



Past distribution:

Hippotragus niger (Sable)

Present distribution:



Hippotragus niger (Sable antelope):

Transvaal:

The first written records of the sable are those of Harris (1841) who encountered the species on the wooded hills of the Cashan (Magaliesberg) range (present-day Rustenburg and Brits districts) in 1837. The largest number he saw together was eleven. Other Transvaal records include:

Buckley (1873): the Magaliesberg area, but probably not further west than 23° E at latitude 21° S, and elsewhere not further south than latitude 26° S.

Glynn (1927): near Legogot Kop in the Lydenburg district in the 1870's as well as in the vicinity of the Olifants river, eastern Transvaal.

Sclater and Thomas (1894-5): the northern Transvaal.

Kirby (1899): the eastern Transvaal.

Rendall (1895): rare between the Sabi and Crocodile rivers in the eastern Transvaal.

Bryden (1899): quoting Selous, states that the sable ranged as far south as about 20 miles west of Zeerust; along both banks of the Limpopo river; the eastern Transvaal lowveld.

Sclater (1900): practically extinct in the Magaliesberg vicinity, but more plentiful in the eastern Transvaal.

Lydekker (1908): from the Magaliesberg range northwards; mainly in the eastern Transvaal with westward extensions along the Limpopo valley.

Stevenson-Hamilton (1911): the old Sabie and Shingwedzi Game Reserves.

Haagner (1920): northern and eastern Transvaal.

FitzSimons (1920): from northern Transvaal to Mocambique, but no longer south of the Crocodile river.

Stevenson-Hamilton (1920): the lowveld of eastern Transvaal.

Mocambique:

Peters (1852): the hills in the Tete vicinity and in the forested parts of Sena.

Kirk (1864): near the Zambezi delta.

Kirby (1899): throughout Mocambique but not numerous in all areas; migrates during the dry season towards the east along the lower courses of the Liuli, Lukugu and Lugira rivers; scarce in the Cheringoma area but more plentiful in Gorongosa.

Findlay (1903): along the Jungwe river.

Vasse (1909): along the Busi river and its tributaries.

Haagner (1920) and Shortridge (1934) do not give detailed distributions in Mocambique, but only allude to its occurrence in Portuguese East Africa.

Capell (1901-42): between Sabie in the Transvaal and Maticuana in Mocambique in 1906.

Rhodesia:

Baines (1864): between Daka (=Deka?) and Panda ma Tenga on the Botswana border.

Elton (1873): between the Ramaquabane and Santshokwe rivers.

Holub (1881): amongst the granite hills of western Matabeleland.

Selous (1881): the southwestern part of Matabeleland, especially the Ramaquabane, Shashani and Simukwe river vicinities; occasionally on the road from Tati to the Zambezi, but more often at Panda ma Tenga in Botswana and near the Daka (=Deka?) river; the higher parts of Mashonaland as far as northeastern Matabeleland, however, form the true home of the sable.

Holub (1890): near the Matetsi river.

Selous (1893): the western end of the Umvukwe Hills; the vicinity of the Manyami, Umfule, Umzweswe, Umniati, Sebakwe, Luia and Gwelo rivers; common in northern Mashonaland.

Oates (1899): in the vicinity of the Umbango, Umvungu, upper Gwailo, Umgwanya, Ramaquabane, Tamasanka, Tati and Tlhamaganyana rivers.

Millais (1899): near the Nuanetsi river.

Sclater (1900): numerous in Mashonaland.

Selous (1907): the angle between the Gwai and Zambezi rivers; near the Jomani, Umsengaisi, Gwenia, Umniati and Umfule rivers as well as the Gwazan rivulet.

Selous (1908): the Dett valley.

Lydekker (1908): northern Mashonaland and eastern Rhodesia.

Chubb (1909): near Mangwe in Matabeleland.

Botswana:

Methuen (1846): west and northwest of the Limpopo river as well as along the Notwani river in southeastern Botswana.

Cumming (1850): along the Limpopo and Notwani rivers; the vicinity of Mabotsa, Mahalapye, Lothlekane and Kolobeng.

Leyland (1866): Mabotsa.

Holub (1881): the Gashuma Flat on the Chobe river; Tobane on the Maklautsi rivers where large numbers were recorded.

Bradshaw (1881): the Chobe river vicinity.

Selous (1881): scarce along the Chobe and towards the Mababe flats; the vicinity of the Ramaquabane river.

Andersson (1881): the vicinity of the Zouga river, Lake Ngami and the Makarikari pans.

Oates (1889): near Tati and along the Ramaquabane river.

Holub (1890): the Nata river.

Bryden (1893): large parts of the Bamangwato territory east of the Kalahari; the Mababe flats in the north.

Baldwin (1894): near the Shashi river.

Selous (in Bryden, 1899): the sable ranged as far north in Botswana as the old wagon track from Shoshong to Matabeleland; the western boundary of its range was a line from Tati to the junction of the Chobe and Zambezi rivers, i.e. more or less the present-day Botswana-Rhodesian border; sometimes encountered to the west of this boundary, for instance along the Nata river; found at all permanent waters along this line, e.g. at Gazuma Pan and Sibanini Pan, but unknown to the west thereof, even at permanent water in the desert; small numbers recorded from the Chobe river.

Hodson (1912): between Gat-garra and the Chobe river; along the Nata river; between Sibanini Pool and Motlochomanyane in the Panda ma Tenga vicinity.

South West Africa:

Kirk (1864): the Caprivi Strip on the plains between Linyanti and Sesheke.

Selous (1893 and 1907): along the Chobe river in the present-day Caprivi.

Shortridge (1934): sparsely distributed in the western Caprivi; more numerous in the central and eastern Caprivi; the Okavango valley between Nyangana Mission and the western Caprivi border given as the extreme western limit of its range.

Present distribution:

Transvaal: Bigalke (1955): relatively scarce in the areas around Pretorius Kop and Numbi in the southern part of the Kruger National Park.

Kettlitz (1955), Kettlitz and Verschuur (1958): Hans Merensky Nature Reserve.

Kettlitz (1955): small herds protected on fenced-in farms in the Soutpansberg, Letaba, Pilgrims Rest, Waterberg and Pietersburg districts, totalling approximately 1,000 (amended to 800 by Kettlitz, 1962).

du Plessis (1955), Meester (1960), Kettlitz (1962): Loskop Dam Nature Reserve.

Pienaar (1963): large numbers in the western half of the Park as well as in the more open woodlands and tree savannas of the eastern zone; estimated numbers in the Kruger Park south of the Sabi river, 180-200, central district, 340-360, north of the Olifants river, 560-580, totalling between 1080 and 1140.

Hirst (1964): a few in the Timbavati Private Nature Reserve.

De Graaff (in litt.): 869 in the Kruger National Park, March 1969.

Mocambique:

Ellerman et al. (1953): widely distributed in Mocambique.

Fajardo (1953): the Gorongosa National Park.

Tinley (in litt.): common in Gorongosa and in the Marrromeu Reserve in the Zambezi Delta.

Rhodesia:

Bigalke (1955): the center of distribution of the sable has always lain north of the Limpopo river in Rhodesia, especially in Mashonaland.

Fraser (1958): biggest concentrations in the Wankie Native district; also occurs elsewhere in both the low and high veld.

Child and Savory (1964): a widespread but patchy distribution throughout Rhodesia.

Botswana:

Hill (1942): the vicinities of Kwaai, the Mababe flats, Tsotsoroga pan and Kabulabula, northeast of Lake Ngami.

Ellerman et al. (1953): Ngamiland.

Kay (1962): Magwekxlana, the twin lagoons near the Kwaai river.

Kirsten (1966): the Moremi Game Reserve.

Tinley (1966): common in groups of up to twenty in the Moremi Game Reserve.

Knobel (1967): the Chobe Game Reserve.

Palmer (1967): the Chobe Game Reserve.

Child (1968): rare on the western side of the Okavango swamps; eastern fringe of the Okavango swamps and adjacent parts of the Mababe, the Chobe/Linyanti area and Kalahari woodland in the northeastern and eastern parts of Botswana.

Smithers (1968): northern Botswana to the north and east of the Okavango delta; as far west as near Seronga on the eastern bank of the Okavango river; south as far as Maun, the northern parts of the Makaririkari pans, Nata and the Tati Concession.

South West Africa:

Ellerman et al. (1953): northern South West Africa; the Caprivi; the Okavango valley; the north-eastern corner of the Grootfontein district.

Bigalke (1958): scarce in the western Caprivi and only occurs where the Okavango river crosses the Strip; more plentiful along the Kwando river towards the eastern Caprivi.

