAE **PRECIS** Chryso-hypnum cavifolium HYPNACEAE **PRECIS** Ectropothecium regulare HYPNACEAE **PRECIS** Hypnum cupressiforme var. cupressiforme HYPNACEAE **PRECIS** Mittenothamnium horridulum HYPNACEAE **PRECIS** Mittenothamnium patens HYPNACEAE **PRECIS** Mittenothamnium pseudoreptans HYPNACEAE **PRECIS** Mittenothamnium sp. HYPNACEAE **PRECIS** Vesicularia galerulata HYPOPTERYGIACEAE **PRECIS** Hypopterygium tamarisci HYPOXIDACEAE PRECIS Hypoxis acuminata

Family	Scientific Name	CollectionCode
HYPOXIDACEAE	Hypoxis angustifolia var. angustifolia	PRECIS
HYPOXIDACEAE	Hypoxis angustifolia var. buchananii	PRECIS
HYPOXIDACEAE	Hypoxis argentea var. argentea*	PRECIS
HYPOXIDACEAE	Hypoxis argentea var. sericea	PRECIS
HYPOXIDACEAE	Hypoxis colchicifolia	PRECIS (KZN)
HYPOXIDACEAE	Hypoxis decumbens	PRECIS
HYPOXIDACEAE	Hypoxis filiformis	PRECIS
HYPOXIDACEAE	Hypoxis galpinii	PRECIS
HYPOXIDACEAE	Hypoxis gerrardii	PRECIS
HYPOXIDACEAE	Hypoxis hemerocallidea	PRECIS (KZN)
HYPOXIDACEAE	Hypoxis multiceps	PRECIS
HYPOXIDACEAE	Hypoxis neliana	PRECIS
HYPOXIDACEAE	Hypoxis parvula var. albiflora	Acocks
HYPOXIDACEAE	Hypoxis parvula var. parvula*	PRECIS
HYPOXIDACEAE	Hypoxis rigidula var. pilosissima	Acocks
HYPOXIDACEAE	Hypoxis rigidula var. rigidula*	PRECIS
HYPOXIDACEAE	Hypoxis sp.	PRECIS
HYPOXIDACEAE	Hypoxis villosa var. obliqua	PRECIS
HYPOXIDACEAE	Rhodohypoxis baurii var. baurii	PRECIS
HYPOXIDACEAE	Rhodohypoxis milloides*	PRECIS
HYSINTHACEAE	Ledebouria spp*	Anel Geer
ICACINACEAE	Apodytes dimidiata subsp. dimidiata	Acocks
ICACINACEAE	Cassinopsis ilicifolia	Acocks
ILLECEBRACEAE	Silene burchellii*	Anel Geer
IRIDACEAE	Aristea abyssinica	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Aristea angolensis subsp. angolensis	PRECIS (KZN)
IRIDACEAE	Aristea ecklonii	Acocks
IRIDACEAE	Aristea sp.	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Aristea torulosa	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Aristea woodii*	Anel Geer
IRIDACEAE	Crocosmia aurea subsp. aurea	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Crocosmia aurea var. aurea	PRECIS (KZN)
IRIDACEAE	Crocosmia paniculata	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Crocosmia pottsii	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Dierama floriferum*	Gardens (KBG)
IRIDACEAE	Dierama luteoalbidum*	MSB
IRIDACEAE	Dierama medium	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Dierama pauciflorum	PRECIS (KZN)
IRIDACEAE	Dierama pumilum	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Dierama reynoldsii	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Dierama robustum	PRECIS (KZN)
IRIDACEAE	Dierama trichorhizum	PRECIS (KZN)
IRIDACEAE	Dierama tysonii	PRECIS (KZN)
IRIDACEAE	Dietes butcheriana	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Dietes iridioides	Acocks
IRIDACEAE	Dietes sp.	Gardens (KBG)
IRIDACEAE	Gladiolus aurantiacus	PRECIS (KZN)
IRIDACEAE	Gladiolus crassifolius	PRECIS (KZN)
IRIDACEAE	Gladiolus dalenii subsp. dalenii	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Gladiolus ecklonii	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Gladiolus longicollis subsp. longicollis	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Gladiolus longicollis subsp. platypetalus	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Gladiolus papilio	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Gladiolus pubigerus	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Gladiolus sericeovillosus subsp. sericeovillosus	PRECIS (KZN)
IRIDACEAE	Gladiolus woodii	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Hesperantha baurii subsp. Baurii*	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Hesperantha coccinea	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Hesperantha inconspicua	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Hesperantha radiata	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Moraea brevistyla*	PRECIS

