

## ABOUT THE BOOK

The book *Historical mammal incidence in the Cape Province: Volume 2 - The eastern half of the Cape Province, including the Ciskei, Transkei and East Griqualand* was first published in 1987, by the erstwhile Chief Directorate: Nature and Environmental Conservation of the Provincial Administration of the Cape of Good Hope, Cape Town. The author is the late C J (Jack) Skead, a legendary naturalist, scientist and historian in the Eastern Cape (see ‘The Author’).

A Second Edition, titled *Historical incidence of the larger land mammals in the broader Eastern Cape* and including a revised, re-edited and expanded text, additional tables and maps, completely revised species distribution maps, and a number of illustrations, has now been published.

This unique book brings together a huge amount of information, from a large variety of otherwise obscure sources – most notably the journals of early naturalists, travellers, hunters and farmers – on the historical distribution of the larger mammal species of the region. These include the herbivores (plant-eaters) – such as the elephant, the rhinoceros and various kinds of antelopes, and the carnivores (flesh-eaters) – such as the lion, the leopard and the hunting dog. It provides information on the status and movements of the game animals, and on the possible early human influences on their populations. It also includes chapters on interesting gaps in distribution patterns of certain species, and species exterminated in, and introduced to, the region. The book incorporates a review of the recent status of the various species.

The information in the book enables a fascinating picture to be created of the larger mammals that occupied the highly diverse landscapes of the region at the time when it was being settled by Black and White pastoralists and agriculturalists, mainly from the 17<sup>th</sup> century onwards.

The author provides interesting and useful interpretations of the information at hand, thereby helping us to understand the intricate relationships between the mammals and their habitats, and the possible reasons for the decrease in range and numbers of many species, and for the increase shown by others. As such, the book is of significant value to scholars, natural scientists, historians, conservation managers and environmental impact assessment practitioners.

Important information for the environmentally and economically sustainable development of the burgeoning ecotourism and game-ranching industries in the broader Eastern Cape is made available. Information in the book is also useful for guiding expansion planning of extant protected areas (national and provincial parks, and local nature reserves), and the establishment of new ones, in the region.

## PRICE

R490.00 + 14% VAT and P&P



*Second Edition*

## HISTORICAL INCIDENCE OF THE LARGER LAND MAMMALS IN THE BROADER EASTERN CAPE

*CJ Skead*

*“Elephants in hundreds roamed leisurely from the Kooms to the Kowie, and from thence to the Ado. The rhinoceros crashed at will the thickets of the Fish River ravines. The lion stalked in undisputed sovereignty on the slopes of the Winterberg, and his roar was occasionally heard in the lower districts. The howl and laugh of the hyena, and the shrill yell of the jackall; were the regular nightly serenade of the new settlers, to which the little ones listened and trembled. By day even, the tiger’s [leopard] deep bass sounded for hours together among the krantzes, and the ominous responsive call of the wild dog to his fellow, too often sent its melancholy sound on the breeze, as the pack ranged ravenously over the pasture grounds; while from every high ridge whole armies of baboons shouted their defiance, and demanded what business we had on their domain. And then, over the plains of Mount Donkin, and the Salem flats, springboks in thousands bounded playfully, as their snowy backs shone in the sunlight, while the ostriches ruffled their plumes, the hartebeests raised their horned crests, and the quaggas galloped heavily among them.”*

HH Dugmore, 1871.

## THE AUTHOR



Cuthbert John (Jack) Skead was born in Port Elizabeth on 30 April 1912. Originally trained as a sheep and dairy farmer after he matriculated, he farmed, after 1933, on 'Gameston' in the Highlands area near Grahamstown. He began publishing on the natural history and ecology of birds during this period.

He served as Director of the Kaffrarian (now Amathole) Museum in 1950 and for the next 22 years had a successful career as an ornithologist, based firstly at the Amathole Museum, and then at the Percy FitzPatrick Institute for African Ornithology (University of Cape Town) and then back at the Amathole Museum, before retiring to Grahamstown in 1972. During this period he published extensively, producing over 100 articles and books and considerably expanding our understanding of the birds of our region. His research interests, however, included mammals and invertebrates. During his retirement, a period spanning 34 years, Jack focused on gathering and synthesizing information from historical records, firstly on the ecology and early distribution of mammals, birds and plants, and secondly on place names and their history, all with an emphasis on his beloved Eastern Cape.

During his illustrious career, Jack received a number of prestigious awards, and academic honours in the form of Honorary Doctorates from two Eastern Cape universities.

## THE EDITORS

André Boshoff and Graham Kerley are ecologists at the Centre for African Conservation Ecology, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, Port Elizabeth. Peter Lloyd is a mammalogist with the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board, Cape Town.



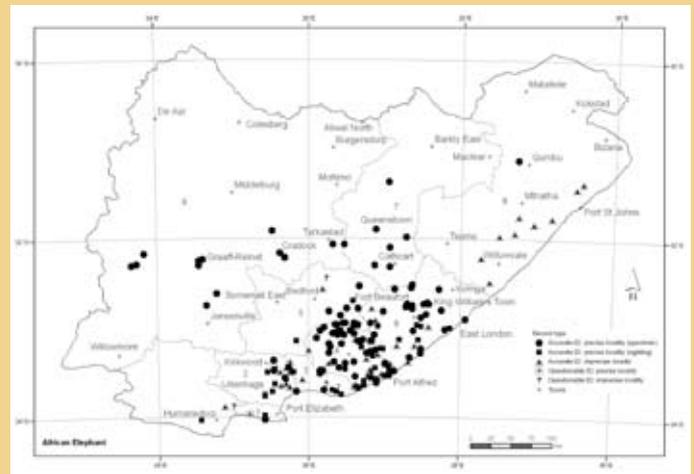
## BOOK DIMENSIONS & DETAILS

This A4 size, hardcover, book contains 588 pages of black and white text, tables, maps and illustrations. It has a full colour dust cover and gold foiled title on the hardcover.

## EXAMPLES OF CONTENTS



*Although over-hunted in some places, the overall range of the mountain reedbuck remains largely unchanged in the broader Eastern Cape. (Photo: Piet Heymans)*



*The historical distribution of the African elephant. The sector numbers (1-9) and boundaries are shown.*



*'Hunting a panther [= leopard]'. (By courtesy of Museum-Africa, Johannesburg). Despite heavy persecution of this formerly widespread species, relic populations persist in rugged and remote areas.*



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### ENQUIRIES

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