

## MBONA BIRD LIST JANUARY 2024

ENGLISH NAME	ALTERNATIVE ENGLISH NAME	GENUS	SPECIES	STATUS	HABITAT	COMMENTS
<b>Ducks, Geese and Swans</b>						
White-faced Whistling Duck		Dendrocygna	viduata	Rare visitor	Dams	Listen out at night for their whistled calls
White-backed Duck		Thalassomis	leuconotus	Rare visitor	Dams	Shy species that prefers areas of aquatic vegetation where it can hide, Seen on Laughter and back of Evergreen is another likley location for this species
Spur-winged Goose		Plectropterus	gambensis	Uncommon visitor	Dams	Mostly seen in flight over Mbona
Egyptian Goose		Alopochen	aegyptiaca	Common resident	Dams	Mbona's commonest and most conspicuous waterfowl
South African Shelduck		Tadorna	cana	Uncommon visitor	Dams	Small numbers sometimes present, looks similar to Egyptian Goose at a distance, listen for distinctive honking call. Emerald Dam is a good location for this species
African Pygmy Goose		Nettapus	auritus	No records	Dams	Shy species that prefers areas of aquatic vegetation where it can hide
Hottentot Teal		Spatula	hottentota	No records	Dams	
Cape Shoveler		Spatula	smithii	No records	Dams	
African Black Duck		Anas	sparsa	Uncommon resident	Dams	One, maybe two pairs seem to be resident, sometimes with similar-looking Yellow-billed Ducks
Yellow-billed Duck		Anas	undulata	Common resident	Dams	Mbona's commonest duck, breeding resident
Cape Teal		Anas	capensis	Rare visitor	Dams	Recorded May 2020
Red-billed Teal	Red-billed Duck	Anas	erythrorhyncha	No records	Dams	
Southern Pochard		Netta	erythrophthalma	Rare visitor	Dams	Prefers deep water dams
Maccoa Duck		Oxyura	maccoa	No records	Dams	
<b>Guineafowl</b>						
Helmeted Guineafowl		Numida	meleagris	Rare visitor	Grasslands	Single bird on Mbona seen irregularly in 20-21
Crested Guineafowl		Guttera	pucherani	Rare resident	Indigenous forest	The isolated Karkloof population of this species was previously considered a separate subspecies and is a very rare bird, best found on Guy's trail where a pair seem to be resident
<b>Pheasants, Fowl and Allies</b>						
Red-winged Francolin		Scleroptila	levaillantii	Common resident	Grasslands	Very vocal but quite secretive
Natal Spurfowl	Natal Francolin	Pternistis	natalensis	Uncommon resident	Forest edge, plantations, gardens	
Swainson's Spurfowl	Swainson's Francolin			Rare visitor	Grasslands	
Red-necked Spurfowl	Red-necked Francolin	Pternistis	afer	Uncommon resident	Forest edge, plantations, grasslands	Best located by its loud calls in the early morning
Common Quail		Coturnix	coturnix	Uncommon summer visitor	Grasslands	Mostly during Summer
<b>Grebes</b>						
Little Grebe	Dabchick	Tachybaptus	ruficollis	Common resident	Dams	Most dams have one or two pairs
<b>Flamingos</b>						
Greater Flamingo		Phoenicopterus	roseus	No records	Dams	Potential flyover species
<b>Storks</b>						
African Openbill	Openbilled Stork	Anastomus	lamelligerus	No records	Dams	
Black Stork		Ciconia	nigra	Rare visitor	Dams, overhead	Seen several years ago on Emerald when water levels were low and a flyover in Sep 20 on a very windy day

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Woolly-necked Stork		Ciconia	episcopus	Uncommon resident	Dams, gardens, grasslands	Small resident population
White Stork		Ciconia	ciconia	Uncommon summer visitor	Grasslands	Best sought in flight over Mbona
<b>Ibises and Spoonbills</b>						
African Sacred Ibis		Threskiornis	aethiopicus	Uncommon visitor	Dams	
Southern Bald Ibis		Geronticus	calvus	Rare visitor	Grasslands, reedbeds	Pair over Crystal Jan 24
Hadedda Ibis	Hadada Ibis	Bostrychia	hagedash	Common resident	Dams, gardens, grasslands	
Glossy Ibis		Plegadis	falcinellus	No records	Dams	
African Spoonbill		Platalea	alba	Rare visitor	Dams	Seen on most dams irregularly but best location is Emerald as it dries out
<b>Hérons and Bitterns</b>						
Eurasian Bittern	Great Bittern	Botaurus	stellaris	No records	Reedbeds	A rare and secretive species that may occur in Winter
Little Bittern		Ixobrychus	minutus	No records	Reedbeds	A secretive species that may occur in Summer
Black-crowned Night Heron		Nycticorax	nycticorax	No records	Dams	Best sought at night, listen for their distinctive flight call
Striated/Green-backed Heron	Striated Heron	Butorides	striata	Rare visitor	Dams	Single seen on Evergreen in Dec 22
Squacco Heron		Ardeola	ralloides	No records	Dams, reedbeds	A secretive species that may occur in Summer
Western Cattle Egret		Bubulcus	ibis	Uncommon visitor	Dams, grasslands	Strangely rare on Mbona
Grey Heron		Ardea	cinerea	Uncommon visitor	Dams	
Black-headed Heron		Ardea	melanocephala	Rare visitor	Grasslands, dams	
Goliath Heron		Ardea	goliath	No records	Dams, reedbeds	
Purple Heron		Ardea	purpurea	Uncommon visitor	Dams, reedbeds	A secretive species of reedbeds, most regularly seen in the larger reedbeds of Crystal but has been seen on smaller dams also
Great Egret	Great White Egret	Ardea	alba	Rare visitor	Dams, reedbeds	
Yellow-billed Egret	Intermediate Egret	Ardea	intermedia	Rare visitor	Dams, reedbeds	
Black Heron	Black Egret	Egretta	ardesiaca	No records	Dams, reedbeds	
Little Egret		Egretta	garzetta	Rare visitor	Dams, reedbeds	
<b>Hamerkop</b>						
Hamerkop		Scopus	umbretta	Uncommon visitor	Dams, reedbeds	A pair nested on Evergreen 19-21 but now seems to be a rare visitor
<b>Pelicans</b>						
Great White Pelican	Eastern White Pelican	Pelecanus	onocrotalus	No records	Dams	Best sought in flight over Mbona
Pink-backed Pelican		Pelecanus	rufescens	No records	Dams	Best sought in flight over Mbona
<b>Cormorants and Shags</b>						
Reed Cormorant	Long-tailed Cormorant	Microcarbo	africanus	Common visitor	Dams	
White-breasted Cormorant	Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax	lucidus	Common visitor	Dams	
<b>Anhingas and Darters</b>						
African Darter	Snakebird	Anhinga	rufa	Common resident	Dams	A few seem to be resident on Crystal, less commonly at other dams
<b>Secretarybird</b>						
Secretarybird		Sagittarius	serpentarius	Rare visitor	Grasslands	Best sought in flight over Mbona
<b>Ospreys</b>						
Western Osprey		Pandion	haliaetus	Rare summer visitor	Dams	Best sought in flight over Mbona, has been observed catching a fish on Pateric and Crystal (Jan 24)
<b>Kites, Hawks and Eagles</b>						
Black-winged Kite	Black-shouldered Kite	Elanus	caeruleus	Rare visitor	Grasslands	Most often seen on Little Mbona

