Aromatic and fragrant plants at the Kirstenbosch 2017 Plant Fair

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Plant Information: Plants are grouped into Aromatic Foliage and Fragrant Flowers and then sorted alphabetically. The botanical name, English common name, suggested caption and brief information is supplied in the table below alongside the image – image name and photographer also supplied.

More information and QR CODES: Most of the species featured have more information available on PlantZAfrica http://pza.sanbi.org/ and QR codes for the plants are available as png files:

Getting high res copies of the images: Download them from Dropbox using this link:
https://www.dropbox.com/sh/65j6fkmg4ebic8I/AACr1EbXYz7XfKdta1OBpsfpa?dl=0
or email the image file name of photos you’d like to use to a.notten@sanbi.org.za

AROMATIC FOLIAGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Agathosma ciliaris</strong></th>
<th>Anise Buchu</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anise Buchu leaves have a strong aniseed-like scent that is released when it is touched.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.5-1 m Dense rounded shrublet, aniseed scented foliage, white to lilac flowers in clusters, in winter.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Image: Agathosma ciliaris 9 Aug 09 ALN 007ca.jpg</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Photo: Alice Notten</td>
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</tbody>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Agathosma gonaquensis</strong></th>
<th>Gonaqua Buchu</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Gonaqua Buchu leaves have a strong scent that is released when they are touched.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 m Densely leafy aromatic shrub, white flowers in dense heads are found almost throughout the year but mainly in winter and spring.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Image: Agathosma gonaquensis 17 Sept 10 ALN 040c.jpg</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Photo: Alice Notten</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QR Code: available</td>
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</tr>
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**Agathosma gonaquensis**
Gonaqua Buchu

Gonaqua Buchu leaves have a strong scent that is released when they are touched.

1 m Densely leafy aromatic shrub, white flowers in dense heads are found almost throughout the year but mainly in winter and spring.

**Image**: Agathosma gonaquensis 17 Sept 10 ALN 029c.jpg  
**Photo**: Alice Notten  
**QR Code**: available

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**Agathosma ovata** ‘Kluitjeskraal’
False Buchu, or Kluitjeskraal False Buchu

A buchu with aromatic foliage that releases its scent when touched.

0,3 - 0,6 m Rounded branching evergreen shrub, small narrow leaves, aromatic foliage, clusters of pink star-shaped flowers cover the plant during winter, spectacular in mixed borders, fynbos beds, pots or mass planted, sun, well-drained soil.

**Image**: Agathosma ovata Kluitjeskraal Jul ALN 157c.jpg  
**Photo**: Alice Notten  
**QR Code**: available

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**Image**: Agathosma ovata Kluitjeskraal Bee 14 Jul 11 ALN 144.jpg  
**Photo**: Alice Notten  
**QR Code**: available
**Coleonema album**  
*Cape May, White Confetti Bush*

Cape May is a kind of buchu with aromatic foliage that releases its nutmeggy scent when touched.

1 - 3 m. Evergreen rounded shrub, fine aromatic foliage, masses of white flowers in winter-spring, plant singly or grouped in informal border, rockery, also suitable for bonsai or containers, recommended, full sun & well-drained sandy soil.

*Image: Coleonema album flowers 17 Sept 10 ALN 086.jpg*  
*Photo: Alice Notten  
QR Code: available*

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**Artemisia afra**  
*African Wormwood, Wilde-Als*

Wilde-al's has delicate silvery grey lacy foliage that is also strongly aromatic, and is one of our best indigenous healing plants.

1.5 m  Evergreen, silver-grey finely divided aromatic foliage, yellow flowers in summer, full sun.

*Image: Artemisia afra 15 Apr 13 ALN 006cr.jpg*  
*Photo: Alice Notten  
QR Code: available*

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**Eriocephalus africanus**  
*Wild Rosemary*

Wild Rosemary has aromatic leaves and aromatic woolly seeds, and it’s an easy-growing garden shrub with graceful arching stems. Use the leaves to flavour food, or to brew herbal tea to treat coughs, colds and colic. Use the seeds as stuffing for cushions or pillows.