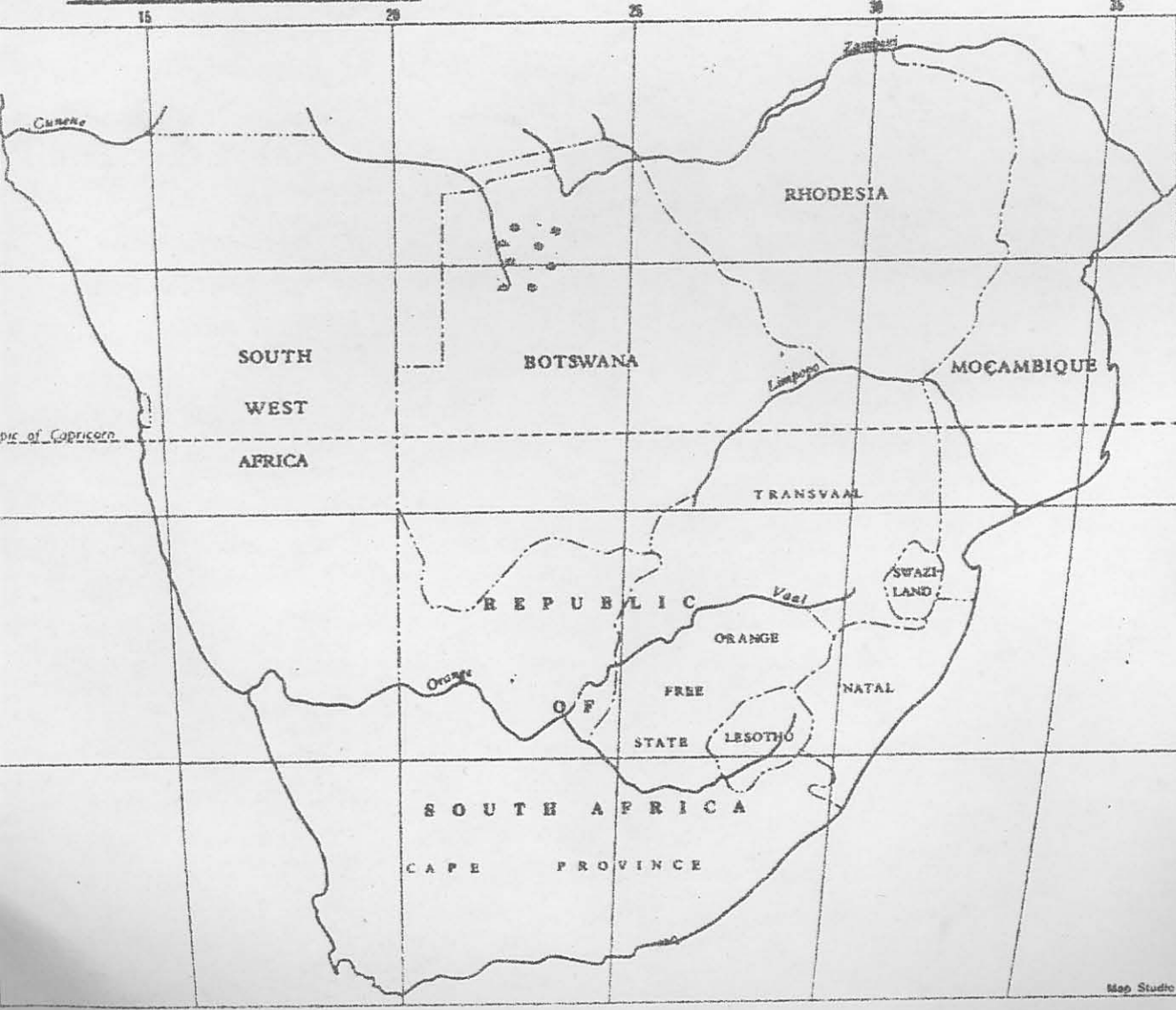
Change in distribution:

The southern limit of the range of the sable has moved northwards away from the Magaliesberg range, but otherwise it occupies more or less the same area as in the past.

To the west and northwest of the Limpopo river in Botswana, its distribution has contracted from as far south as the Notwani river northwards to Tati. Child (1968) finds it practically extinct on the western Okavango swamps, and in several parts of northeastern Botswana a noticeable decline in sable numbers during the last 20 or more years.



Past distribution: Hippotragus leucophaeus (Extinct bluebuck)
Present distribution:



Hippotragus leucophaeus (Extinct bluebuck):

Mohr (1967) believes Kolb (= Kolben) to have first recorded the bluebuck in 1708 when on his way to the mineral springs in the Caledon vicinity. He encountered the species in the vicinity of the Hottentots-Holland mountains.

Thunberg (1772): the farm Tygerhoek at the junction of the Sonderend and Breede rivers.

Sparrman (1789): a hide preserved on a farm in the vicinity of the Krakeel river.

Le Vaillant (1796): the "Tiger-Hoec" (= Tygerhoek) vicinity in the Soetmelksvallei .

VC.104, Cape Archives: along the banks of the Sonderend river. (This document covers the period 1796-8 and states: "De blauwebok, of Leucophea was meede een bewoner van de oevers dezer rivier, en wierd in geen ander deel der Colonie gevinden, dog dit schoone beest is Zeits de laatste tien Jaren geheel verdweenen." This source also mentions the bluebuck as earlier inhabiting the area between the Gourits river and Stellenbosch, adding however that it was probably extinct already in the whole of the Cape Province.)

Barrow (1801): extinct at the time of writing in the Swellendam vicinity; a few months prior to the evacuation of the Cape by the English forces in 1803, a small herd was again seen in the Soetmelksvallei and fired on.

Lichtenstein (1812): a few occasionally seen earlier by others in the valley of the Gourits river, but no definite proof that he personally encountered the bluebuck.

Sclater and Thomas (1894): range vaguely given as the Cape Colony; extinct at the end of the eighteenth century.

Bryden (1899): already extinct for a hundred years; a scarce and very local species, even at the time of the Netherlands occupation of the Cape; occurred in that period in the Swellendam vicinity, about 130 miles from Cape Town and in an area of approximately 100 square miles; extinct at about 1799.

Lydekker (1908): the southern districts of the Cape Colony; one of its final refuges was the mountains between Swellendam and Algoa Bay; last specimen shot in 1800.

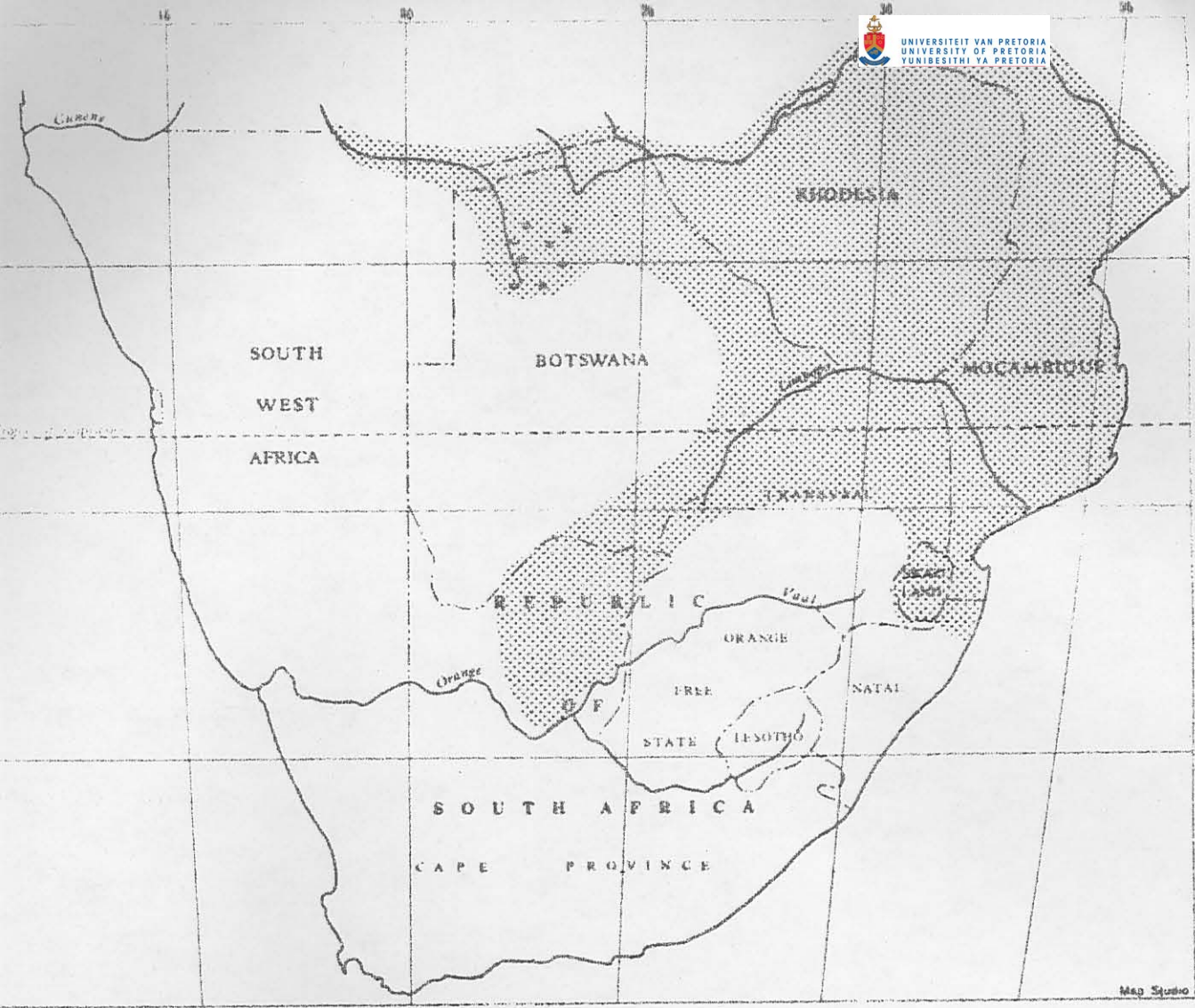
Haagner (1920): the species met its end in 1800.

FitzSimons (1920): previously inhabited the southwestern portion of the Cape Province.

Mohr (1967): quotes Renshaw (1921) as follows: "... perhaps the most local of all antelopes, it occurred only in the province of Swellendam in the southwest of Cape Colony, being utterly unknown elsewhere; ".

Eloff (1961): only known from the triangle Caledon, Swellendam and Bredasdorp.