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African Harrier-Hawk	Gymnogene	Polyboroides	typus	Uncommon resident	Gardens, exotic plantations	A pair may be resident on Mbona, regularly seen in gardens
<i>European Honey Buzzard</i>		Pernis	apivorus	Rare summer visitor	Forest edge, grasslands, overhead	Record Feb 20, Dec 23
African Cuckoo-Hawk		Aviceda	cuculoides	No records	Indigenous forest, forest edge, grasslands	A rare bird in the Midlands but can be expected
Cape Vulture		Gyps	coprotheres	Rare visitor	Overhead	Big Mbona often attracts raptors, single observation of 3 birds 2020
Black-chested Snake Eagle	Black-breasted Snake Eagle	Circaetus	pectoralis	Rare visitor	Overhead	Big Mbona often attracts raptors, single record of this species
Brown Snake Eagle		Circaetus	cinereus	Uncommon visitor	Overhead	Several records, incl May 20, Dec 20, Dec 23
Crowned Eagle		Stephanoaetus	coronatus	Uncommon visitor	Indigenous forest	Breeds at Benvie, known to breed in the past at Mbona but not often encountered, most recent sightings being of the Benvie birds
Martial Eagle		Polemaetus	bellicosus	Uncommon visitor	Overhead	Occasionally seen flying over Mbona
Long-crested Eagle		Lophaetus	occipitalis	Uncommon visitor	Gardens, exotic plantations	Regular visitor to open areas of Mbona
Lesser Spotted Eagle		Clanga	pomarina	No records	Overhead	Summer migrant from Europe, has been recorded in the Karkloof
Wahlberg's Eagle		Hieraaetus	wahlbergi	No records	Overhead	Summer migrant from Africa
Booted Eagle		Hieraaetus	pennatus	Claimed on early checklist	Overhead	To be confirmed
Tawny Eagle		Aquila	rapax	No records	Overhead	Has been recorded in the Karkloof
Verreaux's Eagle	African Black Eagle	Aquila	verreauxii	Rare visitor	Overhead	Old records, may no longer occur since Rock Hyrax became extinct
African Goshawk		Accipiter	tachiro	Uncommon resident	Indigenous forest, forest edge	Best located early morning and evening when calling, often in high flight over forest
Little Sparrowhawk		Accipiter	minullus	Uncommon visitor	Forest edge	
Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk	Red-breasted Sparrowhawk	Accipiter	rufiventris	Uncommon visitor	Forest edge, grasslands	Uncommonly seen, usually over grasslands
Black Sparrowhawk	Great Goshawk	Accipiter	melanoleucus	Uncommon visitor	Gardens, exotic plantations	
<i>African Marsh Harrier</i>		Circus	ranivorus	Rare visitor	Dams, grasslands	Occasionally seen hunting over grasslands
Black Harrier		Circus	maurus	No records	Grasslands	Possible winter visitor
Montagu's Harrier		Circus	pygargus	No records	Grasslands	Possible summer visitor
Black Kite		Milvus	migrans	Claimed on early checklist	Overhead	Record to be confirmed, summer migrant from Europe
Yellow-billed Kite		Milvus	aegyptius	Common summer resident	Overhead, gardens	Several pairs probably breed
African Fish Eagle		Haliaeetus	vocifer	Common resident	Dams	Breeds at Benvie and may breed on Mbona, frequently heard calling
Common Buzzard	Steppe Buzzard	Buteo	buteo	Common summer visitor	Forest edge, grasslands, exotic plantations	Summer migrant from Eurasia, frequently seen over Mbona in summer
Forest Buzzard		Buteo	trizonatus	Uncommon winter visitor	Forest edge, indigenous forests, exotic plantations	Winter migrant from Eastern Cape, attracted to burns
Jackal Buzzard		Buteo	rufofuscus	Uncommon resident	Grasslands, mountain slopes	One pair seems resident, possibly breeding on or near Mbona
<b>Bustards</b>						
Denham's Bustard	Stanley's Bustard	Neotis	denhami	No records	Grasslands	Resident in Karkloof, should occur on Mbona

