

CHAMPION TREES OF SOUTH AFRICA
(Individual Trees and Groups of Trees Declared as Protected Under Section 12
of the National Forests Act of 1998 by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry
and Fisheries)

Tree measurements and rankings may change over time as trees are re-measured and new candidates are added to the list. A single diameter is also calculated for multiple stems according to a formula. Overall size index is calculated according to a formula including height, trunk and crown diameter. In the case of tree groups, measurements are shown of the tallest or biggest trees. For groups of trees, the measurements of the tallest or largest trees are indicated.

Tree Species		Description	Height (m)	Stem diameter at breast height (m)	Crown diameter (m)	Index figure	Location/site
1	<i>Adansonia digitata</i> (baobab) Sagole Tree, also known as Muvuyo wa Makhadzi	The largest indigenous tree of South Africa, and habitat for a rare colony of mottled spinetail swallows	20,5	10,8	40	426	Sagole, Limpopo
2	<i>Adansonia digitata</i> (baobab) PART OF CROWN COLLAPSED	Second largest indigenous tree of South Africa	17	15,9	37,05	413	The farm Glencoe, Hoedspruit, Limpopo
3	<i>Ficus salicifolia</i> (Wonderboom fig) Wonderboom fig of Pretoria	Largest Wonderboom fig, carbon dated to more than 1000 years old. Served as ox wagon outspan area in earlier years, and legend that the tree draws its growing power from a local chief buried under the tree	22	5,32 (multiple stems)	61	381	Wonderboom Nature Reserve, Pretoria (Tshwane), Gauteng
4	<i>Breonadia salicina</i> (matumi) One of a trio of trees called Three Queens	Largest matumi tree in South Africa	33	2,81	37	336	Amorentia Estate, near Modjadjiskloof, Limpopo
5	<i>Adansonia digitata</i> (baobab) Platland Tree	Very large baobab and well-known tourist attraction with a bar on the inside	19	10,7	36	372	Platland/Sunland, near Modjadjiskloof, Limpopo
6	<i>Ficus sycomorus</i> (common cluster fig) Cluster Fig Giant	The largest cluster fig in South Africa	31	3,34	35,1	336	The farm Excellence, Mica, Limpopo
7	<i>Podocarpus falcatus</i> (Outeniqua yellowwood) King Edward VIIth Tree	One of the well-visited so-called Big Trees of the Knysna Forests	36,9	2,12	31,5	301	Diepwalle, Garden Route National Park, Western Cape

8	<i>Breonadia salicina</i> (matumi) One of a trio of trees called Three Queens	Second largest matumi tree in South Africa	38	2,6	24,9	306	Amorentia Estate, near Modjadjiskloof, Limpopo
9	<i>Eucalyptus saligna</i> (saligna gum) The tallest trees in South Africa and Africa, with the tallest four known as the Magoebaskloof Giants Measurement of tallest tree shown	Stand of saligna gum trees planted in 1906 by forestry pioneer AK Eastwood, including the tallest trees in SA and Africa	81,5	1,04	10,7m	293	Woodbush State Forest, Magoebaskloof, Limpopo
10	<i>Sideroxylon inerme</i> (milkwood), Grandfather of Still Bay	Largest milkwood in South Africa, estimated to be about 1000 years old	14	3,18	20	111	The farm Langebosch Still Bay, Western Cape
11	<i>Sideroxylon inerme</i> (milkwood) Mossel Bay Post Office Tree	Historic tree believed to have been the tree at which an old shoe was placed for exchange of messages by Portuguese seafarers in the 16 th century	8,5	1,1 (multiple stems)	32,9	51	Dias Museum, Mossel Bay, Western Cape
12	<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i> (camphor tree) The Vergelegen trees	Historic trees planted more than 3 centuries ago by Governor WA van der Stel – very large trees with large landscape impact	26,3	4,01	31,4	295	Vergelegen Estate, Somerset West, Western Cape
13	<i>Eucalyptus</i> species & a variety of other tree species (Tokai Arboretum - all mature trees)	Arboretum of historic significance with trees planted there since 1885. Laid out by Joseph Storr Lister at the beginning of the forestry industry.	62	1,71	20,5	368	Table Mountain National Park, Cape Town, Western Cape
14	<i>Platanus acerifolia</i> (London plane) Tree avenue in KwaZulu-Natal National Botanical Gardens known as Marriot's Lane	Tree avenue of exceptionally old plane trees – planted in 1908 by Mr WE Marriot (curator). This lane is a central landscape feature of the botanical gardens	35	1,77	28,9	250	KwaZulu-Natal Botanical Gardens, Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal
15	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> (river red gum) The Irene Champion	Largest tree on an estate originally bought by General Jan Smuts, with a variety of trees planted since the late 19 th century	41	2,03	25,7	296	Irene Farm Estate, Pretoria, Gauteng