1 - 1.5 m. Fast growing shrub, aromatic felty grey foliage, white flowerheads in clusters at branch tips during late summer-autumn-winter, white woolly seedheads, wind tolerant, suitable for coastal gardens, sun, leaves can be used in place of Rosemary.

*Image: Eriocephalus africanus 20 Aug 15 ALN 412c.jpg*  
*Photo: Alice Notten  
QR Code: available*
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*Image: Eriocephalus africanus kb 28 May 10 ALN 014cd.jpg  
Photo: Alice Notten  
QR Code: available*

**Helichrysum odoratissimum**  
*Most Fragrant Helichrysum*

This helichrysum has bright yellow summer flowers and strongly aromatic foliage. The leaves are used in traditional remedies to treat colds and 'flu, as a wound dressing or burned like incense.

0.5-1 m. Aromatic herbaceous shrublet, thinly grey-woolly aromatic leaves, bright yellow flat disc-like flowerheads in early summer, sun.

*Image: Helichrysum odoratissimum 14 Dec 10 ALN 014c.jpg  
Photo: Alice Notten  
QR Code: available*

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*Image: Helichrysum odoratissimum 24 Nov 16 ALN 159c.jpg  
Photo: Alice Notten  
QR Code: available*
Pelargonium capitatum
Rose-scented Pelargonium

The Rose-scented Pelargonium is both beautiful and useful and it’s easy to grow. The leaves can be used to flavour puddings, or as a skin softener – just rub them into your hands or feet. You can also use them to brew a tea to soothe stomach cramps and nausea, and to treat kidney or bladder ailments. The oil extracted from the leaves can be used in pot pourri and aromatherapy.

0.25 - 1 m. Sprawling low-growing plant, rose-scented foliage, pink flowers in compact spherical heads, almost all year, good ground cover, hanging baskets, water-wise, useful pioneer plant as it tolerates relatively hot, windy & sandy conditions, full sun or semi-shade.

Image: Pelargonium capitatum 23 Feb 12 ALN 091dc.jpg
Photo: Alice Notten
QR Code: available

Pelargonium citronellum
Citronella Pelargonium

The Citronella Pelargonium has decorative serrated leaves that are strongly lemon scented and can be used to flavour puddings and jam, or to scent pot-pourris.

0.5-2m. Large shrub, large serrated leaves, strongly lemon scented, showy pink & purple flowers in summer, well-drained soil, needs lots of water, light or partial shade.

Image: Pelargonium citronellum 22 Sept 10 ALN 030cr.jpg
Photo: Alice Notten
QR Code: available

Aromatic Foliage
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
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<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pelargonium quercifolium</td>
<td>Oak-leaf Pelargonium</td>
<td>Oak-leaf Pelargonium has attractive toothed foliage that is strongly aromatic and good in pot pourris.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>To 1m. Erect much-branched vigorous shrub, dark green, strongly balm scented foliage, large pale pink to purple flowers, in spring to summer, easily cultivated, attractive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pelargonium tomentosum</td>
<td>Peppermint Pelargonium</td>
<td>Peppermint Pelargonium has large velvety peppermint scented leaves, and does best in a semi-shaded spot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>400mm. Sprawling shrub, vigorous groundcover, large velvety peppermint scented leaves, flowers white with purple markings, spring-summer, sun or semi-shade.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plectranthus neochilus</td>
<td>Smelly Spurflower</td>
<td>The Smelly Spurflower has very smelly foliage and decorative blue and purple flower spikes almost all summer long. It’s a plant that will grow almost anywhere and survive and thrive where others wilt and die.</td>
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<td>250 mm. Fast growing, drought tolerant groundcover, strongly aromatic fleshy leaves, mauve flowers from spring-autumn, full sun to light shade, sow spring or early summer, excellent ground cover for difficult areas.</td>
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| Image: Plectranthus neochilus 2 Nov 16 ALN 007c3.jpg  
| Photo: Alice Notten  
| QR Code: available |

| **Salvia africana-caerulea**  
| Blue Wild Sage |
| Blue Wild Sage has aromatic foliage and can be used in place of Garden Sage (*Salvia officinalis*) and it makes a decorative garden shrub. |
| To 2m. Aromatic shrub, blue, violet, pink or white flowers in summer. |
| Image: Salvia africana caerulea flowers 19Sep06 ALN 094.jpg  
| Photo: Alice Notten  
| QR Code: available |
**Salvia africana-lutea**  
**Golden Sage**

Golden Sage has aromatic foliage and orange-brown flowers, and is well suited to windy, sandy gardens.

