community conservation in action

NVT's tree planting advice



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NVT's advice on trees to plant in Nature's Valley

Nature's Valley lies within the coastal forest / thicket biome, with interspersed fynbos vegetation. In the immediate vicinity of Nature's Valley lies some of the largest indigenous forests in South Africa. As the village developed over time, vegetation was cleared in many areas. Yet, today the village is relatively pristine and the indigenous plant species have established fairly quickly, and continue to do so. When giving advice on what species to plant, we always suggest people plant indigenous. However, indigenous is a misleading term. Technically, trees such as the coral tree, wild plum and waterberry are indigenous to South Africa, yet they do not occur naturally in the village, or in the southern Cape for that matter. People often associate indigenous to mean indigenous to the country, or to the province. Yet, tree species do not follow political or administrative borders, and each species is only indigenous in the range it naturally occupies.

Based on this, NVT has devised our tree planting advice to refer to species strictly indigenous to Nature's Valley (Table 1). This list is not exhaustive, but covers most of the species in the area. If landowners are unsure of whether a species is indigenous or not, they can contact Rudi Swart at rudi.swart@nvt.org.za, or Giorgio Lombardi at giorgio.lombardi@nvt.org.za. Planting indigenous plant species attracts indigenous insect and other associated species, which leads to higher bird diversity. It leads to ecological health and supports the naturalness of Nature's Valley. This document wishes not to elaborate on the benefits of planting indigenous plants, but wishes to provide landowners with a **representative list of species** that could beautify their gardens whilst promoting the pristineness of the Valley.

The Phyl Martin Nursery is managed by NVT and many indigenous species, which were locally sourced, can be bought there at very low prices.

Table 1: Tree and plant species suggested to be planted in Nature's Valley for property owners

Species	**English**	**Afrikaans**
Afrocanthium mundianum	Rock Alder	Klipels
Afrocarpus falcatus	Outeniqua Yellowwood	Outeniekwageelhout
Agathosma ovata	False Buchu	Basterboegoe
Allophylus decipiens	False Currant	Valstaaibos
Apodytes dimidiata	White Pear	Witpeer
Buddleja saligna	False Olive	Witolienhout
Buddleja salviifolia	Sagewood	Saliehout
Burchellia bubalina	Wild Pomegranate	Wildegranaat
Calodendrum capense	Cape Chestnut	Kaapse Kastaiing
Canthium inerme	Turkeyberry	Bokdrol
Capparis sepiara	Wild caperbush	Langhaarkapperbos
Carissa bispinosa	Num-Num	Noem-noem
Cassine peragua	Forest Spoonwood	Bastersaffraan
Cassinopsis ilicifolia	Lemonthorn	Lemoentjiedoring
Celtis africana	White stinkwood	Witstinkhout

Chionanthus foveolatus	Pock ironwood	Pokysterhout
Clausena anisata	Horsewood	Perdepis
Colpoon compressum	Cape sumach	Pruimbas
Cunonia capensis	Red Alder	Rooiels
Curtisia dentata	Assegai	Assegaai
Diospyros dichrophylla	Star apple	Sterappel
Diospyros glabra	Fynbos star apple	Fynbossterappel
Diospyros whyteana	Bladdernut	Swartbas
Dovyalis rhamnoides	Sour Berry	Suurbessie
Ekebergia capensis	Cape Ash	Essenhout
Elaeodendron croceum	Saffron	Saffraan
Erica canaliculata	Channelled heath	Heide
Erica discolor	Two-colour heath	Heide
Erica formosa	White heath	Witheide
Erica glandulosa	Glandulous heath	Heide
Euclea daphnoides	White-stemmed guarri	Witstamghwarrie
Ficus burtt-davyi	Scrambling Fig	Rankvy
Ficus sur	Cape Wild Fig	Wilde vy
Gonioma kamassi	Kamassi	Kamassie
Grewia occidentalis	Crossberry	Kruisbessie
Gymnosporia nemorosa	Forest Spikethorn	Bospendoring
Halleria lucida	Tree Fuchsia	Notsung
Helichrysum petiolare	Grey Everlasting	Kooigoed
Hippobromus pauciflorus	False Horsewood	Vals perdepis
Ilex mitis	Cape Holly	Without
Kiggelaria africana	Wild Peach	Wilde perske
Knowltonia vesicatoria	Blisterleaf	Brandblaar
Lachnostylis hirta	Coalwood	Koolhout
Lauridia tetragona	Climbing Saffron	Ranksaffraan
Laurophyllus capensis	Iron Martin	Ystermartiens
Leucadendron eucalyptifolium	Tall yellowbush	Grootgeelbos
Leucospermum cuneiforme	Common pincushion	Gewone luisiesbos
Maerua racemulosa	Forest Bushcherry	Witboshout
Maytenus acuminata	Silkybark	Sybas
Maytenus peduncularis	Cape Blackwood	Kaapse swarthout
Maytenus procumbens	Dune Kokotree	Duinekokoboom
Metalasia muricata	Coast metalasia	Blombos
Morella serrata	Lance-leaved waxberry	Smalblaarwasbessie
Mytroxylon aethiopicum	Kooboo Berry	Koeboebessie
Nuxia floribunda	Forest Elder	Bosvlier
Ochna arborea	Cape Plane / cold bark	Rooihout / kouebas

