

Appendix A: The different vegetation types of the southern Cape.

Figure A.1. Photos of the six major vegetation types sampled in this study.



Figure A.2. Examples of the different USO types. Clockwise: rhizome, corm with corm sheaths, corms with corm sheaths removed, bulb and tuber.

Appendix B: The species list of underground storage organs found in the 100 plots, sampling the vegetation of the southern Cape.

Table B.1. The species list of underground storage organs (USOs) found in the 100 plots sampled in the southern Cape. The type of USO of each species, the edibility status, the source for the edibility classification and the number of plots the species were encountered in are listed in the different columns. References: 1: Norwood Young and Fox (1982) 2: Watt and Breyer-Brandwijk (1932) 3: Watt and Breyer-Brandwijk (1962) 4: Van Wyk and Gericke (2000) 5: Van Wyk et al. (2002) 6. Parkington (1977). * denotes a reference to the specific species in the literature and not a synonym species.

Species	Growth form	Family	Edibility	References:	Frequency encountered	
Albuca flaccidum	Bulb	Hyacinthaceae	Edible	1;2	12	
Albuca fragrans	Bulb	Hyacinthaceae	Edible	1; 2	5	
Albuca maxima	Bulb	Hyacinthaceae	Edible	1; 2	7	
Androcymbium eucomoides	Corm	Colchicaceae	Poisonous	2; 3*	4	
Babiana patula	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1; 3; 4	13	
Babiana ringens	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1; 3; 4	1	
Babiana tubulosa	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1; 3; 4	4	
Bonatea speciousa	Tuber	Orchidaceae	Unknown		1	
Brunsvigia orientalis	Bulb	Amaryllidaceae	Poisonous	2; 3	2	
Bulbinella caudafelis	Rhizome	Asphodelaceae	Unknown		2	
Chasmanthe aethiopica	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	6	8	
Chlorophytum crispum	Rhizome	Anthericaceae	Edible	1; 3	1	
Chlorophytum undulatum	Rhizome	Anthericaceae	Edible	1; 3	3	
Crossyne guttata	Bulb	Amaryllidaceae	Poisonous	2	1	
Cyanella lutea	Corm	Tecophilaeaceae	Edible	1; 3; 4*	11	
Cyperus esculentus	Corm	Cyperaceae	Edible	1; 3; 4*	1	
Cyphia digitata	Tuber	Campulaceae	Edible	1*	11	
Cyphia phyteuma	Tuber	Campulaceae	Edible	1	1	
Dipcadi viride	Bulb	Hyacinthaceae	Poisonous	2; 3*	2	
Drimia fosteri	Bulb	Hyacinthaceae	Poisonous	2; 3; 5	7	
Empodium gloriosum	Corm	Hypoxidaceae	Unknown		3	
Eriospermum cordiforme	Tuber	Convallariaceae	Poisonous	2	1	

Eriospermum lancifolium	Tuber	Convallariaceae	Poisonous	2	2
				2*	2
Eriospermum pubescens	Tuber	Convallariaceae	Poisonous	3*	2
Ferraria crispa	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	4*	2
Freesia alba	Corm	Iridaceae Edible		1; 2	6
Freesia caryophyllacea	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1; 2	1
Freesia leichtlinii	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1; 2	7
Geissorhiza aspera	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1; 2	2
Gladiolus cunonius	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1; 2; 3; 4	13
Gladiolus floribundus	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1; 2; 3; 4	5
Gladiolus involutus	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1; 2; 3; 4	1
Gladiolus rogersii	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1; 2; 3; 4	2
Gladiolus sp 1	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1; 2; 3; 4	1
Gladiolus stellatus	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1; 2; 3; 4	3
Haemanthus coccineus	Bulb	Amaryllidaceae	Poisonous	2; 5*	3
Hesperantha juncea	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	3	8
Holothrix burchellii	Tuber	Orchidaceae	Unknown		2
Holothrix mundii	Tuber	Orchidaceae	Unknown		2
Ixia flexuosa	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1; 3	3
Ixia micandra	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1; 3	8
Lachenalia bulbifera	Bulb	Hyacinthaceae	Unknown		2
Lachenalia pustulata	Bulb	Hyacinthaceae	Unknown		6
Lachenalia rubida	Bulb	Hyacinthaceae	Unknown		1
Lachenalia sp 2	Bulb	Hyacinthaceae	Unknown		1
Lachenalia sp 4	Bulb	Hyacinthaceae	Unknown		1
Lapeirousia pyramidalis	Corm	Iridaceae	Poisonous	1; 2; 3	1
Ledebouria revoluta	Bulb	Hyacinthaceae	Poisonous	5	1
Ledebouria valifolia	Bulb	Hyacinthaceae	Poisonous	5	2
Massonia echinata	Bulb	Hyacinthaceae	Unknown		3
Moraea flaccida	Corm	Iridaceae	Poisonous	5	3
Moraea fugax	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1;4*	3

