

# Ornithological Observations



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Ornithological Observations accepts papers containing faunistic information about birds. This includes descriptions of distribution, behaviour, breeding, foraging, food, movement, measurements, habitat and plumage. It will also consider for publication a variety of other interesting or relevant ornithological material: reports of projects and conferences, annotated checklists for a site or region, specialist bibliographies, and any other interesting or relevant material.

**Editor: Arnold van der Westhuizen**

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## **SADDLE-BILLED STORKS IN KGALAGADI TRANSFRONTIER PARK, SOUTH AFRICA**

**JS Pringle and CDP Pringle**

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## SADDLE-BILLED STORKS IN KGALAGADI TRANSFRONTIER PARK, SOUTH AFRICA

*JS Pringle and CDP Pringle*

East Sussex, BN8 4RA, England

Corresponding author: [s.pringle@btinternet.com](mailto:s.pringle@btinternet.com)

The Saddle-billed Stork *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis* is distributed across a wide area of central, west and east Africa and there appear to be few records from southern and south-western Africa (Sinclair and Ryan, 2010).

During a recent visit to the South African sector of the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, we observed two Saddle-billed Storks feeding in the vicinity of Kwang Pan, approximately 23 km north of the Nossob rest camp. The birds were watched and photographed feeding in the pan itself between 11:30 and 12:00 on 25 March 2011. The two attached photographs of these birds show them to be in sub-adult plumage, with the saddle feature clearly present on their bills. After about 30 minutes the foraging birds dispersed out of sight into the surrounding long grass, which was especially lush after the heavy local rains.

### References

**Sinclair I, Ryan P 2010.** Birds of Africa south of the Sahara. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Struik Publishers, Cape Town.

