

# Hans Merensky Nature Reserve

## CHECKLIST *of* BIRDS



<https://gobirding.birdlife.org.za/the-lowveld-hans-merensky-nature-reserve/>

### RED DATA: Regional\*, Global

CR Critically Endangered  
EN Endangered  
VU Vulnerable  
NR Near Threatened  
LC Least Concern  
EX Extinct (regionally)  
DD Data Deficient  
NR Not Recognised by BirdLife International  
NA Not Assessed

### STATUS IN SOUTH AFRICA

V Vagrant  
I Introduced

*\*The 2015 Eskom Red Data Book of Birds of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland*

*\*\* Please report to BirdLife South Africa National Rarities Committee (rarities@birdlife.org.za)*

### ENDEMISM IN SOUTH AFRICA(not southern africa, as in field guides)

E Endemic  
SLS Endemic to South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland  
NE Near endemic (i.e. ~70% or more of population in RSA)  
BNE Breeding near endemic

This checklist was generated using data from the Southern African Bird Atlas Project (SABAP2; [sabap2.birdmap.africa](http://sabap2.birdmap.africa)) captured by citizen scientists in the surrounding area (approximately 60km<sup>2</sup>). As such, this checklist is descriptive of the general area and may include birds not normally found at this site. Rare birds with low occurrence or no reports in the atlas data may also be missing from this list.

Please support the GoBirding project by donating at [gobirding.birdlife.org.za/donate](http://gobirding.birdlife.org.za/donate). Any comments on this list or the project can be directed to [gobirding@birdlife.org.za](mailto:gobirding@birdlife.org.za).

SPECIES	
1	<b>Apalis, Yellow-breasted</b> <i>Apalis flavida</i>
2	<b>Babbler, Arrow-marked</b> <i>Turdoides jardineii</i>
3	<b>Barbet, Acacia Pied</b> <i>Tricholaema leucomelas</i>
4	<b>Barbet, Black-collared</b> <i>Lybius torquatus</i>
5	<b>Barbet, Crested</b> <i>Trachyphonus vaillantii</i>
6	<b>Bateleur, Bateleur</b> <i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i> (EN)
7	<b>Batis, Chinspot</b> <i>Batis molitor</i>
8	<b>Bee-eater, European</b> <i>Merops apiaster</i>
9	<b>Bee-eater, Little</b> <i>Merops pusillus</i>
10	<b>Bee-eater, White-fronted</b> <i>Merops bullockoides</i>
11	<b>Bishop, Southern Red</b> <i>Euplectes orix</i>
12	<b>Boubou, Southern</b> <i>Laniarius ferrugineus</i>
13	<b>Brownbul, Terrestrial</b> <i>Phyllastrephus terrestris</i>
14	<b>Brubru, Brubru</b> <i>Nilaus afer</i>
15	<b>Bulbul, Dark-capped</b> <i>Pycnonotus tricolor</i>
16	<b>Bunting, Cinnamon-breasted</b> <i>Emberiza tahapisi</i>
17	<b>Bunting, Golden-breasted</b> <i>Emberiza flaviventris</i>
18	<b>Bushshrike, Grey-headed</b> <i>Malaconotus blanchoti</i>
19	<b>Bushshrike, Orange-breasted</b> <i>Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus</i>
20	<b>Buzzard, Common</b> <i>Buteo buteo</i>
21	<b>Buzzard, Lizard</b> <i>Kaupifalco monogrammicus</i>
22	<b>Camaropectera, Green-backed</b> <i>Camaroptera brachyura</i>
23	<b>Canary, Yellow-fronted</b> <i>Crithagra mozambica</i>
24	<b>Chat, Arnot's</b> <i>Myrmecocichla amotti</i>
25	<b>Cisticola, Rattling</b> <i>Cisticola chiniana</i>
26	<b>Cisticola, Red-faced</b> <i>Cisticola erythrops</i>
27	<b>Cisticola, Zitting</b> <i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
28	<b>Cormorant, Reed</b> <i>Microcarbo africanus</i>
29	<b>Cormorant, White-breasted</b> <i>Phalacrocorax lucidus</i>
30	<b>Coucal, Burchell's</b> <i>Centropus burchellii</i>
31	<b>Crake, Black</b> <i>Zapornia flavirostra</i>
32	<b>Crombec, Long-billed</b> <i>Sylvietta rufescens</i>
33	<b>Crow, Pied</b> <i>Corvus albus</i>