Family	Scientific Name	CollectionCode
IRIDACEAE	Moraea graminicola subsp. graminicola	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Moraea hiemalis	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Moraea huttonii	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Moraea inclinata*	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Moraea natalensis	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Moraea pallida	Acocks
IRIDACEAE	Moraea spathulata	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Moraea trifida	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Moraea unibracteata	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Morea*	Anel Geer
IRIDACEAE	Sisyrinchium micranthum	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Tritonia disticha	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Tritonia disticha subsp. rubrolucens	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Tritonia gladiolaris	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Tritonia nelsonii	PRECIS (KZN)
IRIDACEAE	Watsonia canaliculata	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Watsonia densiflora	Acocks
IRIDACEAE	Watsonia lepida*	Anel Geer
IRIDACEAE	Watsonia pillansii	PRECIS
IRIDACEAE	Watsonia spp*	Anel Geer
JUBULACEAE	Frullania arecae	PRECIS
JUBULACEAE	Frullania caffraria	PRECIS
JUBULACEAE	Frullania ericoides	PRECIS
JUBULACEAE	Frullania trinervis	PRECIS
JUNCACEAE	Juncus dregeanus subsp. dregeanus	PRECIS
JUNCACEAE	Juncus effusus	PRECIS
JUNCACEAE	Juncus exsertus	PRECIS
JUNCACEAE	Juncus lomatophyllus*	PRECIS
JUNCACEAE	Juncus oxycarpus	PRECIS
JUNCACEAE	Luzula africana	PRECIS
JUNCAGINACEAE	Triglochin bulbosa	PRECIS (KZN)
LABIATAE	Stachys natalensis*	Anel Geer
LAMIACEAE	Ajuga ophrydis*	PRECIS
LAMIACEAE	Clerodendrum glabrum	Acocks
LAMIACEAE	Clerodendrum hirsutum	PRECIS (KZN)
LAMIACEAE	Hemizygia teucriifolia	PRECIS (KZN)
LAMIACEAE	Leonotis leonurus	Acocks
LAMIACEAE	Leonotis ocymifolia	Acocks
LAMIACEAE	Leonotis ocymifolia var. raineriana	PRECIS
LAMIACEAE	Leucas martinicensis  Martha a quation*	PRECIS
LAMIACEAE LAMIACEAE	Mentha aquatica*	PRECIS
LAMIACEAE	Micromeria pilosa Ocimum labiatum	PRECIS PRECIS
LAMIACEAE	Ocimum obovatum subsp. obovatum var. obovatum	PRECIS
LAMIACEAE	Ocimum sp.	PRECIS
LAMIACEAE	Plectranthus ambiguus	PRECIS
LAMIACEAE	Plectranthus candelabriformis	PRECIS
LAMIACEAE	Plectranthus ciliatus	PRECIS
LAMIACEAE	Plectranthus dolichopodus	Gardens (KBG)
LAMIACEAE	Plectranthus ecklonii	PRECIS
LAMIACEAE	Plectranthus elegantulus	Gardens (KBG)
LAMIACEAE	Plectranthus fruticosus	PRECIS
LAMIACEAE	Plectranthus grallatus	PRECIS
LAMIACEAE	Plectranthus grandidentatus	PRECIS
LAMIACEAE	Plectranthus hadiensis var. hadiensis	PRECIS
LAMIACEAE	Plectranthus laxiflorus	Acocks
LAMIACEAE	Plectranthus madagascariensis var. ramosior	PRECIS
LAMIACEAE	Plectranthus rehmannii	Gardens (KBG)
LAMIACEAE	Pycnostachys reticulata	PRECIS
LAMIACEAE	Rabdosiella calycina*	Gardens (KBG)
LAMIACEAE	Rotheca hirsuta	PRECIS

**Family** Scientific Name CollectionCode LAMIACEAE Stachys aethiopica Acocks LAMIACEAE Stachys caffra Acocks **PRECIS** LAMIACEAE Stachys cymbalaria LAMIACEAE Stachys grandifolia **PRECIS** PRECIS (KZN) LAMIACEAE Stachys sessilis LAMIACEAE Stachys tubulosa **PRECIS** LAMIACEAE Syncolostemon parviflorus var. parviflorus **PRECIS** LAMIACEAE Syncolostemon teucriifolius **PRECIS** LAMIACEAE Teucrium kraussii **PRECIS** LAURACEAE Cryptocarya myrtifolia **PRECIS** LAURACEAE Cryptocarya woodii Acocks LAURACEAE Ocotea bullata **PRECIS** LEJEUNEACEAE Lejeunea eckloniana **PRECIS** LEJEUNEACEAE Lejeunea flava **PRECIS** LEJEUNEACEAE Phragmilejeunea molleri **PRECIS** LEJEUNEACEAE Ptychanthus striatus **PRECIS** LENTIBULARIACEAE Utricularia gibba **PRECIS** LENTIBULARIACEAE Utricularia prehensilis\* **PRECIS** LENTIBULARIACEAE Utricularia stellaris **PRECIS** LEPIDOZIACEAE Bazzania molleri **PRECIS** LESKEACEAE Pseudoleskeopsis claviramea **PRECIS** LETROUITIACEAE Letrouitia flavocrocea **PRECIS** LEUCOBRYACEAE Leucobryum acutifolium **PRECIS** LEUCODONTACEAE Pterogoniadelphus assimilis **PRECIS** LINACEAE Linum thunbergii\* **PRECIS** LOBARIACEAE Sticta sylvatica **PRECIS** LOBELIACEAE Cyphia corylifolia **PRECIS** LOBELIACEAE Cyphia elata var. elata **PRECIS** LOBELIACEAE Cyphia elata var. glabra **PRECIS** LOBELIACEAE Cyphia elata var. oblongifolia **PRECIS** LOBELIACEAE Cyphia longifolia **PRECIS** LOBELIACEAE Cyphia longifolia var. baurii PRECIS (KZN) LOBELIACEAE Lobelia angolensis **PRECIS** LOBELIACEAE Lobelia erinus Acocks LOBELIACEAE Lobelia flaccida\* Anel Geer LOBELIACEAE Lobelia laxa **PRECIS** LOBELIACEAE PRECIS (KZN) Lobelia preslii Lobelia sp. LOBELIACEAE **PRECIS** LOBELIACEAE Lobelia stenosiphon Acocks LOBELIACEAE Monopsis decipiens\* Acocks LOBELIACEAE Monopsis stellarioides subsp. stellarioides **PRECIS** LORANTHACEAE Erianthemum dregei PRECIS (KZN) LYCOPODIACEAE Huperzia dacrydioides PRECIS LYCOPODIACEAE Lycopodium clavatum Acocks MAESACEAE Maesa lanceolata Acocks MALPIGHIACEAE **PRECIS** Acridocarpus natalitius var. natalitius MALVACEAE Abutilon sonneratianum PRECIS MALVACEAE Cola natalensis PRECIS MALVACEAE **PRECIS** Corchorus confusus MALVACEAE **PRECIS** Dombeya tiliacea MALVACEAE PRECIS Grewia hispida MALVACEAE Grewia occidentalis var. occidentalis Acocks MALVACEAE **PRECIS** Hermannia cristata MALVACEAE Hermannia depressa **PRECIS** MALVACEAE **PRECIS** Hermannia gerrardii MALVACEAE **PRECIS** Hermannia oligosperma MALVACEAE **PRECIS** Hermannia sandersonii MALVACEAE **PRECIS** Hermannia transvaalensis MALVACEAE **PRECIS** Hermannia woodii\* MALVACEAE **PRECIS** Hibiscus aethiopicus var. ovatus MALVACEAE Hibiscus pedunculatus Acocks

