

***African White-backed Vultures nesting in Acacia trees***

During the past four years a concerted effort has been made to ring African White-backed Vulture *Gyps africanus* nestlings in the area to the east of Windhoek, Namibia. During the ringing expeditions we have come across several nests in tree species that are not mentioned in “The vultures of Africa” (Mundy, P, Butchart, D, Ledger, J. & Piper, S. 1992. *The Vultures of Africa*. Acorn Books, Randburg, & Russel Friedman Books, Halfway House, South Africa). Many

of the nests are along ephemeral river courses where the dominant tree species is *Acacia karroo* (sweet thorn), but we have also found nests in *A. haematoxylon* (grey camel-thorn) and *A. mellifera* (black-thorn acacia)



Table 1. Species, number and minimum and maximum height of trees utilised by African White-backed Vultures in the area to the east of Windhoek, Namibia

<i>Tree species</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>Min height (m)</i>	<i>Max height (m)</i>
<i>A. karroo</i>	19	8.9	15.5
<i>A. haematoxylon</i>	6	7.0	11.0
<i>A. mellifera</i>	2	10.0	10.5

Peter Bridgeford, Vultures Namibia, P.O. Box 3699, Walvis Bay, Namibia; e-mail address: [pmbridge@iway.na](mailto:pmbridge@iway.na); Holger Kolberg, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Private Bag 13306, Windhoek, Namibia; e-mail address: [holgerk@mweb.com.na](mailto:holgerk@mweb.com.na)