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<b>Flufftails</b>						
Buff-spotted Flufftail		Sarothrura	elegans	Common summer resident	Indigenous forest, gardens	Hooting call often heard in forests during summer, may be resident
Red-chested Flufftail		Sarothrura	rufa	Common resident	Reedbeds	Pairs resident in all larger reedbeds
Striped Flufftail		Sarothrura	affinis	Common resident	Grasslands, bracken-filled gulleys	A highly sought-after species, is resident in healthy numbers on Mbona
<b>Rails, Crakes and Coots</b>						
African Rail		Rallus	caerulescens	Common resident	Reedbeds	Pairs resident in all larger reedbeds
African Crake		Crex	egregia	Rare visitor	Grasslands, reedbeds	Rare summer visitor, seen on Laughter oct 22
Corn Crake		Crex	crex	No records	Grasslands	Summer migrant from Eurasia which must occur in Mbona's grasslands
Black Crake		Amauromis	flavirostra	Uncommon resident	Reedbeds	Resident on Evergreen and Laughter
Baillon's Crake		Porzana	pusilla	No records	Reedbeds	Rare bird but known from the Karkloof
African Swamphen	Purple Gallinule	Porphyrio	madagascariensis	Rare visitor	Reedbeds	
Common Moorhen		Gallinula	chloropus	Uncommon resident	Reedbeds, dams	Resident on Evergreen and Laughter
Lesser Moorhen		Paragallinula	angulata	No records	Reedbeds	Possible summer visitor, bred in lower Karkloof 21/22
Red-knobbed Coot		Fulica	cristata	Rare visitor	Reedbeds, dams	
<b>Cranes</b>						
Grey Crowned Crane		Balearica	regulorum	Rare visitor	Reedbeds, grasslands	A pair in Jan 21 spent several days on Mbona
Wattled Crane		Grus	carunculata	Rare visitor	Grasslands	Usually after winter bums
Blue Crane		Grus	paradisea	Uncommon visitor	Grasslands	Listen out for their loud calls
<b>Buttonquail</b>						
Common Buttonquail	Kurrichane or Small Buttonquail	Tumix	sylvaticus	Rare visitor	Grasslands	Single record on the slopes of Big Mbona Apr21
<i>Black-rumped Buttonquail</i>		Tumix	nanus	Uncommon resident	Grasslands	A very rare and little known species, several pairs resident and breeding on Little Mbona
<b>Thick-knees</b>						
<i>Spotted Thick-knee</i>		Burhinus	capensis	Rare visitor	Grasslands	Nocturnal species, single seen Jan 24
<b>Stilts and Avocets</b>						
Black-winged Stilt		Himantopus	himantopus	No records	Dams	May occur especially on Emerald when water levels are low
<b>Plovers</b>						
Blacksmith Lapwing	Blacksmith Plover	Vanellus	armatus	Uncommon resident	Dams	Most often around Crystal but can be seen around other dams
Black-winged Lapwing	Black-winged Plover	Vanellus	melanopterus	Uncommon resident	Grasslands	A migrant arriving in winter during the bums, after which they breed and then disappear in late summer, very noisy species when around
Crowned Lapwing	Crowned Plover	Vanellus	coronatus	Rare visitor	Grasslands	Strangely very rare
<i>African Wattled Lapwing</i>	Wattled Plover	Vanellus	senegallus	Rare visitor	Reedbeds, dams	A pair on Laughter Oct 2019
Kittlitz's Plover		Charadrius	pecuarius	No records	Grasslands	Prefers dry open ground and empty dams
Three-banded Plover		Charadrius	tricoloris	Uncommon visitor	Dams	Prefers dams with bare margins, attempted to breed on Rainbow when the water level was low, usually on Pateric or Emerald
<b>Jacanas</b>						
Lesser Jacana		Microparra	capensis	No records	Reedbeds, dams	A rare species but known from the Karkloof
African Jacana		Actophilornis	africanus	Rare visitor	Reedbeds, dams	Old records and a single one on Emerald Nov 20 during a significant wind storm
<b>Sandpipers and Snipes</b>						
Ruff		Calidris	pugnax	No records	Dams	Potential summer visitor
Little Stint		Calidris	minuta	No records	Dams	Potential summer visitor
African Snipe	Ethiopian Snipe	Gallinago	nigripennis	Uncommon resident	Reedbeds	Small numbers breed in marshes and can be heard during overhead aerial displays at night during winter, chicks seen on Rainbow in summer
Common Sandpiper		Actitis	hypoleucos	Rare summer visitor	Dam edges	

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Marsh Sandpiper		Tringa	stagnatilis	No records	Dam edges	Potential summer visitor
Wood Sandpiper		Tringa	glareola	No records	Dam edges	Potential summer visitor
Common Greenshank		Tringa	nebularia	Rare summer visitor	Dam edges	A single was around for 10 days Oct 20
<b>Couriers and Pratincoles</b>						
Temminck's Courser		Cursorius	temminckii	No records	Grasslands	May occur especially after burns or dry periods in winter
<b>Gulls, Terns and Skimmers</b>						
Whiskered Tern		Chlidonias	hybrida	Uncommon summer visitor	Dams	Breeds near Mt Gilboa and visits our dams occasionally, a single was resident for a few months early 21
<b>Pigeons and Doves</b>						
Rock Dove	Feral Pigeon	Columba	livia	Rare visitor	Overhead	Single seen Apr 22
Speckled Pigeon	Rock Pigeon	Columba	guinea	Common resident	Gardens, rocky areas	Resident on many chimneys and rooves on the estate
African Olive Pigeon	Rameron Pigeon	Columba	arquatrix	Common resident	Indigenous forests, exotic plantations, overhead	Large impressive forest pigeon
Eastern Bronze-naped Pigeon	Delegorgue's Pigeon	Columba	delegorguei	Rare possible resident	Indigenous forests	A rare, localised forest species and extremely elusive. Sightings of up to 12 individuals have been reported at Mbona. Is vocal in October, recorded through to January. Movements not yet understood
Lemon Dove	Cinnamon Dove	Columba	larvata	Common resident	Indigenous forests, gardens	A secretive, mostly terrestrial forest species best seen early in the morning along the road or forest trails
Red-eyed Dove		Streptopelia	semitorquata	Common resident	Gardens, exotic plantations, forest edge	A commonly encountered species
Cape Turtle Dove	Ring-necked Dove	Streptopelia	capicola	Common resident	Gardens, exotic plantations	A commonly encountered species
Laughing Dove		Spilopelia	senegalensis	No records	Gardens, exotic plantations	
Tambourine Dove		Turtur	tympanistria	Rare visitor/resident	Indigenous forests, exotic plantations	Listen for its long, slow hooting call
Namaqua Dove		Oena	capensis	No records	Overhead	Has been seen in the Karkloof
African Green Pigeon		Treron	calvus	No records	Forests and forest edge	Attracted to fruiting figs
<b>Turacos</b>						
Knysna Turaco	Knysna Lourie	Tauraco	corythaix	Common resident	Indigenous forests, gardens	
<b>Cuckoos</b>						
Burchell's Coucal	Rainbird	Centropus	burchellii	Rare visitor	Gardens, exotic plantations, reedbeds	Listen for its call, especially early in the mornings
Great Spotted Cuckoo		Clamator	glandarius	Rare summer visitor	Gardens, exotic plantations	Single record
Jacobin Cuckoo		Clamator	jacobinus	Rare summer visitor	Gardens, exotic plantations	Two old records, heard calling Jan 24
Diederik Cuckoo		Chrysococcyx	caprius	Uncommon summer visitor	Gardens, exotic plantations, reedbeds	Brood parasite for weavers and best sought near weaver colonies
Klaas's Cuckoo		Chrysococcyx	klaas	Rare summer visitor	Gardens, exotic plantations, forest edge	