**Family** Scientific Name CollectionCode MALVACEAE **PRECIS** Hibiscus pusillus MALVACEAE **PRECIS** Hibiscus trionum PRECIS MALVACEAE Pavonia burchellii MALVACEAE Pavonia columella **PRECIS** MALVACEAE Sida rhombifolia subsp. rhombifolia Acocks MALVACEAE Sida spinosa var. spinosa **PRECIS** MALVACEAE Sida ternata Acocks MALVACEAE Sparrmannia ricinocarpa var. ricinocarpa **PRECIS** MALVACEAE Triumfetta annua forma annua **PRECIS** MALVACEAE Triumfetta pilosa var. tomentosa **PRECIS** MARATTIACEAE Marattia fraxinea Acocks MARCHANTIACEAE Dumortiera hirsuta **PRECIS** MARCHANTIACEAE Marchantia debilis **PRECIS** MELASTOMATACEAE Dissotis canescens **PRECIS MELIACEAE** Ekebergia capensis **PRECIS** MENISPERMACEAE Cissampelos torulosa Acocks MENISPERMACEAE Stephania abyssinica var. abyssinica **PRECIS** MENISPERMACEAE Stephania abyssinica var. tomentella **PRECIS** MENYANTHACEAE Nymphoides thunbergiana\* **PRECIS** MESEMBRYANTHEMACEAE Aptenia cordifolia **PRECIS** MESEMBRYANTHEMACEAE Delosperma galpinii **PRECIS** METEORIACEAE Aerobryopsis capensis **PRECIS** METEORIACEAE Floribundaria floribunda **PRECIS** METZGERIACEAE Metzgeria limbato-setosa **PRECIS** METZGERIACEAE Metzgeria nudifrons **PRECIS** METZGERIACEAE Metzgeria tabularis **PRECIS** METZGERIACEAE Metzgeria violacea **PRECIS** MIMOSOIDEAE Acacia mearnsii\* Anel Geer MNIACEAE Plagiomnium rhynchophorum var. reidii **PRECIS** MOLLUGINACEAE **PRECIS** Psammotropha myriantha MONIMIACEAE Xymalos monospora Acocks MORACEAE **PRECIS** Ficus burtt-davyi MORACEAE **PRECIS** Ficus craterostoma MORACEAE **PRECIS** Ficus ingens MORACEAE Ficus ingens var. ingens PRECIS (KZN) MORACEAE Ficus natalensis subsp. natalensis Acocks MORACEAE Figus sur Acocks MYRICACEAE Morella serrata PRECIS MYRSINACEAE Myrsine africana Acocks MYRSINACEAE Rapanea melanophloeos Acocks MYRTACEAE **PRECIS** Eugenia capensis subsp. a MYRTACEAE Eugenia zuluensis Acocks MYRTACEAE Syzygium cordatum subsp. cordatum Acocks MYRTACEAE Syzygium gerrardii Acocks NECKERACEAE PRECIS Neckera valentiniana NECKERACEAE PRECIS Porothamnium stipitatum NECKERACEAE PRECIS Porotrichum madagassum OCHNACEAE Ochna arborea var. arborea Acocks OCHNACEAE **PRECIS** Ochna gamostigmata OCHNACEAE Ochna natalitia Acocks OCHNACEAE Ochna serrulata Acocks OCHNACEAE **PRECIS** Ochna serrulata OLEACEAE **PRECIS** Chionanthus peglerae OLEACEAE PRECIS Jasminum multipartitum OLEACEAE Jasminum sp. **PRECIS** OLEACEAE **PRECIS** Olea capensis subsp. enervis OLEACEAE **PRECIS** Olea capensis subsp. macrocarpa OLEACEAE **PRECIS** Olea europaea subsp. africana OLEANDRACEAE **PRECIS** Oleandra distenta OLINIACEAE PRECIS Olinia emarginata OLINIACEAE Olinia ventosa Acocks

Family	Scientific Name	CollectionCode
ONAGRACEAE	Epilobium hirsutum	PRECIS
ONAGRACEAE	Epilobium salignum	PRECIS
ONAGRACEAE	Ludwigia palustris	PRECIS
ONAGRACEAE	Oenothera glazioviana	PRECIS (KZN)
ONAGRACEAE	Oenothera laciniata	PRECIS
ONAGRACEAE	Oenothera rosea	PRECIS
ONAGRACEAE	Oenothera stricta subsp. stricta	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Angraecum conchiferum	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Angraecum pusillum	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Corycium nigrescens	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Diaphananthe caffra	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Disa aconitoides subsp. aconitoides	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Disa crassicornis	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Disa fragrans subsp. fragrans	PRECIS (KZN)
ORCHIDACEAE	Disa nervosa	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Disa patula var. transvaalensis	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Disa pulchra	PRECIS (KZN)
ORCHIDACEAE	Disa stachyoides	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Disa versicolor	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Disperis anthoceros	PRECIS (KZN)
ORCHIDACEAE	Disperis cardiophora	PRECIS (KZN)
ORCHIDACEAE	Disperis cooperi	PRECIS (KZN)
ORCHIDACEAE	Disperis fanniniae	Gardens (KBG)
ORCHIDACEAE	Disperis lindleyana	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Disperis oxyglossa	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Disperis stenoplectron	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Disperis tysonii	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Eulophia aculeata subsp. huttonii	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Eulophia clavicornis var. clavicornis	PRECIS (KZN)
ORCHIDACEAE	Eulophia clavicornis var. nutans	PRECIS (KZN)
ORCHIDACEAE	Eulophia foliosa	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Eulophia hians var. hians	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Eulophia hians var. inaequalis	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Eulophia hians var. nutans	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Eulophia leontoglossa	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Eulophia odontoglossa	PRECIS (WZN)
ORCHIDACEAE	Eulophia ovalis subsp. ovalis	PRECIS (KZN)
ORCHIDACEAE ORCHIDACEAE	Eulophia ovalis var. bainesii Eulophia ovalis var. ovalis	PRECIS Acocks
ORCHIDACEAE	Eulophia ovalis var. ovalis Eulophia parviflora	PRECIS (KZN)
ORCHIDACEAE	Eulophia sp.	PRECIS (KZN)
ORCHIDACEAE	Eulophia sp. Eulophia welwitschii	PRECIS (KZN)
ORCHIDACEAE	Eulophia zeyheri	PRECIS (RZAV)
ORCHIDACEAE	Eulophia zeyheriana	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Habenaria culveri	PRECIS (KZN)
ORCHIDACEAE	Habenaria dives*	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Habenaria dregeana	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Habenaria epipactidea	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Habenaria malacophylla	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Habenaria pseudociliosa	PRECIS (KZN)
ORCHIDACEAE	Holothrix scopularia	PRECIS (KZN)
ORCHIDACEAE	Liparis bowkeri	PRECIS (KZN)
ORCHIDACEAE	Mystacidium flanaganii	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Mystacidium gracile	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Polystachya cultriformis	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Pterygodium hastatum	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Pterygodium magnum	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Satyrium cristatum var. cristatum	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Satyrium hallackii subsp. ocellatum	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Satyrium longicauda var. longicauda*	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Satyrium neglectum subsp. woodii	PRECIS