2m. Aromatic much branched shrub, grey leaves, orange-brown flowers in early spring-summer, dry slopes and coastal areas.

*Image: Salvia africana-lutea 25 Aug 10 ALN 147.jpg*
*Photo: Alice Notten*
*QR Code: available*

**Salvia lanceolata**  
**Lance-leaf Sage, Rusty Sage**

Lance-leaf Sage has aromatic grey foliage and unusual rusty red flowers, it is suitable for gardens with alkaline soils.

750 mm. Upright shrub, aromatic grey foliage, dull rose to burnt red or blue flowers, attractive fruits, sunny situation.

*Image: Salvia lanceolata flowers 12 Nov 07 ALN 009.jpg*
*Photo: Alice Notten*
*QR Code: available*

**Syncolostemon rotundifolius x densiflorus 'Tyrian Purple'**  
**Tyrian Purple Sagebush**

The Tyrian Purple Sagebush has aromatic foliage and showy deep pink and purple flowerheads in late summer and autumn.

1,5 - 2 m. Herbaceous shrub, an attractive hybrid of two showy species, spikes of deep pink salvia-like flowers, aromatic foliage, summer growing, full sun, water in summer.

*Image: Syncolostemon Tyrian Purple 26 Apr 12 ALN 090c.jpg*
*Photo: Alice Notten*
*QR Code: not available*
**Syncolostemon canescens**  
Grey-haired Sagebush

The Grey-haired Sagebush is not the showiest but is worth growing for its unusual fruity-coconuty scented leaves. Grow it in fertile soil in a sunny spot where it will get water during summer.

250-500 mm. Herbaceous perennial, strongly aromatic foliage, pink flowers in summer-autumn, sun or semi-shade, water in summer, recommended.

**Image:** Syncolostemon canescens 19 Mar 15 ALN 008c.jpg  
**Photo:** Alice Notten  
**QR Code:** not available
## FRAGRANT FLOWERS

### Amaryllis belladonna
**Belladonna Lily, March Lily, Naked Lady**

The Belladonna Lily produces its large fragrant pink to white lilies before the leaves in late summer to autumn. Grow it in a large container and take it inside when in flower to enjoy the fragrance. It is also a relatively long-lasting cutflower.

500 mm. Deciduous, autumn flowering, winter growing, summer dormant, large scented bell-like cream & pink flowers in late summer-autumn, before the leaves appear, sun or semi-shade, well-drained sandy soil.

**Image:** Amaryllis belladonna 26 Feb 10 ALN 015.jpg  
**Photo:** Alice Notten  
**QR Code:** available

### Asparagus falcatus
**Thorny Creeper, Sickle Thorn**

The Sickle Thorn has glossy dark green foliage and masses of tiny but strongly scented white flowers in summer, but beware, it also has wicked thorns and is a vigorous grower.

Much branched twining shrub or tall climber, slender woody branches, glossy dark green leaves, large sharp spines, small white very sweet smelling flowers, red berries, in winter, sun to light shade, suitable for indoors.

**Image:** Asparagus falcatus 24 Jan 11 ALN 038a.jpg  
**Photo:** Alice Notten  
**QR Code:** available

### Diospyros whyteana
**Bladder-nut**

The Bladder-nut has the kind of flowers that you smell as you pass but you may not notice as they are small and downward-facing. It’s also an excellent tree for birds as they love the flowers and the fruits.

3 - 7 m. Shrub or small evergreen tree, leaves dark green, strikingly glossy, attractive coppery new growth, small fragrant cream flowers in early summer, decorative balloon-like fruits, good bonsai subject, good hedge plant as it can be clipped, sun or shade, recommended.

**Image:** Diospyros whyteana in flower 5 Oct 16 ALN 107c.jpg  
**Photo:** Alice Notten  
**QR Code:** available
**Freesia alba**  
**White Freesia, Wild Freesia**

White Freesia is one of the easiest of the Cape bulbs in the garden and it is fast growing. It is also a lovely container plant.