16	<i>Eucalyptus paniculata</i> (grey ironbark), <i>E maculata</i> (spotted gum), & <i>E microcorys</i> (tallow gum), Commonwealth plantation	Arboretum or sample plot of large gum trees planted in the 1930s and protected to commemorate the Commonwealth Forestry Conference of 1935	70	1,29	19,4	350	Middelkop Plantation, Magoebaskloof, Limpopo
17	<i>Eucalyptus saligna</i> (saligna gum) Westfalia Showblock	Stand of tall trees gum trees planted in 1933 by the eminent Dr Hans Merensky	70	1,25	16,9	322	Westfalia Estate, near Modjadjiskloof, Limpopo
18	<i>Araucaria heterophylla</i> (Norfolk Island pine) Theological Seminary Tree	Tallest Norfolk Island pine planted in 1826 by wife of the last landdrost of Stellenbosch	46	1,9	21,21	292	Theological Seminary, Stellenbosch, Western Cape
19	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> (river red gum) Bergzicht Market Trees	Planted in 1880. Prominent trees providing shade for an entire informal market	34,5	2,32	35	311	Bergzicht Market, Stellenbosch, Western Cape
20	<i>Quercus robur</i> (English oak) Ryneveld Oak	Planted in 1812. One of only five oak trees remaining from the previous generation of planted oak trees	29	1,48	17,6	148	Ryneveld Street, Stellenbosch, Western Cape
21	<i>Quercus robur</i> (English oak) Zandvliet Oak	Big oak tree planted in the nineteenth century at a historic farmhouse of an old wine estate	22	1,54	25,08	137	Solms Delta Estate, near Franschoek, Western Cape
22	<i>Populus nigra</i> (Lombardy poplar) Ruth Fischer Tree	Historic tree serving as landmark for fugitives from the Apartheid security forces to find the safe house of Ruth Fischer, daughter of Braam Fischer (a prominent founder member of the SA Communist Party)	22	1,12	5,89	56	Lothbury Avenue, Auckland (Johannesburg), Gauteng
23	<i>Podocarpus falcatius</i> (Outeniqua yellowwood) Tsitsikamma Big Tree	One of the most accessible and famous so-called Big Trees in Tsitsikamma forest. Visited by more than 80 000 tourists each year	39,3	2,77	33,6	382	Near Storms River, Garden Route National Park, Eastern Cape
24	<i>Podocarpus falcatus</i> (Outeniqua yellowwood) Woodville Big Tree	One of the well-visited so-called Big Trees of the Knysna Forests	34	2,8	30,55	314	Collin's Hoek, Garden Route National Park, Western Cape
25	<i>Podocarpus falcatus</i> (Outeniqua yellowwood) Eastern Monarch	Well visited so-called Big Tree known as the Eastern Monarch, along the Tyume trail	39,4	2,75	29,69	355	Auckland Nature Reserve, Hogsback, Eastern Cape