Family	Scientific Name	CollectionCode
ORCHIDACEAE	Satyrium parviflorum	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Satyrium stenopetalum subsp. brevicalcaratum	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Schizochilus flexuosus	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Schizochilus zeyheri	PRECIS
ORCHIDACEAE	Stenoglottis fimbriata subsp. fimbriata	PRECIS
OROBANCHACEAE	Alectra sessiliflora var. sessiliflora*	PRECIS
OROBANCHACEAE	Buchnera simplex	PRECIS
OROBANCHACEAE	Cycnium adonense	PRECIS
OROBANCHACEAE	Cycnium racemosum*	PRECIS
OROBANCHACEAE	Cycnium tubulosum subsp. tubulosum	PRECIS
OROBANCHACEAE	Graderia scabra*	PRECIS
OROBANCHACEAE	Melasma scabrum var. scabrum	PRECIS
OROBANCHACEAE	Sopubia cana var. cana	PRECIS
OROBANCHACEAE	Sopubia simplex	PRECIS
OROBANCHACEAE	Striga asiatica	PRECIS
OROBANCHACEAE	Striga bilabiata subsp. bilabiata	Acocks
OROBANCHACEAE	Striga elegans	PRECIS
ORTHOTRICHACEAE	Macrocoma tenuis subsp. tenuis	PRECIS
ORTHOTRICHACEAE	Macromitrium lebomboense	PRECIS
ORTHOTRICHACEAE	Schlotheimia ferruginea	PRECIS
OSMUNDACEAE	Osmunda regalis	PRECIS
OXALIDACEAE	Oxalis corniculata	PRECIS
OXALIDACEAE	Oxalis depressa	PRECIS
OXALIDACEAE	Oxalis obliquifolia*	PRECIS
OXALIDACEAE	Oxalis smithiana*	PRECIS (KZN)
PAPAVERACEAE	Argemone mexicana forma mexicana	PRECIS
PAPAVERACEAE	Argemone ochroleuca subsp. ochroleuca	PRECIS
PAPILIONOIDEAE	Eriosema simulans/krausianum*	Anel Geer
PAPILIONOIDEAE	Zornia linearis*	Anel Geer
PARMELIACEAE	Lichen sp.	PRECIS
PARMELIACEAE	Parmotrema reticulatum	PRECIS
PASSIFLORACEAE	Basananthe sandersonii	Acocks
PEDALIACEAE	Ceratotheca triloba	Acocks
PERTUSARIACEAE	Porina epiphylla var. epiphylla	PRECIS
PHYLLANTHACEAE	Andrachne ovalis	Acocks PRECIS
PHYLLANTHACEAE PHYTOLACCACEAE	Margaritaria discoidea var. nitida Phytolacca dioica	PRECIS
PHYTOLACCACEAE		PRECIS
PILOTRICHACEAE	Phytolacca octandra Callicostella tristis	PRECIS PRECIS
PILOTRICHACEAE	Hookeriopsis utacamundiana	PRECIS
PIPERACEAE	Peperomia tetraphylla	Acocks
PIPERACEAE	Piper capense var. capense	Acocks
PITTOSPORACEAE	Pittosporum viridiflorum	Acocks
PLAGIOCHILACEAE	Plagiochila capensis	PRECIS
PLAGIOCHILACEAE	Plagiochila crispulo-caudata	PRECIS
PLAGIOCHILACEAE	Plagiochila heterostipa	PRECIS
PLANTAGINACEAE	Plantago lanceolata	Acocks
PLANTAGINACEAE	Plantago longissima	PRECIS
PLANTAGINACEAE	Plantago major	PRECIS
POACEAE	Agrostis bergiana var. bergiana	PRECIS
POACEAE	Agrostis continuata	PRECIS
POACEAE	Agrostis lachnantha var. lachnantha	PRECIS
POACEAE	Alloteropsis semialata subsp. eckloniana	Acocks
POACEAE	Andropogon appendiculatus*	PRECIS
POACEAE	Andropogon eucomus	PRECIS
POACEAE	Andropogon schirensis*	Acocks
POACEAE	Aristida diffusa subsp. burkei	PRECIS
POACEAE	Aristida junciformis subsp. galpinii	Acocks
POACEAE	Aristida junciformis subsp. Junciformis*	PRECIS (KZN)
POACEAE	Arrhenatherum elatius	PRECIS
POACEAE	Arundinella nepalensis	PRECIS