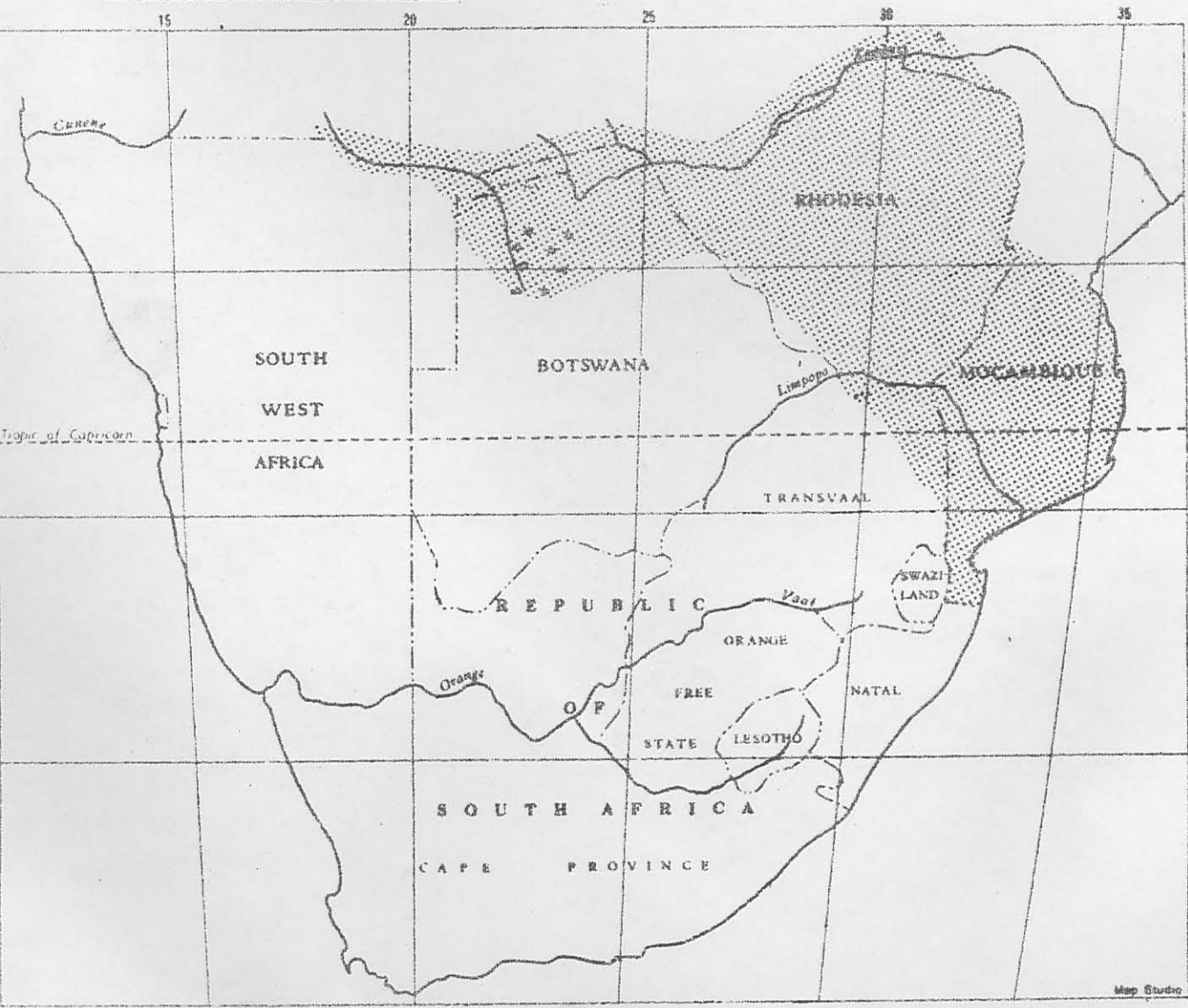
The extinct bluebuck is mentioned by relatively few authors, and then only as having a very local distribution. The last specimen was probably shot in 1799 or 1800, but definitely not much later than the turn of the century.



Past distribution:

Damaliscus lunatus (Sassaby)

Present distribution:



Damaliscus lunatus(Sassaby):

According to Shortridge (1934) and Bryden (1936), the sassaby was probably discovered by Daniell, Truter and Somerville in 1801 between Kuruman and Litakun in the northern Cape. Both Shortridge and Bryden state that it did not range south of the Orange river, but only as far as Griqualand West.

Cape Province:

Burchell (1822): the Litakun vicinity.

Smith (Kirby, 1940): near the Mareetsane and Molopo rivers, very near the Cape - Transvaal border in 1835.

Moffat (Wallis, 1945): between the Setlagodi and Mareetsane rivers in 1835.

Harris (1841): along the Mareetsane and Molopo rivers.

Smith (1849): north and east of Litakun, but not to the south thereof.

Cumming (1850): just north of the Orange river in Griqualand West; near the junction of the Riet and Vaal rivers; near the Mareetsane river.

Natal:

Whether or not the sassaby occurred in northern Zululand and eastern Swaziland is not clear. Drummond (1875) states that it was seldom if ever to be found south of the Usutu river, but when he describes his hunting in that region one is never certain if at a given moment, Drummond is in Natal, Swaziland or Mocambique. As he constantly mentions sassaby in the area, it is difficult to say in which country they were encountered. Since Van Oordt (1894-5) records sassaby from the old Pongola Game Reserve, the chances are that they also occurred in northern Zululand.

Transvaal:

Smith (Kirby, 1940): the Marico river - Magaliesberg - Crocodile river area; further northwest near the Hex river, Pilansberg, Dwarsberg and the confluence of the Marico and Crocodile rivers, in 1835.

Harris (1841): practically the same area as Smith, above.

Smith (1849): common north of Kurrichane (present-day Marico).

Erskine (1869): near the Umbabat river, a tributary of the Olifants river in eastern Transvaal.

Mauch (Petermann, 1870): north of Lydenburg.

Glynn (1926): near Legogot Kop in the White River area in the 1870's.

Baines (1877): near the Magalakwen river.

Van Oordt (1894): the old Pongola Game Reserve.

Chapman (1900): the eastern Transvaal lowveld.

Stevenson-Hamilton (1912): the Sabie and Shingwedzi Game Reserves.

Stevenson-Hamilton (1934): the open areas of the eastern Transvaal lowveld.

Mocambique:

Drummond (1875): in large numbers just north of the Usutu river.

Erskine (1875): near the Limpopo on approximately the Tropic of Capricorn.

Kirby (1899): the Chimoio and southwestern Gorongosa districts; along the Pungwe and Mwanza rivers; during the rainy season, northwards along the Chiringoma hills.

Vasse (1909): near Guengere on the Pungwe.

Rhodesia:

Elton (1873): between the Ramaquabane, Santchokwe and Simukwe rivers in southern Matabeleland.

Holub (1881): western Matabeleland.

Oates (1889): the vicinity of the Sakasusi, Simukwe, upper Gwailo, Umgwanya, Ramaquabane and Tati rivers.

Holub (1890): between Panda ma Tenga in Botswana and the Victoria Falls; near the Matetsi river.

Selous (1893): the vicinity of the Bili, Manyami, Se-whoiwhei, Umfule, Umniati, Gwelo and Inyati rivers.

Millais (1899): near the Nuanetsi river.

Selous (1907): near the Inyati, Gwenia, Jomani, Hanyane, Vungo, Sebakwe, Umsengaisi and Gwenia rivers.

Selous (1908): the Pungwe river in the east.

Chubb (1909): near Mangwe in Matabeleland.

Botswana:

Bain (Lister, 1949): near Segutshane just north of the Molopo river in 1826.

Methuen (1848): near Molepolole and in the vicinity of the Notwani and Marico rivers.

Cumming (1850): near Boatlaname and Lephepe; along the Limpopo river.

Moffat (Wallis, 1945): between Kanye and Lithubaruba (= Dithubaruba?) and more to the north near the Makhue river in 1854.

Holden (1855): quotes from the diary of McCabe who recorded sassaby from the Mababe flats.

Andersson (1856): near Lake Ngami.

Livingstone (1857): the Kolobeng vicinity; the Makarikari pans; near the Chobe river.

Baines (1864): near the Botswana-Rhodesian border at Daka (=Deka?).

Leyland (1866): near Mabotsa in the vicinity of the Bakgatla territory.

Stabb (Tabler, 1967): near the Ramaquabane river in 1875.

Holub (1881): west of the Limpopo river; near the Makarikari pans; along the Nata and Chobe rivers.

Anderson (1888): the northern and eastern parts of Botswana.

Oates (1889): the upper Tati river and the Tati vicinity.

Holub (1890) : the Makarikari pans.

Bryden (1893): northwest of Lake Ngami; the Mababe flats and northern Botswana.

Selous (1893): the Mababe flats.

Baldwin (1894): near Kolobeng and Kanye and near the Shashi river.

Selous (1907): along the Tati river in the Tati vicinity; along the Chobe and Botletle rivers.

Hodson (1912): the vicinity of the Mababe river; the Mababe flats; between Gat-garra and the Chobe river.

South West Africa:

Anderson (1888): near the Chobe river in the Caprivi.

Schultz and Hammar (1897): near the Chobe marshes and at Geluka in the Caprivi.

Donat (1899): near Otjitambi-Okokoja on the way from Fransfontein to Grootfontein in northern South West Africa.

Shortridge (1934): the Okavango region and the Caprivi; in a 20 mile wide strip along the Okavango valley in the Grootfontein district; only near the Angola border in Ovamboland; fairly plentiful in the Caprivi.

Swaziland :

Drummond (1875) hunting along the fringes of Swaziland, mentions the sassaby, whilst Buckley(1876) also mentions it from "Amazwazi Land ".

General:

The past distribution of the sassaby included the eastern Transvaal, Gazaland and the Pungwe districts of Mocambique, Mashonaland and the area westwards towards Lake Ngami, according to Bryden (1899), Ward (1896) and Lydekker (1908). Sclater (1900) states that it occurred throughout Matabeleland and Mashonaland and from there to the west, via Lake Ngami, to northern Ovamboland; also in the eastern Transvaal lowveld, Mocambique, probably Swaziland and, in small numbers, southern Botswana and northwestern Transvaal.

Present distribution:

Transvaal:

Ellerman *et al.* (1953): mainly north of the Olifants river in the Kruger National Park.

