

The Province of the Western Cape's symbols

Flower: red disa – *Disa uniflora*



Also referred to as the Pride of Table Mountain. It belongs to the Orchidaceae family. The species have strikingly lovely flowers, forms three sepals or petals and one petal often is a lip or hood and one a spur. Fruit is in the form of a capsule.

Source: ROSENTHAL, ERIC, Encyclopaedia of Southern Africa, 1978, Cape Town, Juta and Company Limited.

Tree: silver tree – *Leucadendron argenteum* (conebush)



Internationally know. Natural habitat is the mountain slopes of the Cape peninsula. Tree is symmetrical with silvery gray leaves. Grows up to a height of five meters.

Source: SHEAT, W.G., The A-z of gardening in South Africa, 1983, Capet Town, Struik Pulishers.

Bird: Cape sugarbird – *Promerops cafer*



The male, with his extremely long tail, is much longer than the female. Forehead and crown are buff, finely streaked with brown, the brown streaking also forming a darker line from the bill through the eye and to the neck. Mantle and wings are brown and dusky, the rump greenish yellow with dusky streaks. Throat is whitish, neck and upper chest russet, belly offwhite, under tail-coverts yellow, all streaked with dusky, tail dusky brown.

During the breeding season from February to August this species is found on the mountains, but later in the year they move according to the available food supply. They favour areas where proteas are in bloom.

Source: FRANDSEN, JOY, Birds of the South Western Cape, 1982, Cape Town, Creda Press (Pty) Ltd.

Animal: bontebok – *Damaliscus pygargus*



This antelope, resembling the Blesbok, was once common in the Western Cape but now mainly preserved in the Bontebok National Park near Swellendam and the Cape Peninsula National Park.

Source: BROWNELL, F.G., Nasionale en Provinsiale Simbole. 1993. Johannesburg: Chris van Rensburg Publications.