**Family** Scientific Name CollectionCode **POACEAE PRECIS** Axonopus affinis POACEAE Bothriochloa bladhii Acocks **POACEAE** Bothriochloa insculpta Acocks **POACEAE** Brachiaria arrecta **PRECIS POACEAE** Brachiaria humidicola **PRECIS POACEAE** Brachiaria serrata Acocks **POACEAE** Brachypodium flexum Acocks **POACEAE** Briza maxima **PRECIS POACEAE** Bromus catharticus PRECIS (KZN) **POACEAE** Bromus natalensis **PRECIS POACEAE** Bromus sp. **PRECIS POACEAE** Chloris gayana Acocks **POACEAE** Chloris virgata **PRECIS POACEAE** Cymbopogon caesius Acocks **POACEAE** Cymbopogon marginatus Acocks **POACEAE** Cymbopogon nardus **PRECIS POACEAE** Cynodon dactylon **PRECIS POACEAE** Cynodon hirsutus **PRECIS POACEAE** Dactylis glomerata PRECIS (KZN) **POACEAE** Danthonia sp. PRECIS (KZN) **POACEAE** Digitaria ciliaris **PRECIS POACEAE** Digitaria diagonalis var. diagonalis **PRECIS POACEAE** Digitaria natalensis Acocks **POACEAE** Digitaria sanguinalis Acocks **POACEAE** Digitaria setifolia **PRECIS POACEAE** Digitaria ternata Acocks **POACEAE** Digitaria tricholaenoides Acocks **POACEAE** Diheteropogon filifolius Acocks **POACEAE** Echinochloa colona **PRECIS POACEAE** Echinochloa crus-galli **PRECIS POACEAE** Echinochloa sp. **PRECIS POACEAE** Ehrharta erecta var. erecta Acocks **POACEAE PRECIS** Ehrharta erecta var. natalensis **POACEAE PRECIS** Eleusine coracana subsp. africana **POACEAE** PRECIS (KZN) Eleusine coracana subsp. coracana **POACEAE PRECIS** Elionurus muticus Eragrostis capensis\* **POACEAE** Acocks **POACEAE** Eragrostis chloromelas **PRECIS POACEAE** Eragrostis curvula\* Acocks **PRECIS POACEAE** Eragrostis heteromera **POACEAE** Eragrostis inamoena\* **PRECIS** POACEAE **PRECIS** Eragrostis patentipilosa **POACEAE** Eragrostis plana Acocks **POACEAE** Eragrostis planiculmis Acocks POACEAE PRECIS (KZN) Eragrostis pseudosclerantha POACEAE Eragrostis racemosa\* Acocks **POACEAE** Eragrostis tincta PRECIS (KZN) **POACEAE** Eriochrysis pallida Acocks POACEAE Eulalia villosa Acocks POACEAE **PRECIS** Festuca africana **POACEAE PRECIS** Festuca caprina POACEAE PRECIS (KZN) Festuca costata POACEAE **PRECIS** Festuca scabra POACEAE **PRECIS** Festuca sp. POACEAE PRECIS (KZN) Harpochloa falx\* **PRECIS** POACEAE Helictotrichon turgidulum **POACEAE** Hemarthria altissima Acocks POACEAE Heteropogon contortus\* Acocks **PRECIS** POACEAE Hyparrhenia anamesa **POACEAE** Hyparrhenia cymbaria Acocks **PRECIS** 

Hyparrhenia dregeana

**POACEAE** 

**Family** Scientific Name CollectionCode **POACEAE** Hyparrhenia hirta Acocks POACEAE **PRECIS** Hyparrhenia pilgeriana **PRECIS POACEAE** Hyparrhenia schimperi **POACEAE** Hyparrhenia sp. **PRECIS POACEAE** Hyparrhenia tamba **PRECIS POACEAE** Hyperthelia dissoluta **PRECIS POACEAE** Imperata cylindrica Acocks **POACEAE** Ischaemum fasciculatum **PRECIS POACEAE** Koeleria capensis **PRECIS POACEAE** Leersia hexandra Acocks **POACEAE** Lolium multiflorum PRECIS (KZN) **POACEAE** Loudetia densispica PRECIS (KZN) **POACEAE** Loudetia simplex Acocks **POACEAE** Melinis minutiflora **PRECIS POACEAE** Melinis nerviglumis\* **PRECIS POACEAE** Melinis repens subsp. repens Acocks **POACEAE** Merxmuellera stricta **PRECIS POACEAE** Microchloa caffra Acocks **POACEAE** Microlaena stipoides **PRECIS POACEAE** Microstegium nudum **PRECIS POACEAE** Miscanthus capensis Acocks **POACEAE** Monocymbium ceresiiforme\* Acocks **POACEAE** Oplismenus hirtellus Acocks **POACEAE** Panicum aequinerve Acocks **POACEAE** Panicum deustum **PRECIS POACEAE** Panicum dregeanum Acocks **POACEAE PRECIS** Panicum ecklonii **POACEAE** Panicum hymeniochilum **PRECIS POACEAE** Panicum maximum Acocks **POACEAE** Panicum natalense Acocks **POACEAE PRECIS** Panicum schinzii **POACEAE PRECIS** Panicum sp. **POACEAE** Panicum subalbidum **PRECIS POACEAE** Paspalum dilatatum Acocks **POACEAE** Paspalum notatum Acocks **POACEAE** Paspalum scrobiculatum Acocks **POACEAE** Paspalum urvillei Acocks **POACEAE** Pennisetum sphacelatum PRECIS **POACEAE PRECIS** Pennisetum thunbergii\* **POACEAE** Pennisetum unisetum Acocks **POACEAE** Pentaschistis\* Anel Geer POACEAE Pentaschistis natalensis PRECIS (KZN) **POACEAE** Phragmites australis Acocks **POACEAE** PRECIS Poa annua POACEAE **PRECIS** Poa binata POACEAE **PRECIS** Poa sp. **POACEAE** Prosphytochloa prehensilis Acocks **POACEAE** Rendlia altera **PRECIS** POACEAE **PRECIS** Saccharum munroanum POACEAE Schizachyrium sanguineum **PRECIS POACEAE** Setaria megaphylla Acocks POACEAE **PRECIS** Setaria nigrirostris POACEAE PRECIS (KZN) Setaria pallide-fusca POACEAE Setaria pumila **PRECIS PRECIS POACEAE** Setaria sp. **POACEAE** Setaria sphacelata var. sericea Acocks Gardens (KBG) **POACEAE** Setaria sphacelata var. sphacelata POACEAE Sporobolus africanus\* Acocks **PRECIS** POACEAE Sporobolus centrifugus\* **POACEAE** PRECIS (KZN) Sporobolus festivus **POACEAE PRECIS** Sporobolus fimbriatus