<i>Aoraea inconspicua</i> Corm Iridaceae		Unknown		1	
Moraea pollyanthos	Corm	Iridaceae	Poisonous	2*	8
Moraea setifolia	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1; 2	1
Moraea tripetala	Corm	Iridaceae	Unknown		5
Oxalis obtusa	Corm	Oxalidaceae Edible		1; 3	1
Oxalis pes-caprae	Corm	Oxalidaceae	Edible	1*	4
Oxalis polyphylla	Corm	Oxalidaceae	Edible	1; 3	1
Pelargonium lobatum	Rhizome	Geraniaceae	Edible	1*	3
Pelargonium rapaceum	Rhizome	Geraniaceae	Edible	1;4*	1
Pelargonium triste	Rhizome	Geraniaceae	Edible	1; 2; 3; 4*	5
Rhoicissus digitata	Rhizome	Vitaceae	Edible	1; 3; 4*	6
Romulea rosea	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1; 3; 4*	2
Satyrium carneum	Tuber	Orchidaceae	Edible	3*	3
Satyrium corrifolium	Tuber	Orchidaceae	Edible	1; 3*	1
Satyrium longicolle	Tuber	Orchidaceae	Edible	1; 3*	2
Satyrium stenopetalum	Tuber	Orchidaceae	Edible	1; 3*	1
Spiloxene flaccida	Corm	Hypoxidaceae	Unknown		1
Trachyandra cilliata	Rhizome	Asphodelaceae	Edible	1;4*	16
Trachyandra falcata	Rhizome	Asphodelaceae	Edible	1;4*	1
Trachyandra revoluta	Rhizome	Asphodelaceae	Edible	1;4*	7
Tritonia crocata	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1	7
Tritonia squalida	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	1	7
Tulbaghia alliacea	Bulb	Alliaceae	Unknown		4
Wachendorfia paniculata	Rhizome	Haemodoraceae	Unknown		6
Watsonia alletroides	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	2; 3	5
Watsonia coccinea	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	2; 3	1
Watsonia fergusoniae	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	2; 3	2
Watsonia fourcadei	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	2; 3	5
Watsonia laccata	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	2; 3	1
Watsonia meriana	Corm	Iridaceae	Edible	2; 3	1

Wurmbea marginata	Corm	Colchicaceae	Poisonous 2; 3		1

Appendix C: USO foraging return rates.

Figure C.1. The digging tool supplied to the subjects for each foraging experiment. The digging stick was made from branch of a wild olive tree (*Olea europeae subsp. africana*), sharpened and hardened



in a fire. The digging stone weighed 1.31 kg, while the digging stick was 121 cm long and weighed 0.28 kg. The digging stone is an archaeological find (found in the Stillbay area supplied by J. de Vynck).