Kettlitz (1955 and 1962): outside the Kruger National Park in the Transvaal it occurs along the boundary of the Park between the Shingwedzi and Small Letaba rivers; on a few farms in the Pilgrims Rest district; in small numbers in the Waterberg and Potgietersrust districts; total number approximately 500. The species is in danger of extinction outside the Park.

Pienaar (1963): the Kruger National Park, where the bulk of the sassaby population occurs north of the Letaba river, with a few scattered herds in the

western half of the central district and in the Mlondozi area; approximately 500-550 occur north of the Letaba, 100-120 in the central district, totalling from 600-700 in the Park.

Hirst (1964): small numbers in the Timbavati Private Nature Reserve.

Sidney (1965): the Kruger National Park and surrounding farms.

According to the 1968 census of the National Parks Board, approximately 760 sassaby occurred in the Kruger National Park.

Mocambique:

Ellerman et al. (1953): survives in parts of Mocambique.

Sidney (1965): south of the Limpopo river in Sul do Save where a few hundred occur near Mucarra and Mapulanguene (Magude district) and Matuganhana (Sabie district); between the Limpopo and the Save rivers, where a few survive at Govuro; scarce in the upper Limpopo area; between Javane and Guenje in the Beira district; scarce in the Tete district and in the Zumbo-Maravia area.

Tinley (in litt.): agrees with the distributions given by Sidney (1965) but states that it actually extends to the Buzi flood plains; has apparently never been known to occur between the Buzi and the Zambezi, but occurs again commonly north of the Zambezi.

Rhodesia:

Annual reports (1954-57) of the Game Section, Rhodesian Department of Mines, Lands and Surveys, and Fraser (1958): a few sassaby in Mashonaland, scattered in widely dispersed areas, but a larger number occurring in Matabeleland.

Child and Savory (1964): widely distributed in the Sebungwe, Shangani and Bubi river areas, otherwise with a patchy distribution.

Sidney (1965): the Wankie and the Nyamandhlovu Native districts.

Botswana:

Hill (1942): recorded by the Vernay-Lang Kalahari expedition from Kwaai, the Mababe flats and Tsotsoroga pan.

Ellerman et al.(1953): Ngamiland.

Kay (1962): near the Magwekxlana lagoons on the Kwaai river, where the sassaby occurs in fairly large numbers.

Sidney (1965): northern and northeastern Botswana, i.e. parts of Ngamiland, the Chobe vicinity, eastern and western parts of the Bamangwato territory and Tuli Block; Sidney considers 21 degrees south latitude as its southern boundary in Botswana.

Kirsten (1966): the Moremi Game Reserve.

Tinley (1966): resident on the flood plains and in the marginal woodlands of the Moremi Game Reserve in summer and winter; large numbers on the Kwaai and Mogogelo flood plains.

Winchester-Gould (1968): the Chobe National Park.

Child (1968): northeastern Botswana in the Chobe Game Reserve; along the Chobe river and some dispersal away from permanent water in the southwest of the Chobe Game Reserve; along the Maun Front tsetse area.

Smithers (1968): confined to the northern parts of Botswana; a few relic herds preserved on farms in the Tati Concession.

Child et al.(in press): around the fringes of the Okavango swamps.

South West Africa:

Ellerman et al.(1953): the northern parts, i.e. the Okavango region, Grootfontein district and the Caprivi.

Bigalke (1958): confined to the Okavango valley and the Caprivi Strip.

Sidney (1965): common in a narrow strip in the vicinity of the Okavango river and in the Caprivi Strip; occasionally seen in omurambas near the Angolan border.

Change in distribution:

The sassaby has long since disappeared from the northern Cape, southern and eastern Botswana,

northwestern Transvaal, parts of northern and eastern Transvaal, as well as from Swaziland and from Mocambique from north of the Usutu river to the Save and Magude districts. According to Tinley (in litt.) it has become extinct or very rare in the area between the Zululand border and the Incomati river.

In other parts of southern Africa, i.e. in Rhodesia, northern Botswana, the Caprivi and Okavango region, it has a more limited distribution, and numbers are no doubt lower than in the past.



Past distribution:

Damaliscus dorcas dorcas (Bontebok)

Present distribution:



Damaliscus dorcas dorcas (Bontebok):

Ever since the time when Schrijver (Mossop, 1931) mentions more than a thousand "...bonte wilde bokken..." near the Swarte river in the present-day Caledon area in 1689, their habitat has always been restricted and well-defined, although their numbers have declined from thousands to a few hundred at the present time.

Bigalke (1955) states that at the time of the first European settlement in 1652, the range of the bontebok seems to have been restricted to the sandveld east and west of Cape Agulhas.

Since the Caledon mineral springs are to be found in this area, quite a number of records of bontebok from this vicinity are to be found in the journals of travellers on their way to these medicinal baths. Examples of these sources are Van Putten (Botha, 1924) in 1709-10, Cnoll (Botha, 1924) who mentions quite large numbers in 1710, Cloppenburg (1768) who also encountered large numbers near the Swartberg range as well as near the junction of the Sonderend and Breede rivers and Duminy (Franken, 1938) who, between the years 1797 and 1810, mentions the Bot river vicinity, the Swellendam district and the area along the Scout river (Bredasdorp) where he once saw 70 in an hour's time.

Masson (1776) records bontebok in the vicinity of the Kafferkuils river (present-day Riversdale division).

Sparrman (1789) mentions the bontebok between the Bot river and the Caledon mineral springs but contends that it did not occur further to the east than Swellendam.

Paterson (1789) encountered bontebok after crossing the Bot river near the Swartberg as well as in the Tygerhoek vicinity and eastwards through the valley of the Sonderend river. He mentions large numbers in the Reed Valley, about 12 miles from Swellendam.

Thunberg (1795) records bontebok from near Swellendam.

Le Vaillant (1796) saw bontebok after crossing the Bot river near Houhoek and also in the Caledon vicinity, in herds of 2,000 or more.

The widest range of the bontebok is given as extending from the Sonderend river to the Gourits river, the latter forming the border between the present-day Riversdale and George divisions (VC. 104, Cape Archives, 1796-8).

Barrow (1801) finds the bontebok scarce and mentions its former abundance in Swellendam and in the Soetendals valley.

Moodie (1835) also mentions the Swellendam district as part of the range of the bontebok.

Harris' contention that the bontebok was common in the interior has been adequately disproved (in fact it was the blesbuck that he had seen), but he is correct in giving as part of its range the Soetendals valley near Cape Agulhas (Harris, 1841).

Backhouse (1844) mentions Caledon and Layard (1871) states that it was confined to the "Strand veldt", an extensive flat, bordered by the sea on the southwest, south and southeast, and by a range of undulating country or low hills rising to the Caledon and Swartberg ranges in the north.

According to Buckley (1876) the bontebok was at the time of writing only to be found on Breda's farm near Cape Agulhas, but he quotes Harris' erroneous statement to the effect that in earlier times it had ranged to the Vaal river.

Ward (1896) likewise gives the erroneous range accorded to the bontebok by Harris, and mentions its preservation on Van der Byl's farm near Swellendam.

Bryden (1899) points out that Harris had mistaken the blesbok for the bontebok and states that the latter was only to be found on the plains in the immediate vicinity of Cape Agulhas, in the Bredasdorp and Swellendam areas. He estimates the number of bontebok around 300 in 1895-6.

Lydekker (1908) also corrects the mistake of Harris and others, declaring that the bontebok is only to be found near Cape Agulhas and not north of the Orange river.

Selous (1908) likewise is emphatic that the bontebok has never been found elsewhere than on the plains in the vicinity of Cape Agulhas.

According to FitzSimons (1920), the bontebok existed in tens of thousands in former days on the plains of the southwestern corner of the Cape Province.

Haagner (1920) mentions the Bredasdorp district and Bryden (1936) gives its distribution as between Bredasdorp and Cape Agulhas.

At the end of the previous century and the beginning of the present one, the following figures are given regarding the numerical status of the bontebok in Bredasdorp and Swellendam. The numbers of bontebok in the Bredasdorp area outnumbered those in Swellendam by about 5 to 1, and the following are for Bredasdorp only:

- 1898: 300 (Wynberg Times, 27th August, 1898).
 1899: Approximately 450 (The South African News, 14th September, 1899).
 1900: 250 (The Cape Times, September 3rd, 1900).
 1902: 250 (F. 234, Protection of Game, 1896-1905).
 1903: 272 (F. 234).
 1904: 270 (F.234).
 1906: 390 (H 1, Agricultural Correspondence Files, 1905-8).
 1907: 210 (H 1).
 1908: 323 (H 1).
 1912: 312 (Western Districts Game and Trout Protection Association, Report of Annual Meeting, 22nd November 1912, pamphlet reprinted from "The Cape Times".).

Present distribution:

According to Bigalke (1955) bontebok are to be found in the Cape Province in the Bontebok National Park as well as on private farms in the Bredasdorp and Swellendam districts; in the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve and in the Local Area of the Nortier Reserve of Otterdam.

Rand (1955) estimates the total population for the Cape Province at 210.

Simon (1966) gives the present distribution of the bontebok as the Swellendam district; the Bontebok National Park; private farms near Bredasdorp and in the Swellendam district and one herd in the Albany district. He gives the following estimated numbers for a number of years since the early 30's:

1931	: 17
1935	: 33
1936	: 57
1938	: 69
1961	: 525
1962	: 600
1965	: 750

Van der Merwe (in litt.) gives the number of bontebok in the Bontebok National Park, Swellendam, as 149 in 1966. According to the National Parks Board census of 1968, there were 214 bontebok in the same park in May, 1968.