SPECIES	
34	<b>Cuckoo, African</b> <i>Cuculus gularis</i>
35	<b>Cuckoo, Diederik</b> <i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>
36	<b>Cuckoo, Jacobin</b> <i>Clamator jacobinus</i>
37	<b>Cuckoo, Klaas's</b> <i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>
38	<b>Cuckoo, Levillant's</b> <i>Clamator levillantii</i>
39	<b>Cuckoo, Red-chested</b> <i>Cuculus solitarius</i>
40	<b>Cuckooshrike, Black</b> <i>Campephaga flava</i>
41	<b>Cuckooshrike, White-breasted</b> <i>Cebilepyris pectoralis</i>
42	<b>Darter, African</b> <i>Anhinga rufa</i>
43	<b>Dove, Emerald-spotted Wood</b> <i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>
44	<b>Dove, Laughing</b> <i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>
45	<b>Dove, Namaqua</b> <i>Oena capensis</i>
46	<b>Dove, Red-eyed</b> <i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>
47	<b>Dove, Ring-necked</b> <i>Streptopelia capicola</i>
48	<b>Dove, Tambourine</b> <i>Turtur tympanistris</i>
49	<b>Drongo, Fork-tailed</b> <i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>
50	<b>Duck, White-faced Whistling</b> <i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>
51	<b>Eagle, African Fish</b> <i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>
52	<b>Eagle, Black-chested Snake</b> <i>Circaetus pectoralis</i>
53	<b>Eagle, Brown Snake</b> <i>Circaetus cinereus</i>
54	<b>Eagle, Lesser Spotted</b> <i>Clanga pomarina</i>
55	<b>Eagle, Martial</b> <i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i> (EN)
56	<b>Eagle, Tawny</b> <i>Aquila rapax</i> (EN, VU)
57	<b>Eagle, Wahlberg's</b> <i>Hieraaetus wahlbergi</i>
58	<b>Egret, Great</b> <i>Ardea alba</i>
59	<b>Egret, Little</b> <i>Egretta garzetta</i>
60	<b>Egret, Western Cattle</b> <i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
61	<b>Eremomela, Green-capped</b> <i>Eremomela scotops</i>
62	<b>Eremomela, Yellow-bellied</b> <i>Eremomela icteropygialis</i>
63	<b>Falcon, Amur</b> <i>Falco amurensis</i>
64	<b>Finch, Cut-throat</b> <i>Amadina fasciata</i>
65	<b>Firefinch, African</b> <i>Lagonosticta rubricata</i>
66	<b>Firefinch, Jameson's</b> <i>Lagonosticta rhodopareia</i>

SPECIES	
67	<b>Firefinch, Red-billed</b> <i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>
68	<b>Flycatcher, African Paradise</b> <i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>
69	<b>Flycatcher, Ashy</b> <i>Muscicapa caerulescens</i>
70	<b>Flycatcher, Southern Black</b> <i>Melaenornis pammelaina</i>
71	<b>Flycatcher, Spotted</b> <i>Muscicapa striata</i>
72	<b>Francolin, Crested</b> <i>Dendroperdix sephaena</i>
73	<b>Go-away-bird, Grey</b> <i>Corythaixoides concolor</i>
74	<b>Goose, Egyptian</b> <i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>
75	<b>Goshawk, Dark Chanting</b> <i>Melierax metabates</i>
76	<b>Goshawk, Gabar</b> <i>Micronisus gabar</i>
77	<b>Grebe, Little</b> <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
78	<b>Greenbul, Sombre</b> <i>Andropadus importunus</i>
79	<b>Greenbul, Yellow-bellied</b> <i>Chlorocichla flaviventris</i>
80	<b>Guineafowl, Helmeted</b> <i>Numida meleagris</i>
81	<b>Hamerkop, Hamerkop</b> <i>Scopus umbretta</i>
82	<b>Hawk-Eagle, African</b> <i>Aquila spilogaster</i>
83	<b>Helmetshrike, Retz's</b> <i>Prionops retzii</i>
84	<b>Helmetshrike, White-crested</b> <i>Prionops plumatus</i>
85	<b>Heron, Grey</b> <i>Ardea cinerea</i>
86	<b>Heron, Striated</b> <i>Butorides striata</i>
87	<b>Honeybird, Brown-backed</b> <i>Prodotiscus regulus</i>
88	<b>Honeyguide, Greater</b> <i>Indicator indicator</i>
89	<b>Honeyguide, Lesser</b> <i>Indicator minor</i>
90	<b>Hoopoe, African</b> <i>Upupa africana</i>
91	<b>Hoopoe, Green Wood</b> <i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>
92	<b>Hornbill, African Grey</b> <i>Lophoceros nasutus</i>
93	<b>Hornbill, Southern Red-billed</b> <i>Tockus rufirostris</i>
94	<b>Hornbill, Southern Yellow-billed</b> <i>Tockus leucomelas</i>
95	<b>Ibis, Hadada</b> <i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>
96	<b>Indigobird, Dusky</b> <i>Vidua funerea</i>
97	<b>Indigobird, Purple</b> <i>Vidua purpurascens</i>
98	<b>Indigobird, Village</b> <i>Vidua chalybeata</i>
99	<b>Jacana, African</b> <i>Actophilornis africanus</i>