120 - 400 mm. Deciduous, winter growing, cormous geophyte, flowers white with mauve and yellow markings, strongly sweetly scented, spring flowering, full sun, well-drained sandy soil, suitable for rockeries, retaining walls, good in containers.

**Image**: Freesia alba 2 Sep 15 ALN 109c.jpg  
**Photo**: Alice Notten  
**QR Code**: available

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**Gardenia thunbergia**  
**Wild Gardenia, White Gardenia**

Wild Gardenia has strongly fragrant white flowers in mid to late summer. Their fragrance is particularly strong in the evenings.

2-5 m. Large shrub or small tree, evergreen, branchlets short & rigid, bark smooth pale grey, glossy foliage, showy creamy-white fragrant flowers in summer, persistent greyish-green egg shaped fruits, slow-growing, attractive garden subject, sun or semi-shade.

**Image**: Gardenia thunbergia 28 Jan 13 ALN 055cp.jpg  
**Photo**: Alice Notten  
**QR Code**: available
**Gnidia squarrosa 'Yellow Stars'**  
**Saffron Bush, Aandbossie**

The flowers of the Saffron Bush release their strong fragrance after sunset and are completely unscented during the day.

1-2 m. Much branched willowy shrub, decorative balls of yellow flowers, winter-spring, night scented, full sun, well-drained soil, water-wise.

*Image:* Gnidia squarrosa Yellow Stars 26 Apr 13 ALN 171c2.jpg  
*Photo:* Alice Notten  
*QR Code:* available

**Gonioma kamassi**  
**Kamassi, Knysna Boxwood**

Kamassi needs a shady, well-watered spot and rewards with clusters of fragrant white flowers in summer.

1-6 m. Evergreen understorey forest tree, seldom over 9 m, glossy foliage, fragrant white to cream flowers in summer, suitable for shady gardens.

*Image:* Gonioma kamassi 28 Nov 13 ALN 139.jpg  
*Photo:* Alice Notten  
*QR Code:* available

**Hermannia pinnata**  
**Orange Hermannia**

Orange Hermannia has masses of honey-scented orange bells in early summer, and is ideally suited to gardens on the sandy flats.

150 mm. Fast-growing groundcover, fine textured foliage, masses of honey-scented orange bell-shaped flowers in early summer, best in full sun or light shade, well drained soil in rockeries, mixed borders, containers or hanging baskets.

*Image:* Hermannia pinnata 19 Oct 15 ALN 049cp.jpg  
*Photo:* Alice Notten  
*QR Code:* available
**Starry Wild Jasmine**

*Jasminum multipartitum*

Starry Wild Jasmine has sweetly scented starry white flowers in spring and summer.

2 m. Large sprawling much-branched shrub with climbing stems, shiny dark green leaves, large pure white sweetly scented star-shaped flowers in spring-summer, grow in sun or semi-shade.

*Image*: Jasminum multipartitum 26 Oct 11 ALN 092.jpg  
*Photo*: Alice Notten  
*QR Code*: available

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**Bush-tick Berry**

*Osteospermum moniliferum*

Until recently known as *Chrysanthemoides monilifera*

Bush-tick Berry has masses of bright yellow daisy-flowers in winter and spring, go up close and have a sniff to enjoy their chocolatey scent.

2 - 3 m. Large, bushy evergreen shrub, fast-growing, yellow daisies in winter & spring, edible berries attract birds, wind & drought tolerant, sandy coastal gardens.

*Image*: Osteospermum moniliferum OLD NAME Chrysanthemoides monilifera FLOWERS BEES 29 Apr 10 ALN 037.jpg  
*Photo*: Alice Notten  
*QR Code*: available

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**Forest Bride’s Bush, Weeping Bride’s Bush**

*Pavetta lanceolata*

The Forest Bride’s Bush is covered in fragrant white flowers in mid-summer. And you can add its leaves to your salads, they are edible and taste a bit like Water Cress.

3 - 7 m. Dense shrub or small tree, evergreen, leaves glossy dark green, large clusters of fragrant white flowers in summer, very ornamental, flowers & fruit attract birds, sun or semi-shade.