Change in distribution:

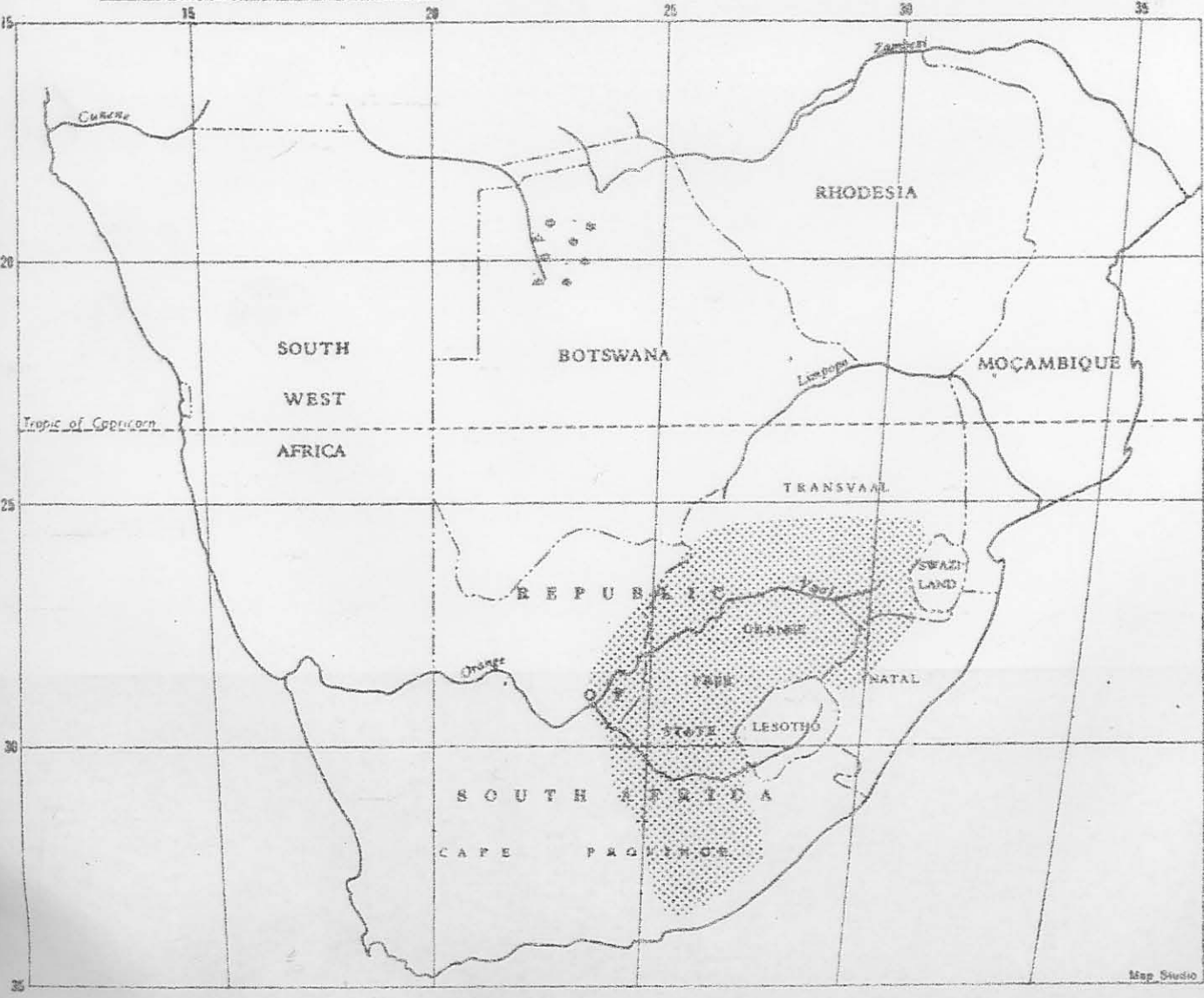
Very little change has taken place in the range of the bontebok. It is still found in practically the same area as in the past, with the largest concentration in the Bontebok National Park.



Past distribution:

Damaliscus dorcas phillipsi (Blesbok)

Present distribution:



Damaliscus dorcas phillipsi (Blesbok):

Despite the blesbok-bontebok controversy (see Skead 1958, "Koedoe", 1 : 29-43), the past distribution of the blesbok can be summarised in the words of Bryden (1936): "The antelope never seems to have ranged beyond the Southern and Western Transvaal, the Orange Free State, the easterly portion of Bechuanaland (south of the Malopo River), part of Griqualand West, and a portion of the northern plains of Cape Colony. Its range to the south never seems, since South Africa became known to Europeans, to have extended to the Great Karroo, nor does the antelope appear to have been met with in Cape Colony much to the west of the present division of Colesberg."

Cape Province:

Van Reenen (Kirby, 1958), on his way to the site of the wreck of the Grosvenor in 1790, mentions large numbers of "bonteboks" in the vicinity of the present-day Thomas River railway station. These "bonteboks", according to Skead (1958) could only have been blesbok. On his return he again mentions "bonteboks" on the so called Bontebok plains in the neighbourhood of the present-day Cathcart.

VC. 104, Cape Archives: the "bontebok" was found to the north of the Sneeu-berg range on the plains near the Seekoei river (present-day Middelburg - Richmond - Hanover area) during the years 1796 - 8 in company with the eland, springbuck, black wildebeest and quagga. These "bontebok", too, were no doubt blesbok.

Barrow (1801): "bonteboks" from near the Seekoei river and from the Sneeu-berg and Tarka vicinities were doubtless blesbok.

Thompson (1827): from the plains near the Seekoei river to the north of the Sneeu-berg range.

Backhouse(1844): near Colesberg and between Colesberg and Cradock.

Methuen (1848): near the Tebus mountains and north of the Orange river near Loharon and Chooi.

Bunbury (1848): large numbers on the Bontebok Flats. Bunbury writes: "The high, open table plains, called the Bontebok Flats, lying to the north-east of the Winterberg, are still famous for the abundance of large game."

Baines (Kennedy, 1961) : the Burgersdorp-Colesberg area in about 1850.

Cumming (1850): the Colesberg division.

Livingstone (1857): just south of the Orange river in eastern central Cape in 1852.

Stanford (Macquarrie, 1962): Griqualand East in about 1885.

Cumming (1850): just south of the Molopo river between Little and Great Chooi in large numbers.

Holub (1881): northeastern Cape near what he calls "Moffat's Salt Lake".

Anderson (1888): large numbers in the Kuruman-Taung-Marico area.

"The South African News", 14th September, 1899: 400 in the Steynsburg division.

"The Cape Times", September 3, 1900: 400 in the Steynsburg division.

"The Cape Times", November 1912: 404 in the Steynsburg, 37 in the Queenstown, 9 in the Albany, 8 in the Graaff Reinet and 5 in the Bredasdorp divisions.

Files F 234, 1896-1905 and H 1, 1905-8, Cape Archives: over a number of years in the Steynsburg division as follows: 525 in 1902, 667 in 1903, 436 in 1904, 364 in 1905, 330 in 1906, 367 in 1907 and 363 in 1908.

Natal:

The blesbok had a limited distribution in Natal as suggested by the following:

Brooks (1876): the blesbok "..... is occasionally encountered at the base of the Drakensberg during the three coldest months of the year, having then strayed down in search of the Natal winter-grass."

Anderson (1888): the plains at the foot of the Drakensberg; Anderson mentions hunting it along the upper Tugela on his way to Van Reenen's Pass (probably in the present-day Kliprivier district, according to the route shown on his map).

Orange Free State:

Smith (Kirby, 1939): the southern part of the province near the present-day Boesmanskop; the vicinity of Thaba Nchu and the upper Modder river in large numbers in 1834.

Arbousset and Daumas (1846): the eastern Orange Free State near the Lesotho border in 1836.

Harris (1841): extremely large numbers on the plains, especially near the Vet, Sand and Modder rivers.

Backhouse (1844): between Thaba Nchu and Griqualand West in large numbers.

Cumming (1850): the plains west of the Witteberg range and in extremely large numbers near the Vet river.

Leibbrandt (undated, Verbatim Copy 281, Cape Archives, approximately 1860-1890): near the Vals river, Bloemspruit and Koppie Aleen.

Sanderson (1860): near the source of the Renoster river in the northern Free State.

Leyland (1866): between the Orange and Modder and Orange and Riet rivers in the southwestern part of the province.

Aylward (1878): very large numbers in the Harrismith, Kroonstad, Renosterspruit and Bethlehem districts.

Gillmore (1878): the Harrismith area.

Anderson (1888): the Harrismith area.

Holub (1890): recalls farms in the Jacobsdal, Fauresmith and Boshof districts where the blesbok had an extensive distribution in earlier times but, at the time of his passing through, were nearly extinct.

Bisset (1891): describes the "grand battue" in honour of H.R.H. Prince Alfred on the farm Rietvlei near Bloemfontein in 1860 when, amongst others, large numbers of blesbok were killed. He also records blesbok between Bloemfontein and Winburg and between Winburg and Harrismith.

Collins (1907): large numbers throughout the Orange Free State in 1850; large numbers killed during a great hunt in June 1862 at "Bains Vley" near Bloemfontein.

Brocklebank (1909): between Ventersburg and the farm Langkuil.

Capell (1901-42): the Kroonstad district in 1906.

Lesotho:

Smith (Kirby, 1939): southwestern Lesotho in 1834.

Arbousset and Daumas (1846): to the west of the Maluti range in Lesotho.

Transvaal:

The Transvaal highveld is mentioned by a number of early authors. These include:

Gillmore (1878): the vicinity of Klerksdorp and near Hartbeesfontein in the western Transvaal.

Holub (1881): southwestern Transvaal in the vicinity of Bamboesspruit ; near Makwassie, Bloemhof, Klerksdorp, Klipspruit, Mattheusspruit, Christiana and Kunana in the western Transvaal; Krugersdorp district in the southern Transvaal.

Oates (1889): the Transvaal highveld.

Holub (1890): along the way from Rooijantjiesfontein to Zeerust via Lichtenburg.

Baldwin (1894): the vicinity of Potchefstroom and Skoonspruit.

Capell (1901-42): near Middelburg in 1902.

