
THE SUIDERSTRANDER

Did You Know? There is an invasion in Suiderstrand!

Written by: Anita Joubert- Bagshaw (in consultation with Geoff Nichols who provided the photos)



The Seed of the highly invasive Acacia Cyclops (Rooikrans) - a Category 1 Invader.

Invasive Alien Trees threaten our biodiversity and our natural heritage. So much so that in 2004, the National Environmental Biodiversity Act (The NEMBA Act) was promulgated making it a **Criminal Offence to harbour such aliens on our properties.**

There are many living here that do not know this and cannot identify which plants are invasive. It is important to understand this as we have a very special natural heritage here in Suiderstrand. We live embedded inside a National Park. The park was declared to protect our special Fynbos of which our Strandveld is part. Our natural heritage and biodiversity are treasures. We are so fortunate to be living here. The value of our properties is increased by our relationship to the park and the biodiversity in the area, we have a duty of care.

There are many invasive plants in South Africa but in Suiderstrand our three main ones are:

Rooikrans (Category 1 invader)

Port Jackson Wattle (Category 1 Invader)

Manatoka (Category 3 Invader)

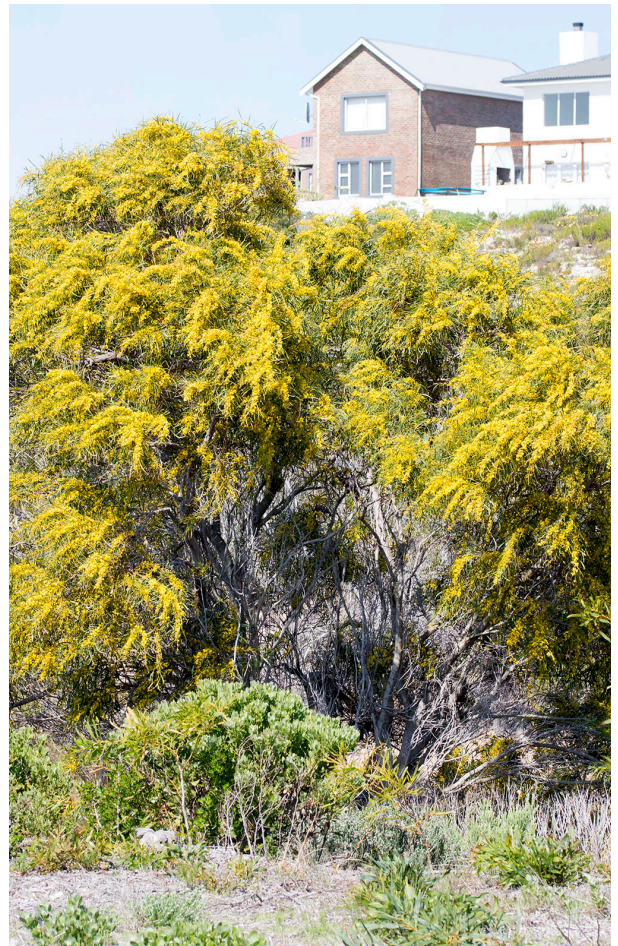
In terms of the NEMBA Act we are legally obliged to remove the Category 1 invaders from our Erven with urgency and it has become a criminal act not to do so. They are highly invasive. There is less urgency for the Manatoka which is listed as a Category 3 invader. Very large mature trees may stay but ultimately they are to all be removed and it is illegal to plant young ones.

Some people see the Manatoka as a local South African coastal tree which is untrue. The waxy leafed Australian tree with tiny white flowers, historically, became the tree of choice to replace our very slow growing (and now protected) Milkwoods.

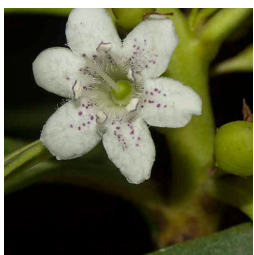
It must be stressed that the MANATOKA are invasive and it is now illegal to plant them. Many residents do not realise this so we hope this Newsletter helps?

Other problematic Aliens are the NorfolkPines, they add a visual dimension to our NaturalLandscape which is out of place but are tolerated as they do not appear to invade and take over the indigenous plants.

Please join one of the Suiderstrand Community mornings and some of our Botanically minded residents to learn to identify the Aliens in your garden. The group would welcome an opportunity to help residents of Suiderstrand to identify problematic aliens and will assist where they can. Contact: Anita 082 5564514 to find out more. If you would like to contribute something to future Suiderstranders which I hope to grow as a positive community publication please contact Anita



Yellow Flower PomPoms of the Port Jackson Wattle - Acacia saligna, an illegal Category 1 Invader



Left: The tiny white Flower of the Manatoka - Myoporum insulare - Category 3 Invader now illegal to plant and young ones must be removed. Right: Leaves and fruit.