SPECIES	
100	<b>Kingfisher, African Pygmy</b> <i>Ispidina picta</i>
101	<b>Kingfisher, Brown-hooded</b> <i>Halcyon albiventris</i>
102	<b>Kingfisher, Pied</b> <i>Ceryle rudis</i>
103	<b>Kingfisher, Striped</b> <i>Halcyon chelicuti</i>
104	<b>Kingfisher, Woodland</b> <i>Halcyon senegalensis</i>
105	<b>Kite, Black-winged</b> <i>Elanus caeruleus</i>
106	<b>Kite, Yellow-billed</b> <i>Milvus aegyptius</i>
107	<b>Korhaan, Red-crested</b> <i>Lophotis ruficrista</i>
108	<b>Lapwing, Blacksmith</b> <i>Vanellus armatus</i>
109	<b>Lapwing, Crowned</b> <i>Vanellus coronatus</i>
110	<b>Lark, Dusky</b> <i>Pinarocorys nigricans</i>
111	<b>Lark, Rufous-naped</b> <i>Mirafra africana</i>
112	<b>Lark, Sabota</b> <i>Calendulauda sabota</i>
113	<b>Mannikin, Bronze</b> <i>Spermestes cucullata</i>
114	<b>Mousebird, Red-faced</b> <i>Urocolius indicus</i>
115	<b>Mousebird, Speckled</b> <i>Colius striatus</i>
116	<b>Myna, Common</b> <i>Acridotheres tristis</i> (l)
117	<b>Neddicky, Neddicky</b> <i>Cisticola fulvicapilla</i>
118	<b>Nightjar, Fiery-necked</b> <i>Caprimulgus pectoralis</i>
119	<b>Oriole, Black-headed</b> <i>Oriolus larvatus</i>
120	<b>Oriole, Eurasian Golden</b> <i>Oriolus oriolus</i>
121	<b>Ostrich, Common</b> <i>Struthio camelus</i>
122	<b>Owl, Western Barn</b> <i>Tyto alba</i>
123	<b>Owlet, Pearl-spotted</b> <i>Glaucidium perlatum</i>
124	<b>Oxpecker, Red-billed</b> <i>Buphagus erythrorhynchus</i>
125	<b>Pigeon, African Green</b> <i>Treron calvus</i>
126	<b>Pipit, African</b> <i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>
127	<b>Pipit, Bushveld</b> <i>Anthus caffer</i>
128	<b>Plover, Three-banded</b> <i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>
129	<b>Prinia, Tawny-flanked</b> <i>Prinia subflava</i>
130	<b>Puffback, Black-backed</b> <i>Dryoscopus cubla</i>
131	<b>Pytilia, Green-winged</b> <i>Pytilia melba</i>
132	<b>Quelea, Red-billed</b> <i>Quelea quelea</i>