26	<i>Podocarpus falcatus</i> (Outeniqua yellowwood) The Dalene Matthee Big Tree	Landmark tree towering above the forest, and the site of a memorial to writer Dalene Matthee	35,4	1,72	28,35	247	Goudveld, Garden Route National Park, Western Cape
27	<i>Quercus robur</i> (English oak) The Slave Tree TREE WAS DAMAGED	Very large oak tree planted in 1811 – one of the biggest oak trees in the southern hemisphere	24	1,81	27,4	169	York Street, George, Western Cape
28	<i>Cedrus deodara</i> (deodar) etc. Historic President Brand trees ALMOST ALL TREES DIED	Historic collection of trees of different species planted by visiting dignitaries since 1879 in front of the old Government Buildings in President Brand Street, Bloemfontein.	22	0,8	16,9	81	Old Government Buildings, Bloemfontein, Orange Free State
29	<i>Quercus robur</i> (English oak) The Sophiatown Oak, also called The Hanging Tree TREE DIED	The first individual tree proclaimed as protected under the National Forests Act. Was mutilated and died, but the site could be considered of historic significance. The tree was part of the history of Sophiatown and the struggle against the forced removal of the community in the 1950s	18	1,42	36	128	Bertha Street, Sophiatown, Gauteng
30	<i>Breonadia salicina</i> (matumi) One of a trio of trees called Three Queens	Third Largest matumi tree in South Africa (forms part of a trio of large matumi trees)	38,6	2,41	17,78	286	Amorentia Estate, near Modjadjiskloof, Limpopo
31	<i>Eucalyptus ficifolia</i> (red flowering gum) Ida's Valley Giant	Very large and attractive tree, estimated to be more than two centuries old. A landmark on an old historic farm	22,1	2,31 (multiple stems)	25,3	169	Ida's Valley Homestead, near Stellenbosch, Western Cape
32	<i>Quercus robur</i> (English Oak) The Northcliff Oak	The largest and oldest Oak tree in Gauteng	22	1,89	29,4	164	Northcliff, Johannesburg, Gauteng
33	<i>Ficus macrophylla</i> (Moreton Bay fig) Arderne Fig Tree	Landmark tree planted by tree pioneers Ralph and Henry Arderne	27,4	3,56	45,1	347	Arderne Gardens, Claremont, Cape Town, Western Cape
34	<i>Auracaria heterophylla</i> (Norfolk Island pine) The Arderne Pine	Landmark tree planted by tree pioneers Ralph and Henry Arderne	42,6	1,83	19,09	252	Arderne Gardens, Claremont, Cape Town, Western Cape
35	<i>Eucalyptus</i>	Very tall landmark	70	1,46	25,77	429	Harkerville, near

	<i>diversicolor</i> (karri gum) Brackenhill Gum Trees	stand of karri gum in the country, planted in 1922					Knysna on the Garden Route, Western Cape
36	<i>Cassuarina cunninghamia</i> (beefwood) Scanlen's Lane	Lane of large casuarinas planted in the 1860s by Charles Scanlen.	27	1,68	23,12	168	Cradock, Eastern Cape
37	<i>Quercus robur</i> (English oak) The Vergelegen Oak	Oak tree planted 3 centuries ago – largest and oldest oak tree in the country.	14	3,4	22,1	121	Vergelegen Estate, Somerset West, Western Cape
38	<i>Eucalyptus saligna</i> (saligna gum) The 'O'Connor tree lane	Very tall landmark tree lane –planted in the 1930s by forestry pioneer AJ O'Connor. Situated next to O'Connor's memorial	71	1,36	32,1	469	Woodbush State Forest, Magoebaskloof, Limpopo
39	<i>Quercus suber</i> (cork oak) Arderne Cork Oak	Landmark tree planted by tree pioneers Ralph and Henry Arderne	15,5	1,4	30,37	94	Arderne Gardens, Claremont, Cape Town, Western Cape
40	<i>Quercis serris</i> (Turkey oak) Arderne Turkey Oak	Landmark tree planted by tree pioneers Ralph and Henry Arderne	21,56	1,87	29,22	159	Arderne Gardens, Claremont, Cape Town, Western Cape
41	<i>Pinus halepensis</i> (Aleppo pine) Arderne Aleppo Pine	Landmark tree planted by tree pioneers Ralph and Henry Arderne	32,9	1,74	30,95	241	Arderne Gardens, Claremont, Cape Town, Western Cape
42	<i>Agathis robusta</i> (Queensland kauri) Arderne Kauri	Landmark tree planted by tree pioneers Ralph and Henry Arderne	27,7	1,57	26,45	179	Arderne Gardens, Claremont, Cape Town, Western Cape
43	<i>Eucalyptus regnans</i> (mountain ash) The Benvie Trees	A trio of large trees situated on the scenic Benvie arboretum, established by Scottish emigrant John Geekie more than 80 years ago	61	2,18	27,85	475	Benvie Arboretum, near New Hanover, KwaZulu-Natal
44	<i>Pinus radiata</i> (Monterey pine) The Eastern Cape Pine	Tallest pine tree in the Eastern Cape, planted in the late 1880s	51	1,5	15,5	246	Isidenge State Forest, near Stutterheim, Eastern Cape
45	<i>Eucalyptus citriodora</i> (lemon-scented gum) Paul Roos Trees	Scenic group of big trees on school grounds	39	2,4	22,1	284	Paul Roos Gymnasium, Stellenbosch, Western Cape
46	<i>Quercus robur</i>	Large oak tree on a	24	1,64	33,5	178	The farm Bonniemile,

