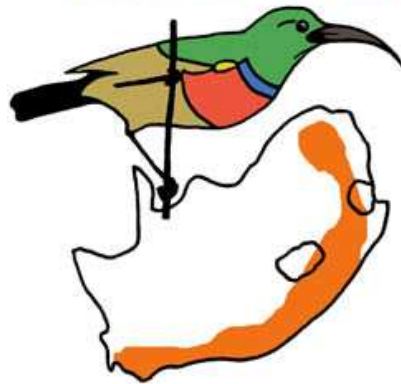


SABAP2



SOUTHERN AFRICAN BIRD ATLAS PROJECT 2

Quick-start Guide

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Days 2-5

- On an *ad hoc* basis continuously add new species in the order you record them. This could involve visits to parts of the pentad that you were unable to cover on day 1, or recording birds during the night.
- Once you have covered the habitats thoroughly you should have a fairly comprehensive bird list for the pentad and you can then submit your data to SABAP2 (see below).

How do I record my observations?

You can record your species using any of the following:

1. a Field Data Sheet

- a. a species list in Roberts 7, Roberts 6 or alphabetical order with space to enter the sequence no.
- b. can be downloaded from the SABAP2 website, www.sabap2.org
- c. selection of six regional lists to choose from

2. a Field Record Sheet

- a. a numbered sheet with space to write in the species name and additional comments
- b. can be downloaded from the SABAP2 website

3. your personal notebook

- a. create your own ordered numbered list of species as you record birds

4. a dictaphone

- a. record species without having to write anything down
- b. you will need to transfer to a Field Data Sheet after each survey



What equipment do I need to carry out a survey?

- Binoculars/Scope
- Bird field guides (SASOL, Newman's, etc.)
- Map(s)
- GPS
- Clipboard with field data sheets/field record sheets
- Notebook OR dictaphone
- Pen/Pencils
- Watch/Cell phone
- SABAP2 Observer card (obtainable on registration)

What kind of habitats do I need to cover?

We only require you to cover general habitat categories and to survey a representative sample of these in each pentad. For example: if there are three forest patches in the pentad you just need to visit one of the patches; there is no need to visit all three patches, but we would suggest visiting the largest patch in order to maximize species diversity.

Habitats would include:

- Forests (incl. lowland and montane)
- Wetlands (incl. marshes, vleis, dams, lakes, sewage works, rivers, estuaries)
- Grasslands
- Woodlands (incl. savanha, thornveld, alien woodlands)
- Fynbos
- Karoo
- Farmland
- Mountains, cliffs and gorges
- Urban and suburban environments (parks, gardens, built-up areas)
- Beaches
- Open sea (incl. any species you can positively identify from the shore)

You are welcome to visit particular types of habitat within the above categories (e.g. Burkea woodland, Acacia thornveld, etc.) in order to broaden your habitat coverage in your survey. Ultimately we would like you to visit as many different places where you are likely to record new species.

How do I submit my data to the project?

You can submit your records using one of two methods:

1. **by completing a Field Data Sheet** and posting it to: SABAP2, Avian Demography Unit, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, 7701, or
2. **by capturing your surey data electronically using the Data Management System** provided on the CD Starter Kit. You can enter records directly from your Field Record Sheet, notebook or Dictaphone and then e-mail your data to the ADU. The Data Management System comes with an easy-to-read manual describing how to capture, store and submit your data.

How do I get started?

1. You will first need to register as a SABAP2 observer. You can register on-line on the SABAP2 website (www.sabap2.org) or contact the Avian Demography Unit (Tel. 021 – 650 4998/2330 or e-mail: doug.harebottle@sabap2.org).
2. Once you are registered you will need to obtain a Starter Kit. Two Starter Kits are available: a hardcopy kit and an electronic kit (on CD). The hardcopy kit contains paper copies of the instructional manual and field data and record sheets, while the electronic version contains electronic copies of all the project forms plus a copy of the Data Management Software (to capture, store, submit, and manage your atlas data) plus an easy-to-use GIS package and a set of 1:50 000 digital maps covering your local area.
3. Starter Kits can be obtained either through your local bird club or from the Avian Demography Unit (doug.harebottle@sabap2.org) or BirdLife South Africa (neil.smith@sabap2.org). A list of bird clubs is available on the SABAP2 website.

Where can I purchase maps?

If you would like to obtain paper maps you can contact the Chief Directorate: Surveys and Mapping in Cape Town (Tel: +27 21 658 4400, Fax: +27 21 686 9884, Email: sales@sli.wcape.gov.za). Maps cost R10 (plus R35 postage and packaging).

In addition, there is a list of some of the major commercial map distributors in each province on the SABAP2 website.

If I have any queries, who do I contact?

If you have any questions or queries regarding the project, please contact Doug Harebottle at the ADU (Tel. 021 650 2330, 082 736 3087, e-mail: doug.harebottle@sabap2.org) or Neil Smith at BirdLife South Africa (Tel. 011 789 1122 or 0828593788, e-mail neil.smith@sabap2.org).

Thank you for your interest and hope that you enjoy participating in this important project – bird conservation needs your help!