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African Emerald Cuckoo		Chrysococcyx	cupreus	Common summer visitor	Indigenous forests, gardens	
Black Cuckoo		Cuculus	clamosus	Common summer visitor	Indigenous forests, gardens, exotic plantations	
Red-chested Cuckoo		Cuculus	solitarius	Common summer visitor	Indigenous forests, gardens, exotic plantations	
Common Cuckoo	European Cuckoo	Cuculus	canorus	No records	Grasslands, exotic plantations	Summer migrant, has been seen in the Karkloof
<b>Barn Owls</b>						
<i>Western Barn Owl</i>		Tyto	alba	Rare visitor	Gardens, exotic plantations	One flushed from reedbed top of Laughter Nov 20
African Grass Owl		Tyto	capensis	No records	Reedbeds, grasslands	A rare species that can be expected to be found at Mbona
<b>Owls</b>						
Southern White-faced Owl		Ptilopsis	granti	No records	Gardens, exotic plantations	Known from the Natal Midlands
Cape Eagle-Owl		Bubo	capensis	Rare resident	Rocky slopes	Discovered on Big Mbona in Oct 20 and seen several times thereafter
Spotted Eagle-Owl		Bubo	africanus	Uncommon resident	Gardens, exotic plantations	
Verreaux's Eagle-Owl	Giant Eagle-Owl	Bubo	lacteus	No records	Grasslands, exotic plantations	Known to breed in the Karkloof
African Wood Owl		Strix	woodfordii	Uncommon resident	Indigenous forests, gardens	
Marsh Owl		Asio	capensis	Uncommon visitor	Reedbeds, grasslands	Seen July 2020 on top of Little Mbona
<b>Nightjars</b>						
European Nightjar		Caprimulgus	europaeus	No records	Gardens, exotic plantations	Possible summer visitor
Fiery-necked Nightjar		Caprimulgus	pectoralis	Uncommon resident	Indigenous forests edges, gardens, exotic plantations	
Freckled Nightjar		Caprimulgus	tristigma	No records	Rocky slopes	Known from the Natal Midlands
<b>Swifts</b>						
<i>African Palm Swift</i>		Cypsiurus	parvus	Uncommon visitor	Overhead	Single or small groups irregularly seen around palm tree on M29
Alpine Swift		Tachymarptis	melba	Uncommon summer visitor	Overhead	Often in mixed flocks of swifts and swallows, foraging over grasslands or drinking at dams
Common Swift	Eurasian Swift	Apus	apus	Rare summer visitor	Overhead	Search in mixed flocks of swifts and swallows, foraging over grasslands or drinking at dams
African Black Swift		Apus	barbatus	Uncommon visitor	Overhead	Often in mixed flocks of swifts and swallows, foraging over grasslands or drinking at dams, can also be found in winter
<i>Little Swift</i>		Apus	affinis	Uncommon summer visitor	Overhead	Search in mixed flocks of swifts and swallows, foraging over grasslands or drinking at dams
Horus Swift		Apus	horus	Uncommon summer visitor	Overhead	Search in mixed flocks of swifts and swallows, foraging over grasslands or drinking at dams, may breed

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White-rumped Swift		Apus	caffer	Common summer visitor	Overhead, gardens	Search in mixed flocks of swifts and swallows, foraging over grasslands or drinking at dams, breeds at Mbona
<b>Mousebirds</b>						
Speckled Mousebird		Colius	striatus	Common resident	Gardens, exotic plantations	
Red-faced Mousebird		Urocolius	indicus	No records	Gardens	May occasionally visit fruiting trees
<b>Trogons</b>						
Narina Trogon		Apaloderma	narina	Uncommon resident/summer migrant	Indigenous forests	Hooting call often heard during Spring and Summer, very elusive in Winter
<b>Rollers</b>						
European Roller		Coracias	garrulus	Rare summer visitor	Grasslands	A few records incl summer 20/21
Lilac-breasted Roller				To be confirmed	Grasslands	Has been seen recently near Mt Gilboa and one old Mbona checklist includes this species
<b>Kingfishers</b>						
Brown-hooded Kingfisher		Halcyon	albiventris	Uncommon resident	Gardens, exotic plantations	
Grey-hooded Kingfisher				Rare summer visitor	Gardens, exotic plantations	Single seen and photographed Mar 22, a vagrant to KZN
Malachite Kingfisher		Corythornis	cristatus	Common resident	Reedbeds, dams	Crystal has the largest population and juveniles have been seen, but occurs on all dams
<i>Half-collared Kingfisher</i>		Alcedo	semitorquata	Uncommon resident	Reedbeds, dams	Resident on Crystal and juveniles have been seen, sometimes encountered at the hatchery
Giant Kingfisher		Megaceryle	maxima	Uncommon resident	Reedbeds, dams	Crystal is the most reliable site, but occurs on all dams, very noisy
Pied Kingfisher		Ceryle	rudis	Common resident	Reedbeds, dams	
<b>Bee-eaters</b>						
Little Bee-eater		Merops	pusillus	No records	Gardens, exotic plantations, grasslands	
White-fronted Bee-eater		Merops	bullockoides	Rare visitor	Exotic plantations, grasslands	Single record on Big Mbona 2019
European Bee-eater		Merops	apiaster	Rare summer visitor	Exotic plantations, grasslands, dams	A flock drinking on Laughter Oct 20
<b>Hoopoes</b>						
<i>African Hoopoe</i>		Upupa	africana	Uncommon resident	Gardens, exotic plantations, grasslands	Seems to be more common in winter
<b>Wood-hoopoes</b>						
Green Wood-hoopoe	Red-billed Wood-hoopoe	Phoeniculus	purpureus	Rare visitor	Gardens, exotic plantations, forest edge	Surprisingly rare on Mbona
<b>Ground Hornbills</b>						
Southern Ground Hornbill		Bucorvus	leadbeateri	Uncommon visitor	Grasslands	Occasionally seen in the Karkloof and at Mbona
<b>Hornbills</b>						
Crowned Hornbill		Lophoceros	alboterminatus	Uncommon visitor	Indigenous forests, forest edge	Very noisy and conspicuous when around

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Trumpeter Hornbill		Bycanistes	bucinator	Uncommon visitor	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens	Attracted to fruiting figs
<b>African Barbets</b>						
Red-fronted Tinkerbird	Red-fronted Tinker Barbet	Pogoniulus	pusillus	Uncommon resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge	
Black-collared Barbet		Lybius	torquatus	Rare visitor	Gardens, exotic plantations, forest edge	Surprisingly rare, records from Evergreen
Crested Barbet		Trachyphonus	vallantii	Rare visitor	Gardens, exotic plantations	More of a bushveld species and possible winter visitor to Mbona
<b>Honeyguides</b>						
Brown-backed Honeybird	Sharp-billed Honeyguide/Wahlberg's Honeybird	Prodotiscus	regulus	Uncommon resident	Gardens, exotic plantations, grasslands	Inconspicuous species, looks like a Dusky Flycatcher but has white outer tail feathers and longer bill
Lesser Honeyguide		Indicator	minor	Rare visitor/resident	Gardens, exotic plantations, forest edge	
Scaly-throated Honeyguide		Indicator	variegatus	Uncommon resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge	
Greater Honeyguide		Indicator	indicator	Rare visitor	Gardens, exotic plantations	First recorded Jun 20
<b>Woodpeckers</b>						
Red-throated Wryneck		Jynx	ruficollis	Uncommon resident	Gardens, exotic plantations	Has bred in the past near the offices, most often located by loud call
Golden-tailed Woodpecker		Campethera	abingoni	Uncommon resident	Gardens, exotic plantations, forest, forest edge	
Ground Woodpecker		Geocolaptes	olivaceus	Rare winter visitor	Rocky slopes	
Cardinal Woodpecker		Dendropicos	fuscescens	Uncommon resident	Gardens, exotic plantations, forest edge	Seems to be more common in winter
Olive Woodpecker		Dendropicos	griseocephalus	Common resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens	
<b>Caracaras and Falcons</b>						
Lesser Kestrel		Falco	naumanni	No records	Over grasslands	Potential summer visitor
Rock Kestrel	Common Kestrel	Falco	rupicolus	Rare visitor	Over grasslands and rocky slopes	
Amur Falcon	Eastern Red-footed Falcon	Falco	amurensis	Rare summer visitor	Over grasslands	A female on Little Mbona Jan 21
Eurasian Hobby		Falco	subbuteo	No records	Forest edge	Summer migrant that should rarely occur over Mbona
Lanner Falcon		Falco	biarmicus	Rare visitor	Overhead	Several recent records
Peregrine Falcon		Falco	peregrinus	Uncommon visitor	Overhead	Seen irregularly over on Big and Little Mbona
<b>Parrots</b>						
Cape Parrot	Brown-necked Parrot	Poicephalus	robustus	Rare visitor	Indigenous forests, forest edge	A rare and endangered species that has bred on Mbona in the past, only 2 birds possibly remain of the once extensive Karkloof population. Occassionally seen or heard at Mbona
<b>Wattle-eyes and Batises</b>						