Ocotea bullata	Stinkwood	Stinkhout
Olea capensis macrocarpa	Ironwood	Ysterhout
Olea exasperata	Dune olive	Duineolien
Olinia ventosa	Hardpear	Hardepeer
Osteospermum moniliferum	Bitou	Bietou
Pittosporum viridiflorum	Cheesewood	Kasuur
Plectranthus fruticosus	Spurflower	Muishondblaar
Podocarpus latifolius	Real Yellowwood	Opregte geelhout
Polygala fruticosa	Butterfly Bush	Ertjieblom
Polygala myrtifolia	Septemberbush	Septemberbos
Protea mundii	Forest white sugarbush	Boswitsuikerbos
Protea neriifolia	Blue Sugarbush	Blousuikerbos
Psoralea affinis	Slender fountainbush	Slapfonteinbos
Psydrax obovata	Quar	Kwar
Pterocelastrus tricuspidatus	Candlewood	Kershout
Rapanea melanophloeos	Cape Beech	Boekenhout
Rhamnus prinoides	Glossyleaf	Blinkblaar
Robsonodendron eucleiforme	False Silkybark	Vals sybas
Rothmannia capensis	Wild gardenia	Valskatjiepiering
Scolopia mundii	Redpear	Rooipeer
Scutia myrtina	Catthorn	Katnaels
Searsia chirindensis	Forest Currant	Bostaaibos
Searsia crenata	Dune crowberry	Duinekraalbessie
Searsia lucida	Glossy Currant	Blinktaaibos
Sideroxylon inerme	Milkwood	Melkhout
Sparrmannia africana	Cape Hemp	Kaapse stokroos
Strychnos deccusata	Cape Teak	Kiaat
Tarchonanthus littoralis	Coastal Camphor	Kuskamfer
Trimeria grandifolia	Wild mulberry	Wildemoerbei
Vepris lanceolata	White Ironwood	Witysterhout
Virgilia divaricata	Keurboom	Keurboom
Widdringtonia nodiflora	Mountain cypress	Bergsipres
Zanthoxylum davyi	Forest knobwood	Bosperdepram

Nature's Valley is unfortunately not immune to invasive alien plant (IAP) species. However, not all species that are exotic, or not strictly from Nature's Valley, are invasive. We have compiled a list of species that are not indigenous to the area, but which are commonly encountered in people's gardens (Table 2). Some of these are invasive species, and landowners are reminded that National legislation requires owners to **remove and destroy species that fall in categories 1a and 1b** and to have permits for categories 2 and 3. Other species on the list are exotic, but not invasive, and others are not indigenous to the area, even though they are South African species. These are sometimes commonly planted, being mistaken for indigenous trees, and include species such as Coral trees and Waterberry trees.

IAP species occurring within **Category 1a** require compulsory control, removal, and destruction. No permits, for the growth of these species, will be issued by the government.

IAP species occurring within **Category 1b** are extremely invasive and require compulsory control, as part of an invasive species control program (such as NVTs Sword Fern program) and should be removed and destroyed. Species within this category are deemed to have high invasive potential, and infestations can qualify to be placed within a government sponsored invasive species management program. No permits, for the growth of these species, will be issued by the government.

If a landowner needs help with removing their invasive species, they can contact NVT directly.