Family	Scientific Name	CollectionCode
POACEAE	Sporobolus pyramidalis*	PRECIS
POACEAE	Sporobolus stapfianus	PRECIS
POACEAE	Stiburus alopecuroides*	PRECIS
POACEAE	Stipa dregeana var. dregeana	Acocks
POACEAE	Themeda triandra*	PRECIS
POACEAE	Trachypogon spicatus*	PRECIS
POACEAE	Trichopteryx dregeana	Acocks
POACEAE	Tristachya leucothrix*	PRECIS
POACEAE	Vulpia myuros	PRECIS
PODOCARPACEAE	Podocarpus falcatus	Acocks
PODOCARPACEAE	Podocarpus henkelii	Acocks
PODOCARPACEAE	Podocarpus latifolius	Acocks
PODOSTEMACEAE	Sphaerothylax sp.	PRECIS
POLYGALACEAE	Muraltia lancifolia	PRECIS (KZN)
POLYGALACEAE	Muraltia saxicola	PRECIS
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala gerrardii	PRECIS
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala gracilenta*	PRECIS
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala gymnoclada	PRECIS
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala hispida	PRECIS
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala hottentotta*	PRECIS
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala leendertziae	PRECIS
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala macowaniana	PRECIS
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala ohlendorfiana	Acocks
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala refracta	PRECIS
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala serpentaria	PRECIS
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala sphenoptera var. sphenoptera	PRECIS (KZN)
POLYGALACEAE	Polygala virgata var. decora	Acocks
POLYGONACEAE	Oxygonum dregeanum subsp. lanceolatum	PRECIS
POLYGONACEAE	Persicaria attenuata subsp. africana	PRECIS
POLYGONACEAE	Persicaria decipiens	PRECIS
POLYGONACEAE	Persicaria hydropiper	PRECIS (KZN)
POLYGONACEAE	Persicaria lapathifolia	PRECIS (KZN)
POLYGONACEAE	Persicaria meisneriana	PRECIS
POLYGONACEAE	Persicaria serrulata	PRECIS (KZN)
POLYGONACEAE	Persicaria sp.	PRECIS (KZN)
POLYGONACEAE	Rumex acetosella subsp. angiocarpus	PRECIS
POLYGONACEAE	Rumex bequaertii	PRECIS
POLYGONACEAE	Rumex vaadii	Acocks
POLYGONACEAE POLYPODIACEAE	Rumex woodii	Acocks PRECIS
POLYPODIACEAE	Lepisorus schraderi Loxogramme abyssinica	PRECIS
POLYPODIACEAE	Pleopeltis macrocarpa	PRECIS
POLYPODIACEAE	Pleopeltis polypodioides subsp. ecklonii	PRECIS
POLYPODIACEAE	Polypodium polypodioides subsp. ecklonii	Acocks
POLYPODIACEAE	X Pleopodium simianum	PRECIS
POLYTRICHACEAE	Atrichum androgynum	PRECIS
POLYTRICHACEAE	Pogonatum capense	PRECIS
POLYTRICHACEAE	Polytrichum commune	PRECIS
PORELLACEAE	Porella capensis	PRECIS
POTAMOGETONACEAE	Potamogeton crispus	PRECIS
POTAMOGETONACEAE	Potamogeton nodosus	PRECIS
POTAMOGETONACEAE	Potamogeton octandrus	PRECIS
POTAMOGETONACEAE	Potamogeton pectinatus	PRECIS
POTAMOGETONACEAE	Potamogeton pusillus	PRECIS
POTAMOGETONACEAE	Potamogeton schweinfurthii	PRECIS (KZN)
POTAMOGETONACEAE	Potamogeton trichoides	PRECIS
POTTIACEAE	Bryoerythrophyllum campylocarpum	PRECIS
POTTIACEAE	Hyophila involuta	PRECIS
POTTIACEAE	Hypodontium dregei	PRECIS
POTTIACEAE	Leptodontium longicaule	PRECIS
POTTIACEAE	Leptodontium viticulosoides	PRECIS

**Family** Scientific Name CollectionCode POTTIACEAE **PRECIS** Leptophascum leptophyllum POTTIACEAE **PRECIS** Syntrichia fragilis POTTIACEAE **PRECIS** Tortella humilis POTTIACEAE Trichostomum brachydontium **PRECIS** PRIMULACEAE Anagallis huttonii **PRECIS PROTEACEAE** Leucospermum gerrardii **PRECIS PROTEACEAE** Protea caffra subsp. caffra Protea Atlas **PROTEACEAE** Protea dracomontana Protea Atlas **PROTEACEAE** Protea roupelliae PRECIS **PROTEACEAE** Protea roupelliae subsp. roupelliae Protea Atlas PROTEACEAE Protea simplex\* Protea Atlas PROTEACEAE Protea spp\* Anel Geer PROTEACEAE Protea subvestita **PRECIS** PTAEROXYLACEAE Ptaeroxylon obliquum Acocks PTERIDACEAE Adiantum capillus-veneris **PRECIS** PTERIDACEAE Adiantum poiretii **PRECIS** PTERIDACEAE Adiantum raddianum **PRECIS** PTERIDACEAE Cheilanthes bergiana PRECIS (KZN) PTERIDACEAE Cheilanthes concolor **PRECIS** PTERIDACEAE Cheilanthes hirta Acocks PTERIDACEAE Cheilanthes quadripinnata **PRECIS** PTERIDACEAE Cheilanthes viridis var. macrophylla **PRECIS** PTERIDACEAE Cheilanthes viridis var. viridis **PRECIS** PTERIDACEAE Doryopteris concolor PRECIS (KZN) PTERIDACEAE Pellaea calomelanos var. calomelanos **PRECIS** PTERIDACEAE Pityrogramma argentea **PRECIS** PTERIDACEAE Pteris buchananii **PRECIS** PTERIDACEAE Pteris catoptera var. catoptera **PRECIS PTERIDACEAE** Pteris cretica **PRECIS PTERIDACEAE** Pteris dentata PRECIS (KZN) PTEROBRYACEAE Pterobryopsis hoehnelii **PRECIS** PTYCHOMITRIACEAE Ptychomitrium crispatum **PRECIS** PTYCHOMITRIACEAE Ptychomitrium sellowianum **PRECIS PUTRANJIVACEAE PRECIS** Drypetes gerrardii var. gerrardii RACOPILACEAE **PRECIS** Racopilum capense RADULACEAE Radula boryana **PRECIS** RADULACEAE **PRECIS** Radula holstiana RADULACEAE Radula lindenbergiana **PRECIS** RANUNCULACEAE Anemone fanninii PRECIS (KZN) RANUNCULACEAE Clematis brachiata **PRECIS** RANUNCULACEAE Clematis oweniae PRECIS (KZN) RANUNCULACEAE Knowltonia bracteata PRECIS RANUNCULACEAE Ranunculus multifidus\* Acocks RANUNCULACEAE Thalictrum rhynchocarpum PRECIS (KZN) RANUNCULACEAE Thalictrum sp. Gardens (KBG) RESTIONACEAE Anel Geer Calopsis paniculata\* RHAMNACEAE Phylica paniculata PRECIS RHAMNACEAE Rhamnus prinoides Acocks RHAMNACEAE Scutia myrtina Acocks RHAMNACEAE Ziziphus mucronata subsp. mucronata Acocks RHIZOGONIACEAE Pyrrhobryum spiniforme PRECIS RHIZOPHORACEAE Cassipourea gummiflua var. verticillata Acocks RHIZOPHORACEAE PRECIS (KZN) Cassipourea malosana RICCIACEAE Riccia stricta PRECIS ROSACEAE Agrimonia procera\* PRECIS (KZN) ROSACEAE **PRECIS** Alchemilla elongata var. elongata ROSACEAE PRECIS (KZN) Alchemilla incurvata ROSACEAE Alchemilla kiwuensis PRECIS ROSACEAE PRECIS (KZN) Alchemilla sp. ROSACEAE Alchemilla woodii PRECIS (KZN) ROSACEAE Cliffortia linearifolia PRECIS