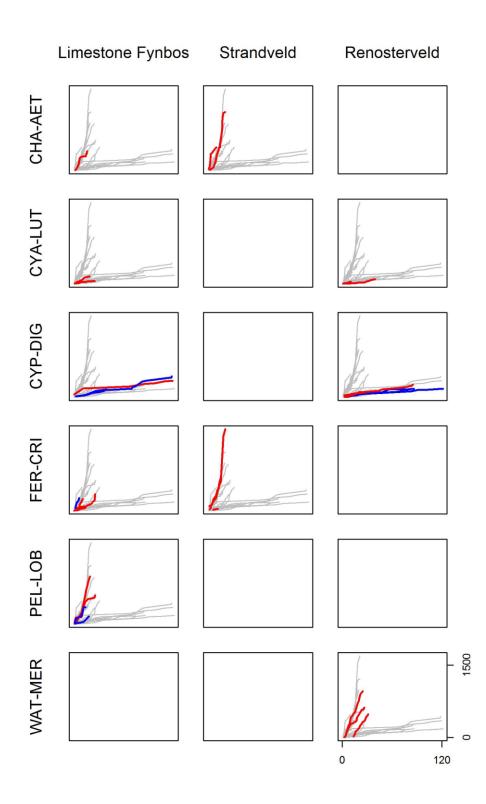


Figure C.2. The actual foraging return rates for 30 foraging events by a naïve forager that could only forage for a single species in a specific vegetation type. Foraging events took place in spring and autumn (blue and red, respectively). X and Y axes follow those in Fig. 3.A (Time in minutes and calories, respectively). Species are *Chasmanthe aethiopica*, *Cyanella lutea*, *Cyphia digitata*, *Ferraria crispa*, *Pelargonium lobatum* and *Watsonia meriana*.

Table C.1. Summary of 26 foraging events ordered by the time estimated to reach 2000 calories. The time spent foraging, number of USOs collected (n) and USO biomass were used to estimate the time necessary to obtain 2000 calories (the daily energy requirement for a hunter-gatherer). The biomass to calories calculation used the nutrition values given in Table 3 and the conversion rate given by Vincent (1984): carbohydrates = 4.03 calories per 100g of USO; protein = 2.78 cal/100g; fat = 8.37 cal/100g. Linear regression models were used to estimate the time necessary to reach 2000 calories the rate of calorie accumulation per hour; model r^2 and significance (***: p<0.005) are shown.

Species	Vegetation type	Season	Time foraging (min)	n	Biomass (g)	Calories	r	2	Time to 2000 calories (min)	Cals/hour
Ferraria crispa	Strandveld	Spring	21	12	760	1686	0.8	* *	29	4760
Chasmanthe aethiopica	Strandveld	Spring	21	24	480	1209	0.9	* *	33	4443
Pelargonium lobatum	Limestone Fynbos	Spring	20	14	874	986	0.9	* *	38	3569
Chasmanthe aethiopica	Strandveld	Spring	10	15	190	479	0.8	* *	39	3018
Ferraria crispa	Strandveld	Spring	16	11	310	688	0.9	* *	45	2830
Ferraria crispa	Limestone Fynbos	Autumn	7	12	206	266	0.9	* *	47	2595
Watsonia meriana	Renosterveld	Spring	25	24	557	962	0.9	**	48	2662
Chasmanthe aethiopica	Limestone Fynbos	Spring	17	22	197	403	0.8	**	80	1513
Ferraria crispa	Limestone Fynbos	Spring	12	9	112	246	0.9	* *	80	1548
Pelargonium lobatum	Limestone Fynbos	Autumn	15	16	424	350	0.8	* *	81	1501
Watsonia meriana	Renosterveld	Spring	27	20	362	625	0.9	* *	83	1480
Pelargonium lobatum	Limestone Fynbos	Spring	26	16	528	596	0.8	* *	89	1334
Watsonia meriana	Renosterveld	Spring	32	19	280	483	0.9	* *	93	1485
Ferraria crispa	Limestone Fynbos	Spring	26	19	156	341	0.8	* *	217	565
Cyanella lutea	Limestone Fynbos	Spring	20	27	78	154	0.9	* *	224	537
Pelargonium lobatum	Limestone Fynbos	Autumn	19	11	190	157	0.9	**	224	545
Cyanella lutea	Renosterveld	Spring	11	18	24	44	0.9	**	446	269
Cyphia digitata	Limestone Fynbos	Autumn	40	8	295	166	0.9	* *	530	227
Cyphia digitata	Limestone Fynbos	Autumn	118	12	776	436	0.9	* *	571	210
Cyphia digitata	Renosterveld	Spring	85	15	797	266	0.9	* *	752	158
Cyanella lutea	Renosterveld	Spring	40	13	51	95	0.8	* *	807	150
Cyanella lutea	Limestone Fynbos	Spring	26	14	31	60	0.9	**	822	146
Cyphia digitata	Renosterveld	Autumn	75	8	500	170	0.9	**	931	128
Cyphia digitata	Limestone Fynbos	Spring	120	11	834	345	0.8	**	1034	109
Cyphia digitata	Renosterveld	Autumn	86	8	524	178	0.9	**	1071	112
Cyphia digitata	Renosterveld	Autumn	121	8	524	178	0.9	**	1548	77