## Masterlist

ENGLISH NAME	ALTERNATIVE ENGLISH NAME	GENUS	SPECIES	STATUS	HABITAT	COMMENTS
Cape Batis		Batis	capensis	Common resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens	
Chin-spot Batis		Batis	molitor	Rare visitor	Exotic plantations, gardens	A rare winter visitor from the bushveld
<b>Bushshrikes</b>						
Grey-headed Bushshrike		Malaconotus	blanchoti	To be confirmed	Gardens, exotic plantations, forest edge	An old Mbona checklist includes this species, should be looked out for
Olive Bushshrike		Chlorophoneus	olivaceus	Common summer resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge	Very vocal and reasonably easy to see in Spring and Summer, they are absent in winter. Occurs in two colour forms, olive and ruddy
Orange-breasted Bushshrike		Chlorophoneus	sulfureopectus	Uncommon visitor	Exotic plantations, gardens	An uncommon winter visitor from the bushveld
Bokmakierie		Telophorus	zeylonus	Rare visitor	Rocky grasslands	Occurs at Gilboa but very rare visitor to Mbona
Black-backed Puffback		Dryoscopus	cubla	Common resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens	
Southern Boubou		Laniarius	ferrugineus	Common resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens	
<b>Cuckooshrikes</b>						
Grey Cuckooshrike		Coracina	caesia	Uncommon resident	Indigenous forests	Elusive forest canopy species, best detected by its long whistle
Black Cuckooshrike		Campephaga	flava	Uncommon winter visitor	Gardens, exotic plantations, forest edge	Seen a few times in Holbeck forests in winter, joining mixed bird flocks
<b>Shrikes</b>						
Red-backed Shrike		Lanius	collurio	Rare summer visitor	Grasslands, exotic plantations	A Eurasian summer migrant, associated with bushveld, but occurs annually in the Midlands, two Mbona records in Autumn
Southern Fiscal	Common Fiscal/Fiscal Shrike	Lanius	collaris	Common resident	Gardens, exotic plantations, grasslands	
<b>Figbirds and Orioles</b>						
Eurasian Golden Oriole		Oriolus	oriolus	Rare summer visitor	Exotic plantations, gardens	A Eurasian summer migrant more often associated with bushveld but occurs annually in the Midlands, one Mbona record
Black-headed Oriole		Oriolus	larvatus	Common resident	Forest edge, gardens, exotic plantations	
<b>Drongos</b>						
Fork-tailed Drongo		Dicrurus	adsimilis	Common resident	Forest edge, gardens, exotic plantations	
<b>Monarchs</b>						
Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher		Trochocercus	cyanomelas	Common resident	Indigenous forests	Shy and elusive species of the undergrowth and tangles and best located by its call
African Paradise Flycatcher		Terpsiphone	viridis	Common summer breeder	Forest edge, gardens, exotic plantations	
<b>Crows and Jays</b>						
Cape Crow	Black Crow	Corvus	capensis	Uncommon visitor	Grasslands	
Pied Crow		Corvus	albus	Uncommon visitor	Grasslands, exotic plantations	
White-necked Raven		Corvus	albicollis	Uncommon resident	Grasslands, exotic plantations, rocky slopes	A small number seem resident on Mbona, usually detected by their distinctive croak
<b>Tits and Chickadees</b>						

## Masterlist

ENGLISH NAME	ALTERNATIVE ENGLISH NAME	GENUS	SPECIES	STATUS	HABITAT	COMMENTS
Southern Black Tit		Melaniparus	niger	Uncommon resident	Forest, forest edge, gardens, exotic plantations	
<b>Larks</b>						
Eastern Long-billed Lark		Certhilauda	semitorquata	No records	Rocky slopes	Occurs on Mt Gilboa and can be expected on Big Mbona
Rufous-naped Lark		Mirafr	africana	No records	Grasslands	Strangely absent, occurs nearby on similar habitat to Mbona
Red-capped Lark		Calandrella	cinerea	No records	Grasslands	Occurs in the Karkloof and prefers short grass and open fields, should be sought after burns
<b>Bulbuls</b>						
Dark-capped Bulbul		Pycnonotus	tricolor	Common resident	Forest edge, gardens, exotic plantations	Very common garden bird
Sombre Greenbul	Sombre Bulbul	Andropadus	importunus	Common resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens	Probably the commonest and most vocal forest species
Terrestrial Brownbul	Terrestrial Bulbul	Phyllastrephus	terrestris	Common resident	Indigenous forests	Common and vocal species of forest undergrowth, but can be difficult to see
<b>Swallows and Martins</b>						
Black Saw-wing		Psalidoprocne	pristoptera	Common resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens, grasslands	Much more common in summer with numbers dropping in winter
Brown-throated Martin	Plain Martin	Riparia	paludicola	Uncommon resident	Dams, reedbeds, grasslands	Much more common in winter, especially over the burnt grasslands
<i>Sand Martin</i>		Riparia	riparia	Rare summer visitor	Dams	Single sight record on Crystal, European migrant
Banded Martin		Riparia	cincta	Rare summer visitor	Grasslands	Recent records on Little Mbona, has bred on Mbona in the past
Barn Swallow	European Swallow	Hirundo	rustica	Common summer breeder	Over all habitats	Large numbers roost in the reedbeds on Mbona at certain times of year. A Eurasian migrant
White-throated Swallow		Hirundo	albigularis	Common summer breeder	Dams	Pairs occupy territories around all the dams
Blue Swallow		Hirundo	atrocaerulea	No records	Grasslands	Used to breed on the Blinkwater, very rare summer breeder in KZN, may pass over Mbona in mixed swallow species flocks
Rock Martin		Ptyonoprogne	fuligula	Uncommon visitor	Rocky slopes and grasslands	Most records are in winter and they are especially attracted to burns
Common House Martin		Delichon	urbicum	Common summer visitor	Overhead especially over dams and forests	Joins mixed swallow and swift flocks, but also single species flocks. Eurasian migrant
Greater Striped Swallow		Cecropis	cucullata	Uncommon summer breeder	Grasslands, gardens, rocky slopes	Breeding summer intra-African migrant, higher elevation species
<i>Lesser Striped Swallow</i>		Cecropis	abyssinica	Common summer breeder	Grasslands, gardens, rocky slopes	Breeding summer intra-African migrant, lower elevation species
<i>South African Cliff Swallow</i>		Petrochelidon	spilodera	Rare summer visitor	Grasslands, dams	Single sight record on Crystal with large mixed species flock of swifts and swallows, usually at higher elevations
<b>Crombecs and African Warblers</b>						
Cape Grassbird		Sphenoeacus	afer	Common resident	Grasslands, bracken	The beautiful song of this attractive species is a distinctive element of Mbona's rank grasslands
<b>Leaf Warblers and Allies</b>						
Yellow-throated Woodland Warbler		Phylloscopus	ruficapilla	Common resident	Indigenous forests	A very common species of the forest canopy, sometimes coming lower, often with mixed species foraging flocks. Vocal all year
Willow Warbler		Phylloscopus	trochilus	Uncommon summer visitor	Forest edge, gardens, exotic plantations, grasslands	Eurasian migrant, best located in wattle plantations, sometimes even open grasslands of Little Mbona
<b>Reed Warblers and Allies</b>						