	(English oak) Bonniemile Oak	farmyard next to the original wagon route linking Stellenbosch with Cape Town, planted by coachmen of governor Simon van der Stel					near Stellenbosch, Western Cape
47	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> (river red gum) The Ruth Steer Tree	Prominent landmark tree in Stellenbosch, planted around 1880	33	2,5	33,15	301	Jonkershoek Avenue, Stellenbosch, Western Cape
48	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> (river red gum) Wits Campus Tree	Huge gum tree planted more than 80 years ago along a major road between Johannesburg and Rustenburg	34	2,37	37,55	321	University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, Gauteng
49	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> (tulip Tree) The Baynesfield Tulip Tree	Tree planted by Joseph Baynes in 1882 on the historic Baynesfield Estate	34	2,04	26,02	248	Baynesfield Estate, near Richmond, KwaZulu-Natal
50	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i> (Californian redwood) The Grootvadersbos Redwood Grove	Stand of tall Redwoods planted at Grootvadersbosch more than 80 years ago	58	1,38	12,2	238	Grootvadersbosch Nature Reserve, near Swellendam, Western Cape
51	<i>Eucalyptus saligna</i> (saligna gum) Herbert Baker Chapel Trees	Group of scenic trees standing next to a chapel designed by Sir Herbert Baker	45	1,89	27,25	322	Orpen Road, Cape Town, Western Cape
52	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i> (Californian redwood) The Table Mountain Grove	Redwood trees planted in 1897 forming a landmark and recreation area for local residents, including tall Monterey pines at the fringe of this grove	51	1,09	15,1	207	Tokai Plantation, Table Mountain National Park, Western Cape
53	<i>Acacia galpinii</i> (Monkey thorn) The Marico Tree	Tallest thorn tree measured in South Africa to date	37	1,81	31	277	The farm Veeplaas, near Skuinsdrift, North West
54	<i>Ficus burkei</i> (Common wild fig) Umtentweni Giant	Largest Common wild fig in South Africa	28	3,31	31,9	288	Eden Park, Umtentweni, KwaZulu-Natal
55	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> (river red gum) The Infruitec Gum Tree	Very large landmark tree planted about 130 years ago	38,2	3,08	37,05	409	Infruitec, Helshoogte Pass, Stellenbosch, Western Cape
56	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> (river red gum) Wilgenhof Grandfather	Large tree planted about 130 years ago, and now a landmark	30,8	2,7	28,25	269	Victoria Street, Stellenbosch, Western Cape
57	<i>Adansonia digitata</i>	Third largest	23,5	8,21	32,6	383	Garatjeke village,