*Image*: Pavetta lanceolata 18 Dec 12 ALN 028c.jpg  
*Photo*: Alice Notten  
*QR Code*: available
**Podalyria calyptrata**  
*Sweatpea Bush, Keurtjie*

The Sweatpea Bush is covered in fragrant lilac-pink flowers in spring.

to 3 m. Evergreen, attractive grey-green foliage, showy lilac-pink sweetpea-like flowers in spring, scented, easy and fast-growing, recommended.

*Image:* Podalyria calyptrata silvermine 1 Aug 10 ALN 150.jpg  
*Photo:* Alice Notten  
*QR Code:* available

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**Podranea ricasoliana**  
*Port St Johns Creeper*

The showy pink trumpets of the Port St John’s Creeper are softly fragrant, most noticeable when they are cut and placed in a vase inside the house.

to 6 m. Vigorous evergreen climber, glossy deep green leaves, showy pink trumpet-shaped fragrant flowers in bunches during summer, sun or semi-shade.

*Image:* Podranea ricasoliana ALN 126.jpg  
*Photo:* Alice Notten  
*QR Code:* available

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**Protea Family**  
**Leucadendron tinctum (female)**  
*Spicy Conebush*

The Spicy Conebush has showy flowerheads with a spicy scent in winter.

0,5 - 1,3 m. Spreading shrub, low bushy habit, oblong sessile leaves, large yellow & red floral bracts in winter, flowerheads have spicy scent, female cones decorative red for months after fertilisation, thrives in cultivation, a good garden subject, full sun, well-drained, sandy soil.

*Image:* Leucadendron tinctum female 4Aug06 ALN 097.jpg  
*Photo:* Alice Notten  
*QR Code:* available
| **Fragrant Flowers** | **Protea Family**<br><br><em>Leucadendron tinctum</em> (male)<br><br><strong>Spicy Conebush</strong><br>The Spicy Conebush has showy flowerheads with a spicy scent in winter.<br><br>0,5 - 1,3 m. Spreading shrub, low bushy habit, oblong sessile leaves, large yellow & red floral bracts in winter, flowerheads have spicy scent, female cones decorative red for months after fertilisation, thrives in cultivation, a good garden subject, full sun, well-drained<br><br><strong>Image:</strong> Leucadendron tinctum male 28 Jul 15 ALN 104.jpg  
**Photo:** Alice Notten  
**QR Code:** available |
| --- | --- |
| **Protea Family**<br><br><em>Leucospermum bolusii</em><br><br><strong>Gordon’s Bay Pincushion</strong><br>The Gordon’s Bay Pincushion is one of only a few fragrant pincushions.<br><br>To 1.5 m. Erect spreading rounded shrub, numerous small fragrant whitish flowerheads in late spring, decorative garden shrub, good cut flower, full sun, well-drained sandy acidic (mountainside) soil.<br><br><strong>Image:</strong> Leucospermum bolusii 21 Sep 12 ALN 005cp.jpg  
**Photo:** Alice Notten  
**QR Code:** available |
### Golden Pagoda

**Protea Family**  
*Mimetes chrysanthus*  
**Golden Pagoda**

The Golden Pagoda has softly sweet scented flowers in late summer and autumn.

2 m. Upright shrub, showy yellow flowerheads, scented, good cutflower, full sun, well-drained sandy soil.

**Image:** Mimetes chrysanthus 12 Mar 10 ALN 003.jpg  
**Photo:** Alice Notten  
**QR Code:** available

### Northern Spiderhead

**Protea Family**  
*Serruria fucifolia*  
**Northern Spiderhead**

The Northern Spiderhead is one of the most long-lived of the spiderheads in the garden. It has lacy foliage and silky silvery pink sweet scented flowerheads in winter and spring.

0.8-1.5 m. Upright shrub, leaves curled upwards, rounded flowerheads, silver-grey to pinkish purple with silky silver hairs, sweetly scented, in winter-spring, full sun, sandy soil.

**Image:** Serruria fucifolia 26 Apr 11 ALN 008.jpg  
**Photo:** Alice Notten  
**QR Code:** available