## Masterlist

ENGLISH NAME	ALTERNATIVE ENGLISH NAME	GENUS	SPECIES	STATUS	HABITAT	COMMENTS
Lesser Swamp Warbler	Cape Reed Warbler	Acrocephalus	gracilirostris	Uncommon visitor	Reedbeds	A pair took up residence on Evergreen summer 20
Great Reed Warbler		Acrocephalus	arundinaceus	No records	Reedbeds	Eurasian migrant, known from KZN Midlands
Sedge Warbler	European Sedge Warbler	Acrocephalus	schoenobaenus	No records	Reedbeds	Eurasian migrant, known from KZN Midlands
African Reed Warbler	African Marsh Warbler	Acrocephalus	baeticatus	No records	Reedbeds	Intra-African migrant, known from KZN Midlands and to be expected on Mbona
Marsh Warbler	European Marsh Warbler	Acrocephalus	palustris	Rare summer visitor	Gardens, forest edge	This Eurasian migrant is vocal late summer and recently recorded Holbeck Mar 21 and Little Mbona Jan 22
Dark-capped Yellow Warbler	African Yellow Warbler	Iduna	natalensis	Common summer breeder	Grasslands, bracken	This species arrives in September and departs early April
<b>Grassbirds and Allies</b>						
Little Rush Warbler	African Sedge Warbler	Bradypterus	baboecala	Uncommon summer breeder	Reedbeds	Present summer 19/20, but not located thereafter
Barratt's Warbler		Bradypterus	barratti	Common resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens	Very secretive, skulking species of the undergrowth, best seen in spring when singing
<i>Broad-tailed Warbler</i>	Fan-tailed Grassbird	Schoenicola	brevirostris	Uncommon summer breeder	Grasslands, bracken	A sought-after and little known species that occurs in Mbona's rank grasslands in summer, some years eg 19/20, 22/23 in might higher numbers than others eg 20/21, 23/24
<b>Cisticolas and Allies</b>						
Lazy Cisticola	Rock-loving Cisticola	Cisticola	aberrans	Common resident	Rocky, vegetated slopes	Common within its habitat zone, specifically scrubby grassland slopes with rocks
Wailing Cisticola		Cisticola	lais	Common resident	Grasslands	Common within its habitat zone, specifically sloping grasslands, usually at higher elevations
Levaillant's Cisticola		Cisticola	tinniens	Common resident	Reedbeds and moist slopes	Very common within its habitat zone, reedbeds, moist grassland
Neddicky	Piping Cisticola	Cisticola	fulvicapilla	Uncommon resident	Grasslands, exotic plantations	Most readily found around the hatchery area
Zitting Cisticola	Fan-tailed Cisticola	Cisticola	juncidis	Uncommon visitor	Grasslands	Surprisingly rare on Mbona
<i>Pale-crowned Cisticola</i>		Cisticola	cinnamomeus	Rare summer visitor	Grasslands	An uncommon species of healthy grasslands, heard twice on Little Mbona in summer 20
<i>Wing-snapping Cisticola</i>	Ayre's Cisticola	Cisticola	ayresii	Common resident	Grasslands	Common on the grasslands of Little Mbona
<i>Tawny-flanked Prinia</i>		Prinia	subflava	Rare visitor	Grasslands, forest edge	Usually occurs at lower elevations, pair seen in Holbeck Oct 22
Drakensberg Prinia	Spotted Prinia	Prinia	hypoxantha	Common resident	Grasslands, bracken, reedbeds, forest edge, gardens	A very common and conspicuous Mbona species
Bar-throated Apalis		Apalis	thoracica	Common resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens	One of the commonest and most vocal species of Mbona's forests
Yellow-breasted Apalis		Apalis	flavida	Uncommon resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge	Pairs occur uncommonly in the larger forest patches
Green-backed Camaroptera	Bleating Warbler	Camaroptera	brachyura	Common resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens	
<b>Sylviid Babblers</b>						
Bush Blackcap		Lioptilus	nigricapillus	Uncommon resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge	A sought-after species that is resident in Mbona's forests, usually inconspicuous and best seen at fruiting trees
Garden Warbler		Sylvia	borin	No records	Forest edge	An uncommon European migrant that may occur
<b>White-eyes</b>						