General surveys:

The wider distribution of the blesbok is mentioned by the following:

Buckley (1876) gives the western limit of its range as 28° E longitude and the northern limit as $25^{\circ} 30'$, an occasional straggler being found in northern Natal during the winter. He states that it occurred mainly on the plains of the Orange Free State and southern Transvaal, but in earlier times was to be found in the Cape Province in small numbers.

Bryden (1893) recalls its earlier abundance on the plains of lower Bechuanaland (present-day northern Cape) and its occurrence in the Orange Free State and the Transvaal only as protected herds at the time of writing.

Sclater and Thomas (1894-5) give its distribution as the northern plains of the Cape, the Free State, Transvaal and what today is known as the Cape north of the Orange river but at the time of writing as British Bechuanaland.

Lydekker (1908): on a few farms in the Orange Free State; previously the plains of northern Cape, the Orange Free State, Transvaal, Griqualand West and 'Bechuanaland' (=northern Cape); he quotes Bryden

as stating that its northern boundary was the Molopo river, its western limit in the Cape approximately at Colesberg; numbers in the Orange Free State and Transvaal were approximately between 2,000 - 3,000 in 1899 according to Bryden.

Sclater (1900): a few protected in the Steynsburg division in the Cape and small numbers in the Orange Free State and the Transvaal.

Haagner (1920), FitzSimons (1920) and Bryden (1936) give the same general distribution mentioned above. They also include southern Bechuanaland, by which they meant the present-day northern Cape, between the Orange river and the Molopo river to the north. According to Bryden (1936) blesbok disappeared from this area shortly after 1884 or 1885.

Present distribution:

The present distribution of the blesbok is to a large extent an artificial one since it only occurs in protected herds on fenced farms and reserves. Due to introductions into areas where it has never occurred in the past, it may even in some areas have a wider distribution than in the past.

Cape Province:

Rand (1955): estimates the total Cape blesbok population at about 2,138.

Bigalke and Bateman (1962): in the eastern and northern Cape approximately 8,890 blesbok occur in the Aberdeen, Adelaide, Albany, Aliwal North, Barkly East, Barkly West, Bedford, Britstown, Burgersdorp, Cathcart, Colesberg, Cradock, De Aar, Dordrecht, Fort Beaufort, Gordonias, Graaff Reinet, Hanover, Hay, Herbert, Hofmeyr, Hopetown, Kimberley, Kuruman, Lady Grey, Middelburg, Molteno, Peddie, Philipstown, Port Elizabeth, Postmasburg, Queenstown, Somerset East, Sterkstroom, Steynsburg, Steytlerville, Stutterheim, Tarkastad, Venterstad, Victoria East, Vryburg and Willowmore divisions.

Gilfillan (1966): 50 blesbok in the Mountain Zebra National Park.

De Graaff (in litt.): 166 in the Mountain Zebra National Park in 1969.

Natal:

Due to introduction onto a large number of farms, the blesbok has a much wider distribution in Natal than in the past. This artificial increase in range includes the following areas:

Bigalke (1965): the Richmond, Lions River, Mooi River, Umvoti, Estcourt, Kliprivier, Dundee, Newcastle, Utrecht, Vryheid and Ngotshe districts.

Bourquin (1966): approximately 200 in the Giants Castle Game Reserve, probably only two in the Loteni Nature Reserve and a few in the Coleford Nature Reserve.

Transvaal:

Ellerman et al. (1953): near Pretoria.

Meester (1955): 44 in the S.A. Lombard Nature Reserve.

Kettlitz (1955): gives 26° S latitude as more or less the northern boundary of the blesbok in the Transvaal, where it occurs on a number of private farms; north of this boundary in the Percy Fyfe Nature Reserve; total blesbok population of the Transvaal approximately 25,000.

Meester (1960): approximately 100 in the Loskop Dam Nature Reserve.

Kettlitz (1962): the natural habitat of the blesbok, i.e. the southeastern districts with Ermelo as the centre, carries the heaviest population; numbers diminish towards the southwest; north of the highveld its distribution has been extended artificially and consequently blesbok occur nearly everywhere in the Transvaal; total Transvaal blesbok population approximately 25,000.

Orange Free State:

Ellerman et al. (1953): the Somerville Game Reserve; on private property north of Kroonstad and between Ventersburg and Winburg.

Van Ee (1962): throughout the Orange Free State with the largest concentrations in the northern and northeastern parts of the province; a total provincial population of about 12,000.

Roberts (1963): 1,500 in the Willem Pretorius Game Reserve near Winburg.

Gilfillan (1966): 60 in the Golden Gate Highlands National Park.

267 blesbok occurred in the northern and 240 in the southern part of the Willem Pretorius Game Reserve in 1968.

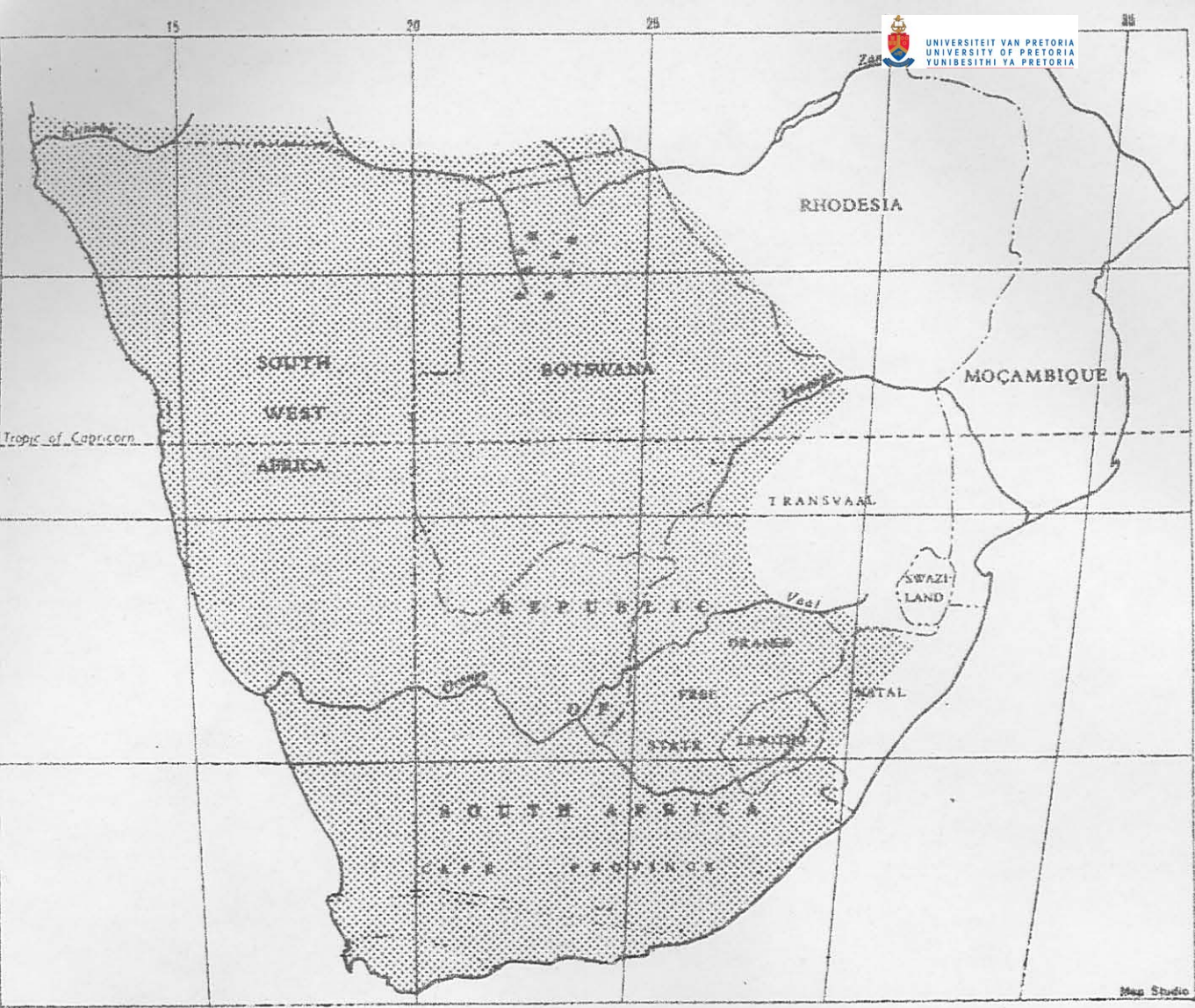
De Graaff (in litt.):228 in the Golden Gate Highlands National Park in 1969.

Change in distribution:

The blesbok does not occur in the wild state in any of the provinces of the Republic of South Africa any more but in small herds on private farms or Game Reserves as protected game.

Although the numbers of the blesbok are only a fraction of the multitudes of the past, their range seems to have increased. This is however a purely artificial extension since due to re-introduction and introduction into areas where it had never occurred before, it is more widespread throughout southern Africa than previously, occurring even in the northern Transvaal and the Natal Midlands, whilst in the Cape it is also found further to the south and southeast than formerly.

