Abstracts of student project reports: Kenya courses since 1995

Student projects carried out on TBA courses in Kenya are listed under the following headings. Within each category projects are chronological, then alphabetical by title.

### Birds

1. **Community and Human Impact**

1. **Invertebrates**

2. **Mammals**

3. **Plants, Fungi and Forest Ecology**

4. **Miscellaneous**

### BIRDS

Do sunbirds forage optimally on *Leonotis nepitifolia*? A case study from Segera Ranch, Laikipia, Kenya (2013)

The difference in avifauna between grazing lawns and tall grassland in Laikipia County (2013)

Habitat selection and foraging strategies of the Common Fiscal, the Schalow’s Wheatear and the Northern Anteater Chat in Hell’s Gate National Park (2007)

Perch types and heights used by the Grey-backed Fiscal and their influence on its feeding success (2001)

A study into the daily pattern in feeding behaviour of sunbirds (Nectariniidae) on *Cotyledon barbeyi* (2001)

Comparative study of the habitat use and feeding behaviours of Black-lored Babbler (*Turdoides sharpie*) and Arrow-marked Babbler (*Turdoides jardeneii*) around the vicinity of Lake Naivasha, Kenya (1999)

Influence of cover on the vigilance behaviour of the Superb Starling (*Lamprotornis superbus*) (1999)

Niche partitioning between three species of woodpeckers in acacia woodland surrounding Lake Naivasha, Kenya (1999)

Temporal variation in the number and diversity of birds visiting a water point at Hell’s Gate National Park, Kenya (1999)

### COMMUNITY AND HUMAN IMPACT

Effects of anthropogenic and animal disturbance on the water quality and aquatic macro-invertebrates in Segera Ranch, Laikipia (2013)

Perceived and real sources of pollution in Lake Naivasha (2007)


The ecological and cultural importance of the hot springs as a result of geothermal activity in the gorge (2007)
Disturbance by overgrazing facilitates bush encroachment by *Tarcana thus camphoratus* (2006)

Tourist disturbance and habituation by three ungulate species in Hell’s Gate National Park (2004)
The use of visitors’ perceptions and expectations as a tool for improving tourism in Hell’s Gate National Park (2004)

Does access to kitchen waste influence the behaviour of the Black and White Colobus monkey (*Colobus guereza*) at Elsamere Conservation Centre? (2000)

The commonly used plant species by the Maasai in the vicinity of the Hell’s Gate National Park (2000)

A study of the visitors to the Hell’s Gate National Park (1999)

**INVERTEBRATES**

**Ants**
Aspects of ant-acacia interactions on *Acacia drepanolobium* in the Lake Naivasha area (2000)

**Distribution**
Variation in diurnal and nocturnal ground invertebrate fauna in Elsamere Conservation and Field Study Centre (1999)
The role of water hyacinth in the diversity and abundance of macro-invertebrates in the Lake Naivasha ecosystem (2000)
Influence of papyrus density on the distribution of invertebrates around Lake Naivasha (2000)
Edge effects of long-term glades on invertebrate abundance and diversity in Segera Ranch, Laikipia, Kenya (2013)

**Other**
MAMMALS

Temporal variation in zebra vigilance behaviour in Hell’s Gate National Park (1999)
Vigilance behaviour and group size of Grant’s Gazelles in Hell’s Gate National Park (2000)
Group size in Grant’s Gazelle: a trade-off between vigilance and food (2004)
The impact of animals on the grassland vegetation around waterholes in Hell’s Gate National Park, Kenya (2004)
Mechanisms of co-existence between Grant’s Gazelles (Gazella granti) and Thomson’s Gazelles (Gazella thomsoni) in Hell’s Gate National Park, Naivasha, Kenya (2004)
Rolling behaviour in the Plains Zebra (Equus burchelli) (2004)
What is limiting the zebra population in Hell’s Gate? (2004)
Changes in Plains Zebras, Equus burchelli, anti-predatory behaviour within three different habitats in Hell’s Gate National Park (2006)
Seasonal habitat use and preference by grazing herbivores in Hell’s Gate National Park, Kenya (2006)
Foraging behaviour of giraffe, Giraffa camelopardalis tippelskirchi, in Hell’s Gate National Park (2007)

PLANT ECOLOGY

Ecology
Cyanogenesis in savanna grasses (1999)
Density dependent relationship between Dactylopius opuntiae, Opuntia vulgaris and Cheilomenes lunata (2000)
The effect of air pollution on lichen distribution, diversity and abundance in Hell’s Gate National Park (2006)
Potential effects of the clustered distribution of Sodom Apple (Solanum incanum) on megaherbivores and their implication for wildlife management in Hell’s Gate National Park (2007)
Galls in Acacia spp. Segera Ranch, Kenya (2013)
Variability in Segera Ranch savannah plants defences against fire and herbivores (2013)

Pollination
Aspects of the pollination biology of Euphorbia candelabrum (1999)
An investigation into floral morphology and pollination aspects of Cotyledon barbeyi, Kalanchoe lanceolata (Crassulaceae) and Plectranthus pseudomarrubioides (Labiateae) (1999)
Pollination ecology of Hypoestes forskahlii (2006)

Pollination ecology of co-flowering Hibiscus: Hibiscus flavifolius Ulbr. and Hibiscus aponuerus Sprague and Hutch (2013)

**Trees**

Age structure, regeneration pattern and spatial distribution of Tarchonanthus camphoratus and Acacia drepanolobium in Hell’s Gate National Park, Kenya (1999)

Age structure and regeneration of Acacia xanthophloea (2000)

Differences in defence mechanisms among different age classes of Acacia drepanolobium species (2004)

Influence of Lake Naivasha on population structure and abundance of Fever Tree (Acacia xanthophloea) (2004)

*Acacia drepanolobium* regeneration in Hell’s Gate National Park (2006)

Distribution patterns of *Acacia drepanolobium* (Mimosaceae) in Hell’s Gate National Park along an altitudinal gradient (2006)


Variation in allocation of mechanical defence resources in *Acacia drepanolobium* at different foraging regimes around Hell’s Gate National Park, Kenya (2007)

Variation in *Acacia drepanolobium* defence by Crematogaster mimosae and a previously undescribed acacia ant at Hell’s Gate National Park, Kenya (2007)

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Interaction between soils, plant species and herbivores at different altitudes in Hell’s Gate National Park (2007)