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ENGLISH NAME	ALTERNATIVE ENGLISH NAME	GENUS	SPECIES	STATUS	HABITAT	COMMENTS
Cape White-eye		Zosterops	virens	Common resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens, exotic plantations	An abundant species. In winter our yellow bellied resident subspecies are augmented by small numbers of the inland grey bellied subspecies
<b>Sugarbirds</b>						
Gurney's Sugarbird		Promerops	gumeyi	Common winter visitor	Gardens, rocky slopes	Good numbers of this species visit Mbona in winter and can be found around flowering proteas and aloes
<b>Starlings</b>						
Common Myna	Indian Myna	Acridotheres	tristis	Rare visitor	Gardens	An old Mbona list records a sighting of this introduced species in Jan 1986
Common Starling	European Starling	Stumus	vulgaris	No records	Gardens	This introduced species may occasionally visit Mbona
Wattled Starling		Creatophora	cinerea	No records	Gardens, grasslands	A nomadic species that is sometimes encountered in the Midlands
Cape Glossy Starling	Cape Starling	Lamprotomis	nitens	Rare visitor	Gardens	A bushveld species that has been recorded a few times at Mbona
Black-bellied Starling				Rare visitor	Forest edge	A lower elevation forest species with a single old record until a pair were seen at a nesting hole in the Holbeck Forest Oct 22
Pied Starling		Lamprotomis	bicolor	No records	Gardens, grasslands	A nomadic species that is resident lower in the Karkloof so expected to occur at Mbona
Violet-backed Starling	Plum-coloured Starling	Cinnyricinclus	leucogaster	Rare summer visitor	Gardens, forest edge	A woodland/bushveld summer migrant that is rarely seen on Mbona, usually near Wattle plantations
Red-winged Starling		Onychognathus	morio	Common resident	Gardens, grasslands, rocky slopes	
<b>Oxpeckers</b>						
<i>Red-billed Oxpecker</i>		Buphagus	erythrorhynchus	Rare visitor	Grasslands	A single on zebras on Little Mbona in Sep 20, also reported on the horses
<b>Thrushes</b>						
Orange Ground Thrush	Orange Thrush	Geokichla	gumeyi	Uncommon resident	Indigenous forests	A secretive forest interior species most often detected by its lovely, sad song. Best found on interior forest trails, especially Guy's trail
Groundscraper Thrush		Turdus	litsitsirupa	Uncommon winter visitor	Grasslands	Best sought on short grass or burnt grasslands. The area around the horse paddocks seems to support a pair through the winter
Kurichane Thrush		Turdus	libonyana	To be confirmed	Gardens	This is more of a lower elevation bushveld species but has been listed on early Mbona lists and its presence needs to be confirmed
Olive Thrush		Turdus	olivaceus	Common resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens, exotic plantations	
<b>Chats and Old World Flycatchers</b>						
Southern Black Flycatcher		Melaenomis	pammelaina	Uncommon resident	Forest edge, gardens, exotic plantations	
Fiscal Flycatcher		Melaenomis	silens	To be confirmed	Forest edge, gardens, exotic plantations	This is a winter migrant into the Midlands. It appears on early lists and should be looked out for. Smaller than a Southern Fiscal with a fine, unhooked bill
Spotted Flycatcher		Muscicapa	striata	To be confirmed	Forest edge, gardens, exotic plantations	A Eurasian summer migrant. It appears on early lists and should be looked out for.
African Dusky Flycatcher		Muscicapa	adusta	Common resident/summer breeder	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens, exotic plantations	More common in summer, most migrate to lower elevations in winter, but a few remain except during the coldest spells
Cape Robin-Chat		Cossypha	caffra	Common resident	Forest edge, gardens, exotic plantations, rocky slopes	A very common and conspicuous Mbona species
Chorister Robin-Chat		Cossypha	dichroa	Common resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens	A beautiful forest songster with an amazing repertoire of calls, hence its name

## Masterlist

ENGLISH NAME	ALTERNATIVE ENGLISH NAME	GENUS	SPECIES	STATUS	HABITAT	COMMENTS	
White-starred Robin	Starred Robin	Pogonocichla	stellata	Common resident	Indigenous forests	This beautiful bird is quite common but much more inconspicuous and quieter than the previous species. In winter they can often be seen along the edges of the roads and trails	
<i>Cape Rock Thrush</i>		Monticola	rupestris	Uncommon resident	Rocky slopes	Possibly a single pair are resident on the slopes of Big Mbona	
<i>Sentinel Rock Thrush</i>		Monticola	explorator	Uncommon winter visitor	Rocky slopes, burnt grasslands	A winter migrant from the High Drakensberg and particularly attracted to burnt grasslands. Seen on Big and Little Mbona most winters	
African Stonechat		Saxicola	torquatus	Common resident	Grasslands, gardens	One of the commonest and most conspicuous grassland birds on Mbona	
Buff-streaked Chat	Buff-streaked Wheatear	Campicoloides	bifasciatus	Uncommon resident	Rocky slopes	Live in small family groups in rocky areas of Big Mbona and can be picked up by distinctive song of male	
Sickle-winged Chat		Emarginata	sinuata	No records	Burnt grasslands	A winter migrant from the High Drakensberg and particularly attracted to burnt grasslands. Has been seen in the Karkloof	
Mountain Wheatear	Mountain Chat	Myrmecocichla	monticola	Rare winter	Rocky slopes	A winter migrant from the High Drakensberg. Appears on old Mbona checklists and one recent record	
Familiar Chat		Oenanthe	familiaris	Rare visitor	Rocky slopes, gardens	Surprisingly rare on Mbona with few recent records	
<b>Sunbirds</b>							
Collared Sunbird		Hedydipna	collaris	Common resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens		
Olive Sunbird		Cyanomitra	olivacea	Common resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens		
Grey Sunbird	Verreaux's Sunbird	Cyanomitra	veroxii	Rare visitor	Indigenous forests	Two records to date	
Amethyst Sunbird	Black Sunbird	Chalcomitra	amethystina	Common resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens, exotic plantations	The commonest Mbona sunbird	
Malachite Sunbird		Nectarinia	famosa	Uncommon resident	Rocky slopes, gardens	Populations boosted in winter by migrants from higher elevation. Are attracted by flowering proteas and aloes	
Southern Double-collared Sunbird		Cinnyris	chalybeus	Common resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens		
Greater Double-collared Sunbird		Cinnyris	afer	Common resident	Forest edge, gardens		
White-bellied Sunbird		Cinnyris	talatala	Rare visitor	Gardens	More of a bushveld species that may be attracted by flowering aloes in winter	
<b>Old World Sparrows</b>							
House Sparrow		Passer	domesticus	Rare visitor	Gardens	No recent Mbona records	
Cape Sparrow		Passer	melanurus	No records	Gardens, exotic plantations		
Southern Grey-headed Sparrow		Passer	diffusus	Common resident	Gardens, exotic plantations		
Yellow-throated Petronia		Yellow-throated (Bush) Sparrow	Gymnoris	superciliaris	Uncommon resident	Gardens, exotic plantations	Occurs in gardens and plantations with large exotic trees
<b>Weavers and Widowbirds</b>							
Thick-billed Weaver		Grosbeak Weaver	Amblyospiza	albifrons	Common summer breeder	Reedbeds, gardens, forest edge	Breed in reedbeds on most dams during the summer but are absent in winter
Spectacled Weaver			Ploceus	ocularis	Uncommon resident	Forest edge, gardens	Very distinctive vocalisation
Cape Weaver			Ploceus	capensis	Common resident	Reedbeds, gardens	
Village Weaver		Spotted-backed Weaver	Ploceus	cucullatus	Uncommon visitor	Gardens	Most regularly recorded at the main Mbona entrance gate
Dark-backed Weaver		Forest Weaver	Ploceus	bicolor	Common resident	Indigenous forests	
Red-headed Quelea			Quelea	erythropus	No records	Reedbeds, gardens, grasslands	