SPECIES	
133	<b>Robin-Chat, White-browed</b> <i>Cossypha heuglini</i>
134	<b>Robin-Chat, White-throated</b> <i>Cossypha humeralis</i>
135	<b>Robin, White-browed Scrub</b> <i>Cercotrichas leucophrys</i>
136	<b>Roller, Lilac-breasted</b> <i>Coracias caudatus</i>
137	<b>Roller, Purple</b> <i>Coracias naevius</i>
138	<b>Sandpiper, Wood</b> <i>Tringa glareola</i>
139	<b>Scimitarbill, Common</b> <i>Rhinopomastus cyanomelas</i>
140	<b>Shikra, Shikra</b> <i>Accipiter badius</i>
141	<b>Shrike, Lesser Grey</b> <i>Lanius minor</i>
142	<b>Shrike, Magpie</b> <i>Urolestes melanoleucus</i>
143	<b>Shrike, Red-backed</b> <i>Lanius collurio</i>
144	<b>Shrike, Southern White-crowned</b> <i>Eurocephalus anguitemens</i>
145	<b>Sparrow, House</b> <i>Passer domesticus</i> (I)
146	<b>Sparrow, Southern Grey-headed</b> <i>Passer diffusus</i>
147	<b>Sparrow, Yellow-throated Bush</b> <i>Gymnoris superciliaris</i>
148	<b>Sparrowhawk, Little</b> <i>Accipiter minullus</i>
149	<b>Spoonbill, African</b> <i>Platalea alba</i>
150	<b>Spurfowl, Natal</b> <i>Pternistis natalensis</i>
151	<b>Starling, Cape</b> <i>Lamprotornis nitens</i>
152	<b>Starling, Greater Blue-eared</b> <i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i>
153	<b>Starling, Violet-backed</b> <i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>
154	<b>Stork, Marabou</b> <i>Leptoptilos crumenifer</i> (NT, LC)
155	<b>Sunbird, Amethyst</b> <i>Chalcomitra amethystina</i>
156	<b>Sunbird, Collared</b> <i>Hedydipna collaris</i>
157	<b>Sunbird, Marico</b> <i>Cinnyris mariquensis</i>
158	<b>Sunbird, Scarlet-chested</b> <i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>
159	<b>Sunbird, White-bellied</b> <i>Cinnyris talatala</i>
160	<b>Swallow, Barn</b> <i>Hirundo rustica</i>
161	<b>Swallow, Grey-rumped</b> <i>Pseudhirundo griseopyga</i>
162	<b>Swallow, Lesser Striped</b> <i>Cecropis abyssinica</i>
163	<b>Swallow, Pearl-breasted</b> <i>Hirundo dimidiata</i>
164	<b>Swallow, Red-breasted</b> <i>Cecropis semirufa</i>
165	<b>Swallow, Wire-tailed</b> <i>Hirundo smithii</i>

SPECIES	
166	<b>Swift, African Palm</b> <i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>
167	<b>Swift, Alpine</b> <i>Tachymarptis melba</i>
168	<b>Swift, Little</b> <i>Apus affinis</i>
169	<b>Swift, White-rumped</b> <i>Apus caffer</i>
170	<b>Tchagra, Black-crowned</b> <i>Tchagra senegalus</i>
171	<b>Tchagra, Brown-crowned</b> <i>Tchagra australis</i>
172	<b>Thick-knee, Water</b> <i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>
173	<b>Thrush, Groundscraper</b> <i>Turdus litsitsirupa</i>
174	<b>Thrush, Kurrichane</b> <i>Turdus libonyana</i>
175	<b>Tinkerbird, Yellow-fronted</b> <i>Pogoniulus chrysoconus</i>
176	<b>Tit-Flycatcher, Grey</b> <i>Myioparus plumbeus</i>
177	<b>Tit, Grey Penduline</b> <i>Anthoscopus caroli</i>
178	<b>Tit, Southern Black</b> <i>Melaniparus niger</i>
179	<b>Turaco, Purple-crested</b> <i>Tauraco porphyreolophus</i>
180	<b>Vulture, Hooded</b> <i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i> (CR)
181	<b>Vulture, White-backed</b> <i>Gyps africanus</i> (CR)
182	<b>Wagtail, African Pied</b> <i>Motacilla aguimp</i>
183	<b>Warbler, Lesser Swamp</b> <i>Acrocephalus gracilirostris</i>
184	<b>Warbler, Little Rush</b> <i>Bradypterus baboecala</i>
185	<b>Warbler, Willow</b> <i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>
186	<b>Waxbill, Blue</b> <i>Uraeginthus angolensis</i>
187	<b>Waxbill, Common</b> <i>Estrilda astrild</i>
188	<b>Weaver, Lesser Masked</b> <i>Ploceus intermedius</i>
189	<b>Weaver, Red-headed</b> <i>Anaplectes rubriceps</i>
190	<b>Weaver, Southern Masked</b> <i>Ploceus velatus</i>
191	<b>Weaver, Spectacled</b> <i>Ploceus ocularis</i>
192	<b>Weaver, Village</b> <i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>
193	<b>White-eye, Cape</b> <i>Zosterops virens</i> (NE)
194	<b>Whydah, Long-tailed Paradise</b> <i>Vidua paradisaea</i>
195	<b>Whydah, Pin-tailed</b> <i>Vidua macroura</i>
196	<b>Widowbird, White-winged</b> <i>Euplectes albonotatus</i>
197	<b>Woodpecker, Bearded</b> <i>Chloropicus namaquus</i>
198	<b>Woodpecker, Bennett's</b> <i>Campethera bennettii</i>

SPECIES		
199	<b>Woodpecker, Cardinal</b> <i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>	
200	<b>Woodpecker, Golden-tailed</b> <i>Campethera abingoni</i>	
201	<b>Wren-Warbler, Stierling's</b> <i>Calamonastes stierlingi</i>	

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