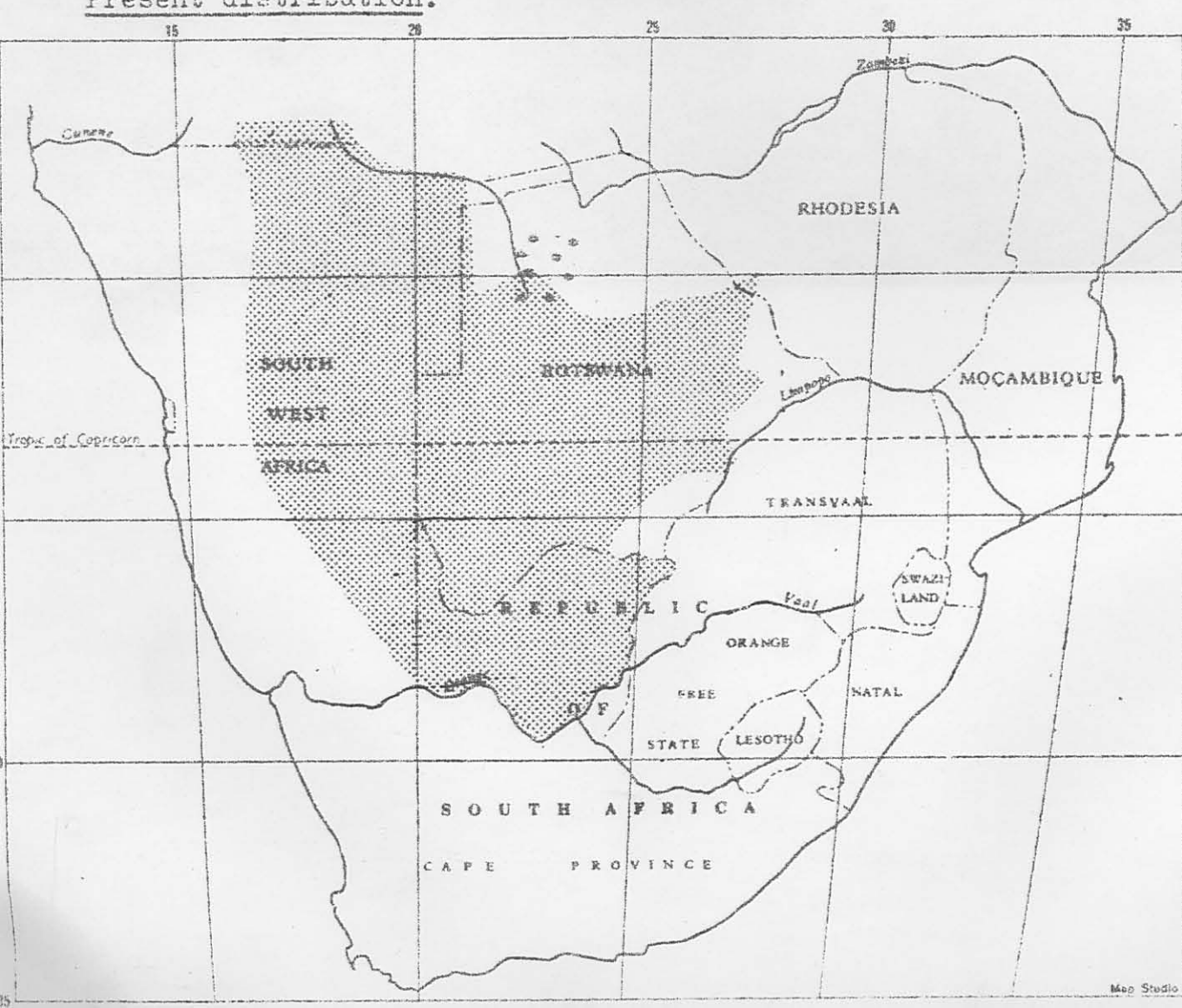
The mapping of the present distribution of the blesbok for the same reason causes an anomaly since it seems as if a range extension has taken place.



Past distribution:

Alcelaphus buselaphus (Red hartebeest)

Present distribution:



Alcelaphus buselaphus (Red hartebeest):

Cape Province:

According to Bryden (1899) and others, the hartebeest occurred practically throughout the Cape Province in earlier times. A large number of records of its distribution in the Cape have been found. These include:

Van Riebeeck (Thom, 1958): during the period of Van Riebeeck's stay at the Cape from 1652 until 1662, frequent mention of the hart or hartebeest is made. At the beginning of this period large numbers were found near the Fort and were recorded in Van Riebeeck's diary. Expeditions sent out by Van Riebeeck to barter with the natives also mention the hartebeest in large numbers along the western Cape coast as far north as Little Namaqualand. Jan Dankaert, Pieter Meerhoff and Pieter Cruijthoff at various times during this period mention hartebeest near the Tygerberg, Riebeecks Kasteel, Little and Great Berg rivers and the Olifants river on the west coast. On one such occasion Cruijthoff records thousands in a valley east of Riebeecks Kasteel.

De Smit (1662-3): in the verbatim copy of the journal of De Smit, who during the period of office of Governor Wagenaar undertook a journey to the Namaquas, hartebeest are mentioned en route.

Oude Wildschutte Boek (October 1687-October 1712 and August 1712-July 1714): Drakenstein, Little Berg river, Roodezand, Blouberg, Steenberg, Riebeecks Kasteel, Groenekloof, Swartland, Hottentots Holland and Piketberg.

Van Putten (1709-10): Knoflokskraal on the way to Houhoek.

Cnoll (1710): near the Caledon Mineral Springs.

Swellengrebel (1776): from Loeriesfontein to Camdeboo; near the Kariega and Brak rivers; the plains along the foothills of the Sneeuberg range; near the mouth of the Sundays river; the vicinity of the Great Fish river; the Bamboesberg and along the Sundays river in large numbers.

Wikar (Mossop, 1935): along the lower Orange river and in the Aughrabies vicinity in 1779.

Mentzel (Mandelbrote, 1944): after passing the Berg and Twenty-four rivers.

Sparrman (1789): between the Bot river and the Caledon mineral springs in large numbers; the Outeniqua and Tsitsikamma bush; near the Swartkops river; in large numbers between the Great and Little Fish rivers and also at Agterbruintjieshoogte.

Paterson (1789): Reed Valley, approximately 12 miles from Swellendam; near the Swartkops river; Groenekloof and Swartland.

Thunberg (1795): near Groenekloof on his way to Saldanha Bay in 1772 and near Krakakamma (present-day Port Elizabeth district) in 1773.

Le Vaillant (1796): near Plettenberg Bay; the Swartland; near the Berg and Twenty-four rivers.

VC. 104, 1796-98: Uilekraal and Soetendalsvallei and from the mouth of the Breede river to Hanglip (= Hangklip) in large numbers; on the plains east of the Roggeveld range in large numbers; the Tarka, Swartberg and Cango districts in smaller numbers; the vicinity of the Sneeu-berg and the Camdebo.

Barrow (1801): the Zuureveld; near the Keiskamma and Seekoei rivers; Groenekloof; large numbers on the plains in the vicinity of Plettenberg Bay; near Cape Agulhas; the Karoo plains of the Cango, Swartberg and Tarka districts; Tsitsikamma; the Sneeu-berg vicinity and on the plains of Camdebo.

Barrow (1806): the Karoo plains.

Lichtenstein (1812): along the Great Fish river; near Towerfontein in the Karoo; the Sneeu-berg vicinity; Schietfonteinspoort in the Karee mountains; near Koossi in the Cape north of the Orange river.

Campbell (1822): between Old Lattakoo and Meribowhey in the northern Cape; near the Mareetsane river and in large numbers between the Mareetsane and Molopo rivers.

Campbell (1815): between Port Elizabeth and Albany in the Assegaibos vicinity.

Burchell (1822): near the confluence of the Ky and Nu Gariep (= Orange and Vaal rivers); south of Kaabis Kraal and near Kosi Fountain in the northern Cape.

Smith (Kirby, 1939 and 1940): near Boetsap; the present-day Stella vicinity and along the Mareetsane river in 1835.

Pringle (1835): near the junction of the Baviaans and Great Fish rivers; the vicinity of Glen Lynden; the Suurberg area.

Harris (1841): near Loharon (Chue area); between the Mareetsane and Molopo rivers.

Baines (Kennedy, 1961): near the Cacadou river and in the Indwe vicinity in 1848-49.

Methuen (1848): near Campbells Town; Little Chue and between Setlagole and Great Chue in the Cape to the north of the Orange river.

Cumming (1850): the northern Karoo near Colesberg; near Davinnars Drift in the Orange river; the junction of the Riet and Vaal rivers; near Loharon and the Mareetsane river.

Stanford (Macquarrie, 1958 and 1962): the Transkei in the Butterworth-Ngamakwe-Tsomo-St. Marks-Xalanga area; from Kokstad to the Drakensberg on farms at the foot of the mountain in the years after 1850.

Holub (1881): near Konana in the present-day Mafeking area.

Anderson (1888): between Kuruman and Taung and between Boetsap and Taung.

Bryden (1893): still within 30 miles of Vryburg and further northwards.

Selous (1907): between Keis and the Langeberg north of the Orange river.

Agricultural Correspondence Files, 1896 - 1908: the numbers of red hartebeest in the northern Cape divisions fluctuated seasonally, but the following minimum and maximum numbers for the years 1902-1908 in each of these divisions gives a fair idea of the numerical status of the species at the turn of the century; Barkly West, 77 - 365; Gordonia, a few; Hay, 48 - 64; Herbert, 300 - 1520; Kenhardt, 5 - 50 (near Coboop); Kimberley (De Beers), 470 - 877; Kuruman, 2145 (only figure available); Mafeking, 1400 - 2186; Vryburg, 3602 - 9458.

Natal:

It is not clear whether the red hartebeest ranged throughout the entire province or was confined to the highlands as Shortridge (1934) suggests. The following records do nothing to clarify the matter:

Fynn (Stuart and Malcolm, 1950): in the present-day Utrecht vicinity.

Gardiner (1836): between Port Natal and the Quathlamba Drakensberg; near the upper Umzimkulu river; along the upper Umzimvubu river (in Griqualand East) and near Giants Castle.

Drummond (1875): herds of approximately 40 on the grassy plains to the northwest of Zululand.

Brooks (1876): common on the Umvoti flats during the winter and on the open plains in summer.

Buckley (1876): still a few in Zululand.

Baldwin (1894): along the Tugela valley.

Orange Free State:

According to available records, the red hartebeest seems to have had a rather patchy distribution in the Orange Free State in the past, occurring in large numbers in the Harrismith, Bethlehem, Ficksburg and Ladybrand districts along the Natal and Lesotho borders. To the west they were also mentioned in the Winburg, Bloemfontein and Boshof districts, but are not recorded elsewhere.