Family	Scientific Name	CollectionCode
ROSACEAE	Cliffortia repens	PRECIS (KZN)
ROSACEAE	Cliffortia strobilifera	Acocks
ROSACEAE	Duchesnea indica	PRECIS
ROSACEAE	Leucosidea sericea*	Acocks
ROSACEAE	Prunus africana	PRECIS
ROSACEAE	Rubus apetalus var. apetalus	PRECIS
ROSACEAE	Rubus cuneifolius*	PRECIS
ROSACEAE	Rubus ludwigii subsp. Ludwigii*	PRECIS
ROSACEAE	Rubus ludwigii subsp. spatiosus	PRECIS
ROSACEAE	Rubus phoenicolacius	PRECIS
ROSACEAE	Rubus pinnatus	PRECIS
ROSACEAE	Rubus rigidus	PRECIS
RUBIACEAE	Alberta magna	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Anthospermum herbaceum	PRECIS
RUBIACEAE	Burchellia bubalina	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Canthium ciliatum	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Canthium inerme	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Canthium kuntzeanum	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Conostomium natalense var. glabrum	PRECIS
RUBIACEAE	Conostomium natalense var. natalense	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Galium spurium subsp. africanum	PRECIS
RUBIACEAE	Galium subvillosum var. subvillosum	PRECIS
RUBIACEAE	Galium thunbergianum var. thunbergianum	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Galopina circaeoides	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Hyperacanthus amoenus	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Keetia gueinzii	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Kohautia amatymbica*	PRECIS (KZN)
RUBIACEAE	Kraussia floribunda	PRECIS
RUBIACEAE	Lagynias lasiantha	PRECIS
RUBIACEAE	Oldenlandia herbacea var. herbacea	PRECIS
RUBIACEAE	Pachystigma latifolium	PRECIS
RUBIACEAE	Pachystigma macrocalyx	PRECIS
RUBIACEAE	Pavetta inandensis	PRECIS
RUBIACEAE	Pavetta kotzei	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Pavetta lanceolata	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Pentanisia angustifolia*	PRECIS
RUBIACEAE	Pentanisia prunelloides subsp. latifolia	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Pentanisia prunelloides subsp. Prunelloides*	PRECIS
RUBIACEAE	Pentanisia sp.	PRECIS
RUBIACEAE	Psydrax obovata subsp. obovata	PRECIS
RUBIACEAE	Pygmaeothamnus chamaedendrum var. setulosus	PRECIS
RUBIACEAE	Richardia brasiliensis	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Rothmannia capensis	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Rothmannia globosa	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Rubia cordifolia subsp. conotricha	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Spermacoce natalensis	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Tricalysia lanceolata	Acocks
RUBIACEAE	Vangueria randii subsp. chartacea	PRECIS
RUTACEAE	Calodendrum capense	PRECIS
RUTACEAE	Clausena anisata var. anisata	Acocks
RUTACEAE	Teclea gerrardii	PRECIS (KZN)
RUTACEAE	Teclea natalensis	PRECIS
RUTACEAE	Vepris lanceolata	Acocks
RUTACEAE	Vepris sp.	PRECIS
RUTACEAE	Zanthoxylum davyi	Acocks
SALICACEAE	Dovyalis rhamnoides	PRECIS
SALICACEAE	Dovyalis zeyheri	PRECIS
SALICACEAE	Homalium dentatum	PRECIS
SALICACEAE	Salix babylonica var. babylonica	PRECIS
SALICACEAE	Scolopia mundii	PRECIS
SALICACEAE	Scolopia munati Scolopia zeyheri	Acocks
or Enerice in	beotopia tejiuri	1 ICOCKS