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ENGLISH NAME	ALTERNATIVE ENGLISH NAME	GENUS	SPECIES	STATUS	HABITAT	COMMENTS
Red-billed Quelea		Quelea	quelea	Rare visitor	Reedbeds, gardens, grasslands	Most often seen top of Laughter, does visit feeders
Yellow-crowned Bishop	Golden Bishop	Euplectes	afer	No records	Grasslands	Should be looked for in wet years, known from Gilboa and other areas of the Karkloof
Southern Red Bishop	Red Bishop	Euplectes	orix	Rare visitor	Reedbeds, gardens, grasslands	Strange that this species does not occur on Mbona, except as a very rare visitor, it is common elsewhere in the Karkloof
Yellow Bishop	Yellow-rumped Widow/Cape Bishop	Euplectes	capensis	Common resident	Grasslands, rocky slopes	
Fan-tailed Widowbird	Red-shouldered Widow	Euplectes	axillaris	Uncommon visitor/resident	Grasslands	Mostly found on Little Mbona where several pairs were resident summer 19/20 but was absent summers of 20/21, 21/22 and 22/23 but a single seen Jan 24
Red-collared Widowbird	Red-collared Widow	Euplectes	ardens	Common resident	Grasslands	
Long-tailed Widowbird	Long-tailed Widow	Euplectes	progne	Rare visitor	Grasslands	Strange that this species does not regularly occur on Mbona, but is common elsewhere in the Karkloof
<b>Waxbills, Munias and Allies</b>						
Green Twinspot	Green-backed Twinspot	Mandingoa	nitidula	Uncommon resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens	Shy and secretive but present probably annually in small numbers in the forests
African Firefinch	Blue-billed Firefinch	Lagonosticta	rubricata	Common resident	Forest edge, gardens, grasslands	
Blue Waxbill		Uraeginthus	angolensis	Rare visitor	Gardens	This is more of a lower elevation bushveld species but has been seen a few times on Mbona
Sweet Waxbill		Coccyzygia	melanotis	Uncommon resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens	
Grey Waxbill				Rare visitor	Indigenous forests, forest edge	A species of much lower elevation hence a surprise to record this bird on Mbona Jan 24
Common Waxbill		Estrilda	astrild	Common resident	Reedbeds, gardens, grasslands	
Orange-breasted Waxbill	Zebra Waxbill	Amandava	subflava	Uncommon visitor	Grasslands	Recorded most months of the year but never always present, flocks mostly encountered on Little Mbona
Quailfinch	African Quail-Finch	Ortygospiza	atricollis	Uncommon visitor	Grasslands	Irregularly seen on Little Mbona where they may have bred summer 20/21. They have a very distinctive call
Bronze Mannikin		Lonchura	cucullata	Common resident	Gardens, forest edge	
Red-backed Mannikin		Lonchura	nigriceps	Uncommon resident	Gardens, forest edge, indigenous forests, reedbeds	Often seen top of Laughter
<b>Indigobirds and Whydahs</b>						
Dusky Indigobird	Black Widowfinch	Vidua	funerea	Uncommon resident	Gardens, forest edge	A brood parasite of African Firefinch and best found in late summer when males perch out prominently and sing
Pin-tailed Whydah		Vidua	macroura	Common resident	Gardens, grasslands	Small family groups in Summer, large flocks in non-breeding plumage congregate in Winter
Cuckoo Finch	Parasitic Weaver	Anomalospiza	imberbis	No records	Grasslands	Should be looked for in wet years. Brood parasite of Neddicky and other small passerines
<b>Wagtails and Pipits</b>						
Western Yellow Wagtail		Motacilla	flava	No records	Grasslands, water edge	An Eurasian summer migrant that should be watched for
African Pied Wagtail				Rare visitor	Water edge	A few Mbona records
Cape Wagtail		Motacilla	capensis	Common resident	Water edge, gardens, grasslands	The common wagtail of Mbona
Mountain Wagtail	Long-tailed Wagtail	Motacilla	clara	Rare visitor	Forested streams	Best sought around waterfalls

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Cape Longclaw	Orange-throated Longclaw	Macronyx	capensis	Common resident	Grasslands	
Yellow-throated Longclaw				Uncommon resident	Grasslands	First recorded Dec 22 and a pair now resident in the grasslands around M29
African Pipit	Richard's/Grassveld Pipit	Anthus	cinnamomeus	Rare visitor	Grasslands	Surprisingly a rare bird on Mbona, usually the commonest pipit
<i>Nicholson's Pipit</i>	Long-billed Pipit	Anthus	similis	Uncommon resident	Grasslands on rocky slopes	A few pairs resident on slopes of Big Mbona
Buffy Pipit		Anthus	vaalensis	To be confirmed	Grasslands	An uncommon species in the Midlands but has been recorded in the Karkloof during winter on burnt grasslands
Plain-backed Pipit		Anthus	leucophrys	Common winter visitor	Grasslands	Large numbers of these pipits arrive in winter to forage on burnt grasslands
Short-tailed Pipit		Anthus	brachyurus	No records	Grasslands	A rare and little known species that occurs elsewhere in Midlands on similar grasslands to those at Mbona and should be looked out for
<b>Finches and Canaries</b>						
Forest Canary		Crithagra	scotops	Common resident	Indigenous forests, forest edge, gardens, moist grasslands	
Yellow-fronted Canary	Yellow-eyed Canary	Crithagra	mozambica	Common resident	Gardens, exotic plantations	
<i>Brimstone Canary</i>	Bully Canary	Crithagra	sulphurata	Uncommon visitor	Forest edge, grasslands, gardens	Irregularly recorded on Little Mbona along forested gully and edges of dams
<i>Streaky-headed Seedeater</i>	Streaky-headed Canary	Crithagra	gularis	Uncommon resident	Forest edge, grasslands, gardens	A few records, mostly Big Mbona
Cape Canary		Serinus	canicollis	Common resident	Forest edge, gardens, grasslands	Listen out for their distinctive flight song
<b>Buntings and New World Sparrows</b>						
Cinnamon-breasted Bunting	Rock Bunting	Emberiza	tahapisi	Rare visitor	Rocky slopes	Several records winter 21
Golden-breasted Bunting		Emberiza	flaviventris	Uncommon resident	Forest edge, exotic plantations, gardens	