Table 2: Plant species not recommended to plant if aiming for an indigenous garden

Species	**Category**	**Recommendation**	**English**	**Afrikaans**
Eugenia australes / Syzygium paniculatum	*Exotic*	*Not recommended to plant*	Australian Brushcherry	Australiese waterbessie
Celtis australis	*Exotic*	*Not recommended to plant*	Australian hackberry	Australiese netelboom
Quercus suber	*Exotic*	*Not recommended to plant*	Cork tree	Kurkboom
Quercus rubus	*Exotic*	*Not recommended to plant*	Oak tree	Akkerboom
Lagerstroemia indica	*Exotic*	*Not recommended to plant*	Pride of India	Prag van Indie
Phoenix canariensis	*Exotic*	*Not recommended to plant*	Wild Date Plum	Wilde dadelpalm
Tipuana tipu	*Exotic*	*Not recommended to plant*	Tipuana	Geel Jakaranda
Cinnamomum camphora	*Exotic*	*Not recommended to plant*	Camphor	Kamferboom
Schinus tenebinthifolia	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Brazilian Pepper	Brasiliaanse Peperboom

Celtis sinensis	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Hackberry tree	Sjinese netelboom
Psidium spp.	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Guava	Koejawel
Jacaranda mimosifolia	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Jacaranda	Jakaranda
Schinus molle	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Pepper Tree	Peperboom
Melaleuca viminalis	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Bottlebrush	Bottelborsel
Nephrolepis exaltata	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Sword Fern	Swaardvaring
Canna indica	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Indian Shot	Kanna
Pinus patula	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Mexican weeping pine	Meksikaanse treurden
Pinus halepensis	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Aleppo Pine	Aleppo den
Hedychium gardnerianum / coccineum	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Ginger Lily	Gemmerlelie
Myoporum insulare	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Manatoka	Manatoka
Solanum mauritianum	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Bugweed	Luisbos
Metrosideros excelsa	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	New Zealand Christmas tree	Nieu-Seelandse Perdestert
Ipomoea indica	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Morning Glory	Purpurwinde
Dolichandra unguis-cati	*Invasive, 1a*	*Do not plant / remove*	Cats claw	Katteklouranker
Acacia elata	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Pepper tree wattle	Peperboomwattel
Acacia melanoxylon	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Australian Blackwood	Australiese swarthout
Lantana camara	*Invasive, 1a*	*Do not plant / remove*	Lantana	Gewone Lantana
Handroanthus chrysotrichus	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Golden trumpet tree	Goue trompetboom
Schefflera actinophylla	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Australian umbrella tree	Australiese kiepersol
Leptospermum laevigatum	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Australian myrtle	Australiese Mirt
Hakea sericea	*Invasive, 1a*	*Do not plant / remove*	Silky Hakea	Silwer Hakea
Anredera cordifolia	*Invasive, 1a*	*Do not plant / remove*	Madeira Vine	Madeira Ranker

Tradescantia zebrina	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	Wandering Jew	Bobbejaan-oor
Rubus fruticosus	*Invasive, 1b*	*Do not plant / remove*	European blackberry	Swartbraam
Rubus cuneifolius	*Invasive, 1a*	*Do not plant / remove*	Bramble	Framboos
Eriobotrya japonica	*Naturalised exotic*	*Plant with caution*	Loquat	Lukwart
Liquidambar styraciflua	*Naturalised exotic*	*Plant with caution*	Liquidamber	Amberboom
Araucaria araucana	*Naturalised exotic*	*Plant with caution*	Monkey Puzzle Pine	Apiesraaiselboom
Bougainvillea	*Naturalised exotic*	*Plant with caution*	Bougainvillea	Bougainvillea
Hibiscus	*Naturalised exotic*	*Plant with caution*	Hibiscus	Hibiskus
Syzygium cordatum	*Naturalised South African species*	*Plant with caution*	Water berry	Waterbessie
Erythrina affra	*Naturalised South African species*	*Plant with caution*	Coast Coral Tree	Kuskoraalboom
Erythrina lysistemon	*Naturalised South African species*	*Plant with caution*	Coral Tree	Koraalboom
Trichilia dregeana	*Naturalised South African species*	*Plant with caution*	Forest Mahogany	Bosrooiessenhout
Trichilia emetica	*Naturalised South African species*	*Plant with caution*	Natal Mahogany	Rooiessenhout
Harpephyllum affrum	*Naturalised South African species*	*Plant with caution*	Wild Plum	Wildepruim
Podocarpus henkelli	*Naturalised South African species*	*Plant with caution*	Henkel's Yellowwood	Henkel se geelhout