Smith (Kirby, 1939): records large numbers from Lesotho along the Phutiatsiana river and on the flats along the upper Modder river in 1835.

Arbousset and Daumas (1846): the present-day Ficksburg, Bethlehem and Harrismith districts as well as in western Lesotho, in large numbers.

Liebenberg (1964): quotes Chapman (1868), Orpen (1908) and Steytler (1932), who all mention large numbers of hartebeest in the Harrismith district in the years after 1853.

Bisset (1875): at Rietvlei near Bloemfontein; between Winburg and Bloemfontein; from Winburg to Harrismith.

Anderson (1888): north of Harrismith.

Holub (1890): the Boshof district.

Collins (1907): mentions hartebeest in the Orange Free State, but gives no specific locality.

Transvaal:

According to early records the red hartebeest occurred mostly in the far western and northwestern Transvaal, bordering on Botswana. Unidentified records of hartebeest in eastern Transvaal and Swaziland were probably Lichtenstein's.

Smith (Kirby, 1940): near the Marico and Crocodile rivers, northwestern Transvaal in 1835.

Trigardt (Le Roux, 1966): about 13 miles east of the present Pietersburg in 1836; the Soutpansberg vicinity in 1837; along the Sand river in the Pietersburg district in 1837.

Harris (1841): along the Marico river; large numbers along the Magaliesberg range in the Rustenburg-Brits districts; along the Crocodile river in both these districts; along the Chonapas (= Mooi) river in the western Transvaal.

Holub (1881): the Bloemhof and Christiana districts.

Gillmore (1888): north of the Crocodile river and along this river in northwestern Transvaal.

Baldwin (1894): near the Skoonspruit in western Transvaal.

Rhodesia:

The red hartebeest was practically unknown in Matabeleland and possibly only barely crossed the Botswana-Rhodesian border. Selous (1881) states that the Serule river was the eastern limit of its range.

Botswana:

The hartebeest seems to have been distributed throughout Botswana in the past. The following records relate to its distribution:

Cumming (1850): northwest of the Limpopo river and also near Lothlokane.

Livingstone (1857): near Kolobeng.

Leyland (1866): near Mabotsa in the Bakgatla territory.

Gillmore (1878): between the Marico and Notwani rivers; northwest of the Limpopo river, approximately on the Tropic of Capricorn.

Holub (1881): between the Marico and Notwani rivers; from the Soa salt pan to the Nata river; near the Chobe river and on the Gashuma flats.

Anderson (1888): between Molepolole and Mongwata; near Selene Pan; the vicinity of the Zouga river; the Lake Ngami and the Makarikari pan areas; near the junction of the Notwani and Limpopo rivers.

Oates (1889): between the Nata and Maitengwe rivers; along the Ramaquabane river.

Holub (1890): from Shoshong to Mamarutse and near Panda ma Tenga.

Bryden (1893): the Kalahari and northwards nearly as far as the Zambezi river.

Selous (1893): near the junction of the Notwani and Limpopo rivers.

Schultz and Hammar (1897): near Hornsvlei on the Botswana-Rhodesian border.

Selous (1907): between Molepolole and the Bamangwato territory; between the Bamangwato territory and Matabeleland; near the Mahalapye, Metle, Towani, Lemoni, Goqui and Botlettle rivers or rivulets.

Passarge (1908): the Kalahari.

Hodson (1912): near Kome; between Okwe and the Damaraland border; Sitachwe near the Nosob; the Mababe flats; near Mpse and near the Makarikari pans.

According to Bryden (1899), Selous (1881) and Lydekker (1908), the Mababe river and Lake Ngami were the northern boundaries of the range of the hartebeest in Botswana whilst the Serule river was more or less the eastern one.

South West Africa:

The hartebeest occurred in most parts of South West Africa in the past. The following records indicate such a distribution:

Brink and Rhenius (Mossop, 1947): Great Namaqualand in 1761.

Andersson (Wallis, 1936): between the Olifants and Nossob rivers between 1827 and 1867.

Alexander (1838): from Kaikum to Nubapis on the Kaikum, Great Namaqualand.

Andersson (1856): near the Omatako mountain.

Galton (1853): approximately 100 seen in the Omatako mountain. (Galton states that the origin of the Omurumba Omatako lies in this mountain, this could therefore be the Waterberg in northern Damaraland.)

Green (Petermann, 1867): along the Cunene river in 1867.

McKiernan (Serton, 1954): between Aiams and Naidaus; near Otavi; from Okahakana to the west of the Etosha pan; near Otjiwarongo; at the junction of the Shoshongo and Okavango rivers, all in 1874-5.

Donat (1899): the vicinity of Grootfontein and between Okokoja and Namutoni.

Schultze (1907): the Komashochland; the Rehoboth district and in the vicinity of the Nossob river.

Shortridge (1934): formerly from the Orange river northwards, but at the time of writing mostly east of a diagonal line from Nakop west of Upington to the Rua Cans Falls in the Cunene; not in the northern half of Grootfontein district and the Caprivi; occurs in the Grootfontein, Otjiwarongo, Okahandja, Windhoek, Maltahöhe, Gobabis, Gibeon and Aroab districts.

Present distribution:

Cape Province:

Power (1954): rare in the northern Cape and protected on farms.

Rand (1955): approximately 350 in the entire Cape Province.

Eloff (1959): counted 306 in 1957 and 188 in 1958 in the Auob and Nossob areas of the Kalahari Gemsbok National Park.

Bigalke and Bateman (1962): small numbers in the Barkly West, Gordonia, Herbert, Kimberley, Kuruman and Vryburg divisions, with a total population of approximately 1060 on farms in these divisions; occurs in the Kalahari Gemsbok National Park.

De Graaff (in litt.): 31 in the Addo Elephant Park, 14 in the Bontebok National Park and 11 in the Mountain Zebra National Park in 1969.

Natal:

Vincent (1962): re-introduced into the Giant's Castle Game Reserve.

Bourquin (1966): 12 introduced (re-?) into Giant's Castle Game Reserve.

Orange Free State:

Roberts (1963): 85 in the Willem Pretorius Game Reserve.

These have increased to 132 according to the 1968 census figures for this Game Reserve.

De Graaff (in litt.): 13 in Golden Gate, 1969.

Transvaal:

Meester (1955): 16 in the S.A.Lombard Nature Reserve.

Kettlitz (1955): approximately 120 on the

farm Nietverdiend in the Marico district; 16 in the S.A.Lombard Nature Reserve; a few on farms in the Rustenburg, Waterberg and Potgietersrust districts, giving an overall total of approximately 300 in the Transvaal.

Kettlitz (1962): total Transvaal population of red hartebeest now only 200.

Rhodesia:

Fraser (1958): a few reported from the Wankie Native district.

Child and Savory (1964): the northern and southwestern corners of the Wankie National Park.

Sidney (1965): a few in the extreme southern corner of the Wankie National Park.

Botswana:

Hill (1942): near Kuke pan; Matapa pan, Kaotwe and N'Kate.

Sidney (1965): still fairly plentiful in parts of the country, e.g. in Ngamiland, near the Chobe and the Ghanzi area; the Bamangwato, Bakgatla, Bakwena and Bangwaketse reserves as well as in the Kgalagadi district; more occur in southern than in northern Botswana.

Child (1968): only as far north as the Makarikari area but not in the Chobe Game Reserve.

Campbell (1968): small herds move about on the plains of the Central Kalahari Game Reserves; a large herd, approximately 10,000 head, on the southern boundary of the Reserve in 1967.

Smithers (1968): widely distributed in the central and southwestern Kalahari; northwards to near Nokaneng on the western Okavango delta and the northern part of the Makarikari flood plain; absent in the east except where Kalahari conditions extend to the Transvaal border, e.g. in the vicinity of Debeeti and Artesia.

Von Richter (1969): the southwestern Kalahari in the northern Ghanzi Block, Kalkfontein, Makunda, Nojane areas where rare; numerous in the Kuli, Ukwe, Tshane, Monong, Kang, Motokwe, Mabutshane, Sekhoma, Khakhea, Dutlwe, Takatokwane, Lethlakeng, Salajwe, Gakhibane, Khuis, Bogogobo, Kolongwaneng, Khisa, Malish, Makopong, Omawepeneno and Werda areas.

South West Africa:

Lundholme (1951): the Namib in north-western South West Africa.

Bigalke (1958): on a few farms in the Outjo, Omaruru, Rehoboth and Keetmanshoop districts; more widely distributed in the Okahandja, Windhoek and Gibeon districts; fairly common in the Gobabis, Otjiwarongo, Grootfontein and Tsumeb districts; also occurs in the extreme south of the Kaokoveld, the western and southern parts of Game Reserve 2, the Okavango Native Territory and parts of Ovamboland.

Van der Spuy (1962): distributed between longitude 16° and 20° E and latitude 19° and $25^{\circ} 42'$ S; approximately 50% of the population occurring between longitude 18° and 20° E; total farm population approximately 6,325.

Moon (1964): the Etosha Pan Game Reserve.

Sidney (1965): follows the distribution given for the hartebeest by Shortridge (1934) and Bigalke (1958).

Change in distribution:

The red hartebeest has disappeared from practically the whole of the Cape Province south of the Orange river, the Orange Free State and most of western and northwestern Transvaal.

Natural herds occur only in Botswana and South West Africa, and for the rest, the red hartebeest population consists of protected herds on farms or in Game Reserves. It has been introduced into the Mountain Zebra National Park, the Bontebok National Park and the Addo Elephant National Park in the Cape; into the Golden Gate Highlands National Park and the Willem Pretorius Game Reserve in the Orange Free State; the Giant's Castle Game Reserve in Natal and the S.A. Lombard Nature Reserve in the Transvaal; natural herds occur only in the Wankie National Park, the Kalahari Gemsbok National Park and the Game Reserves of South West Africa.