	(Baobab) The King of Ga-Ratjeke	indigenous tree in South Africa		(multiple stems)			near Modjadjiskloof, Limpopo
58	<i>Quercus robur</i> (English oak) Akkerdraai Oak Tree	Large landmark oak tree, possibly older than 175 years	28	1,94	26	198	Annandale Road, Stellenbosch, Western Cape
59	<i>Eucalyptus saligna</i> (saligna gum) Gum Tree Corner	Group of exceptionally large gum trees	59,1	1,33	16,89	279	KwaZulu-Natal Botanical Gardens, Pieter Maritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal
60	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i> (Californian redwood) Misty Grove	A stand of tall sequoia trees planted about 80 years ago	59	1,08	18	260	Woodbush State Forest, Magoebaskloof, Limpopo
61	<i>Eucalyptus saligna</i> (saligna gum) Saasveld Sentinels	Large eucalypt landmark trees at the scenic Saasveld campus.	39	1,46	29,6	275	Saasveld Campus, Western Cape
62	<i>Populus deltoids</i> (cottonwood tree) The Parktown Tree	The largest Cottonwood tree measured locally, and a remnant of the semi-rural surroundings of Johannesburg which are now built up	35	1,66	28,07	238	Parktown North, Johannesburg, Gauteng
63	<i>Pinus pseudostrobus</i> (false Weymouth pine) The Three Matrons	The largest pine trees in Limpopo Province, planted in 1914	49,2	1,56	24,35	304	Woodbush State Forest, Magoebaskloof, Limpopo
64	<i>Ficus macrophylla</i> (Moreton Bay fig) The Zoo Giant	Large landmark tree near the entrance of the Pretoria National Zoological Gardens	27	3,8	41,4	339	National Zoological Gardens Pretoria Gauteng
65	<i>Pinus taeda</i> (loblolly pine) The Buffelsnek Pine	Tallest pine tree measured in South Africa	60,1	1,2	18	279	Buffelsnek State Forest, Knysna, Western Cape
66	<i>Ficus sycamorus</i> (sycamore fig) The Ilembe Tree	Very large tree in a rural landscape, known as a local landmark since a century ago	23	5,32 (multiple stems)	35,7	317	Ilembe, near Kranskop, KwaZulu-Natal
67	<i>Cussonia spicata</i> (Lowveld cabbage tree) The Kurisa Forest Giant	An imposing giant forest tree	35	3,71	22	316	Kurisa Moya, Magoebaskloof, Limpopo
68	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> (river red gum) The Waterkloof Giant	Largest landmark tree of the eastern Pretoria suburbs. Remnant of a century-old tree plantation destroyed by suburban development	34	2,15	34,27	292	Waterkloof Primary School, Pretoria, Gauteng
69	<i>Adansonia digitata</i>	One of the five	22	7,71	30,2	336	The farm Buffelsdrift,

	(baobab) Buffelsdrift baobab / Swartwater baobab	largest baobabs in the country					near Lephalale, Limpopo
70	Podocarpus falcatus (Outeniqua yellowwood) The Blouberg Big Trees	Among the tallest indigenous forest trees in the country	41	1,65	31	293	Blouberg, near Polokwane, Limpopo
71	<i>Ficus macrophylla</i> (Moreton bay fig) The Kindergarten Giant	Large landmark tree at the University of Cape Town campus	25	5,09	41	361	University of Cape Town Cape Town Western Cape
72	<i>Ficus burkei</i> (Common wild fig) The Vygekraal Trees	A scenic grove of large trees growing on the walls of a cattle kraal built in the late nineteenth century	23	1,6	28,6	155	The farm Vygekraal near Pretoria, Gauteng
73	<i>Eucalyptus grandis</i> (rose gum) The Satico Giants	Stand of second tallest trees in the country, planted in 1938	72,3	1,05	16,5	301	Satico Plantation, near Louws Creek, Mpumalanga
74	<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> (Blue gum) The Radyn Tree	Exceptionally large gum tree	40,2	1,14	27,5	398	The farm Radyn near Villiersdorp, Western Cape
75	<i>Ficus macrophylla</i> (Moreton Bay Fig)	Landmark trees of the same vintage as the Arderne Garden trees (about 160 years old)	27,5	3,02	45,5	322	Fernwood Avenue, Newlands Cape Town Western Cape