Family	Scientific Name	CollectionCode
SALICACEAE	Trimeria grandifolia subsp. grandifolia	Acocks
SAMYDACEAE	Casearia gladiiformis	PRECIS
SANTALACEAE	Osyridicarpos schimperianus	PRECIS
SANTALACEAE	Thesium costatum var. costatum	Acocks
SANTALACEAE	Thesium costatum var. juniperinum	PRECIS
SANTALACEAE	Thesium pallidum	PRECIS (KZN)
SANTALACEAE	Thesium racemosum	PRECIS
SANTALACEAE	Thesium sp.	PRECIS
SANTALACEAE	Thesium virens	PRECIS
SAPINDACEAE	Allophylus dregeanus	Acocks
SAPINDACEAE	Allophylus melanocarpus	Acocks
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Bowkeria verticillata	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Chaenostoma floribundum	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Diascia cordata	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Diascia purpurea	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Diclis reptans*	Acocks
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Diclis rotundifolia	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Halleria lucida	Acocks
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Hebenstretia comosa*	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Hebenstretia oatesii subsp. oatesii	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Jamesbrittenia breviflora	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Limosella longiflora	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Limosella maior	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Lindernia parviflora	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Manulea florifera	PRECIS (KZN)
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Mimulus gracilis	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Mimulus moschatus var. moschatus	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Nemesia caerulea	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Nemesia denticulata*	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Nemesia silvatica	PRECIS (VZN)
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Nemesia umbonata	PRECIS (KZN) PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE SCROPHULARIACEAE	Phygelius aequalis* Selago cucullata	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Selago hyssopifolia subsp. retrotricha	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Selago lamprocarpa	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Selago pachypoda	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Selago sp.	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Selago tarachodes	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Sutera floribunda*	PRECIS (KZN)
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Veronica anagallis-aquatica	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Zaluzianskya microsiphon*	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Zaluzianskya natalensis	PRECIS
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Zaluzianskya pulvinata	PRECIS
SELAGINELLACEAE	Selaginella dregei	PRECIS
SELAGINELLACEAE	Selaginella kraussiana	Acocks
SELAGINELLACEAE	Selaginella mittenii	PRECIS
SEMATOPHYLLACEAE	Sematophyllum dregei	PRECIS
SEMATOPHYLLACEAE	Sematophyllum gueinzii	PRECIS
SEMATOPHYLLACEAE	Sematophyllum subpinnatum	PRECIS
SOLANACEAE	Datura stramonium	PRECIS
SOLANACEAE	Physalis peruviana	Acocks
SOLANACEAE	Solanum aculeastrum subsp. aculeastrum	Acocks
SOLANACEAE	Solanum aculeatissimum	Acocks
SOLANACEAE	Solanum auriculatum	PRECIS (KZN)
SOLANACEAE	Solanum didymanthum	PRECIS
SOLANACEAE	Solanum duplosinuatum	PRECIS
SOLANACEAE	Solanum geniculatum	PRECIS
SOLANACEAE	Solanum giganteum	PRECIS
SOLANACEAE	Solanum incanum	PRECIS (KZN)
SOLANACEAE	Solanum linnaeanum	PRECIS
SOLANACEAE	Solanum mauritianum	PRECIS

**Family** Scientific Name CollectionCode SOLANACEAE Solanum panduriforme **PRECIS** SOLANACEAE PRECIS (KZN) Solanum pseudocapsicum SOLANACEAE Solanum sodomaeodes Acocks **SOLANACEAE** Solanum sp. **PRECIS** SOLANACEAE Solanum viarum **PRECIS SPLACHNACEAE** Tayloria isleana **PRECIS** STRIGULACEAE Strigula maculata **PRECIS** TECTARIACEAE Ctenitis lanuginosa **PRECIS** THELOTREMATACEAE Diploschistes arenarius **PRECIS** THELYPTERIDACEAE Amauropelta bergiana var. bergiana Gardens (KBG) THELYPTERIDACEAE Christella dentata **PRECIS** THELYPTERIDACEAE Christella gueinziana **PRECIS** THELYPTERIDACEAE Stegnogramma pozoi Gardens (KBG) THELYPTERIDACEAE Thelypteris confluens **PRECIS** THUIDIACEAE Cyrtohypnum versicolor **PRECIS** THUIDIACEAE Thuidium matarumense PRECIS THYMELAEACEAE Englerodaphne pilosa Acocks THYMELAEACEAE Gnidia kraussiana var. kraussiana PRECIS (KZN) THYMELAEACEAE Gnidia phaeotricha Acocks THYMELAEACEAE Gnidia phaeotricha **PRECIS** THYMELAEACEAE Gnidia pulchella **PRECIS** THYMELAEACEAE Gnidia similis **PRECIS** THYMELAEACEAE Gnidia sp. **PRECIS** THYMELAEACEAE Passerina montana **PRECIS** THYMELAEACEAE Peddiea africana Acocks **TYPHACEAE** Typha capensis\* Anel Geer UMBELLIFERAE Peucedanum magalismontanum\* Anel Geer URTICACEAE Didymodoxa caffra Acocks URTICACEAE PRECIS (KZN) Laportea alatipes Laportea peduncularis subsp. peduncularis URTICACEAE **PRECIS** VALERIANACEAE Valeriana capensis var. capensis PRECIS (KZN) VELLOZIACEAE Talbotia elegans **PRECIS** VERBENACEAE Lantana rugosa **PRECIS** VERBENACEAE Lippia javanica **PRECIS** VERBENACEAE Stachytapheta urticifolia\* Anel Geer VERBENACEAE Verbena bonariensis\* Acocks VIOLACEAE PRECIS (KZN) Hybanthus capensis VIOLACEAE Hybanthus enneaspermus var. enneaspermus PRECIS VIOLACEAE **PRECIS** Hybanthus parviflorus VIOLACEAE Rinorea angustifolia subsp. angustifolia Acocks VIOLACEAE Rinorea angustifolia subsp. natalensis Gardens (KBG) VIOLACEAE Viola tricolor PRECIS VISCACEAE Viscum triflorum subsp. nervosum PRECIS VITACEAE Cyphostemma hypoleucum PRECIS (KZN) VITACEAE Rhoicissus rhomboidea Acocks VITACEAE Rhoicissus tomentosa Acocks VITACEAE Rhoicissus tridentata subsp. tridentata PRECIS WOODSIACEAE Athyrium scandicinum PRECIS WOODSIACEAE Athyrium schimperi PRECIS (KZN) XYRIDACEAE Xyris capensis\* **PRECIS** XYRIDACEAE Xyris gerrardii **PRECIS ZAMIACEAE** Encephalartos natalensis **PRECIS** 

**Collection Code Collection Information** 

Acocks John Phillip Harison Acocks Field Notes

Anel Geer Anel Geer (University of KwaZulu-Natal)

Bolus Herbarium (University of Cape Town)

Gardens (KBG) Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens (Cape Town)

MSB Millenium Seedbank (Royal Botanic Gardens and SANBI)
PRECIS National Herbarium Pretoria Computerised Information System

PRECIS (KZN) National Herbarium Pretoria Computerised Information System (KZN)

Protea Atlas Protea Atlas (SANBI)

<sup>\*</sup>Noted at Dartmoor Vlei as part of the vegetation analysis and pollen reference collection

APPENDIX Q

Disclaimer

Figure 3.1 Location of Dartmoor Vlei, Mt Gilboa, KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa. Position

of sediment cores (DA1; DA2) extracted from Dartmoor Vlei

Figure 5.1 Location of Braun-Blanquet vegetation sampling quadrats in Dartmoor Vlei and

immediate surroundings

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