Key to species of *Cliffortia* on the Cape Peninsula and Cape Flats area.

Species	Leaf shape (not to scale)	Diagnostic characters	Habitat	Distribution	Some localities on Cape Peninsula	Notes
atrata	\leftarrow	fine leaves, 8–13 mm long, 0.5–1 mm wide, either curved outwards or inwards, fruit dark reddish brown with many, 12–25, ribs	fynbos on sandstone	Ceres to Hermanus	Table Mt. to Cape Point	easily confusable and possibly hybridises with <i>C. dodecandra</i> , best distinguished by fruit
brevifolia		leaves same as for <i>C. ericifolia</i> but shorter, 1.5–3 mm long, plants tend to sprawl	flats on wet clayish soil	Cape Flats to Cape Agulhas	Milnerton Race Course	intermediates found with <i>C.</i> <i>ericifolia</i> , and species have been found growing together but can be separated by different habits
carinata	V	greyish glabrous and smooth elliptic leaved species, 4–8 mm long	fynbos on sandstone	Cape Peninsula	Slangkop, Miller's Point	intermediates with <i>C. obcordata</i> commonly found around Miller's Point, similar species found away from the Peninsula and very difficult to separate out
cuneata		unifoliate wedge-shaped leaves, 15–50 mm long	heavy clayish slopes	Paarl to Riviersonderend	Helderberg, Jonkershoek	unmistakeable species with no similar ones
dentata	st.	low-growing mat-forming species with soft green leaves, 4–9 mm long	fynbos in shady kloofs	Devil's Peak, Helderberg & Hottentots Holland	Newlands Ravine, Helderberg Dome	only known from Newlands Ravine on the Peninsula
dodecandra	\mathbf{V}	robust leaves, 9–13 mm long, 1– 1.5 mm wide, always curved outwards, sometimes with a few hairs on the midrib beneath, fruit dull brown, 12–15 ribs	fynbos on sandstone	Cape Peninsula ?to Cape Agulhas	Kalk Bay Mts, Slangkop, Cape Point	easily confusable and possibly hybridises with <i>C. atrata</i> , only found to S of Constantiaberg
ericifolia		leaves unifoliate, 2.5–5 mm long, underside whitish with inrolled margins so that it appears like a white stripe down the middle, plants erect	flats on wet clayish soil	Cape Flats ?& Cape Agulhas	Kenilworth Race Course, Rondevlei, ?Milnerton Race Course	intermediates found with <i>C.</i> <i>brevifolia</i> , which is a dubiously distinct species
eriocephalina	¥	leaves densely greyish hairy, 3–6 mm long, margins inrolled beneath	high altitude mountain fynbos	Cederberg to Hogsback	Table Mt. (Echo Valley), Constantiaberg	several similar species found elsewhere but only one with densely greyish hairy leaves on the Peninsula
falcata	+	leaves 2.5–8 mm long, with a petiole, outer leaflets sickle- shaped, all strongly curved	sandy soil	West Coast to Knysna	Plattekloof, Cape Point, Simonstown Mts	a similar species is found in the Karoo Mts, <i>C. arcuata</i> , but otherwise the small flat curved outer leaflets make this species easy to identify
ferruginea		sprawling or scrambling species with dark green unifoliate tough leaves, the leaves are variable and often narrow and hooked, 8–45 mm long	damp patches in sandy soil	West Coast to Port Elizabeth	Cape Point, Rondevlei	varies widely over its whole range, some forms are used as a popular garden plant for ground cover as it is very hardy of a wide-range of conditions
filicaulis	*	sprawling plants, never erect, hairy trifoliate species, with lobed or toothed middle leaflet, 3–7 mm long, flowers with 4 sepals		Cape Peninsula to Tsitsikamma	Rhodes Memorial, Kirstenbosch	widespread and variable species but easily recognised on the Peninsula
filifolia	\checkmark	needle-leaved species with relatively long fine, $7-14$ mm long, ± 0.5 mm wide, upcurved and overlapping leaves with a very short petiole, fruit smooth	fynbos on sandstone	Piketberg to Knysna	Cape Point, Chapman's Peak, Tokai	out of the needle-leaved species it is one of the most easily recognisable because of its short petiole
graminea		grassy-leaved species that grows in seeps, multi-nerved and toothed leaves, 25–75 mm long	permanently wet seepage areas	Cape Peninsula to Grahamstown	Silvermine Dam, Cape Point	difficult to recognise as a <i>Cliffortia</i> , looks and grows just like a grass
hirta	K	lax habit, hairy trifoliate leaves, 9– 18 mm long, small pointed gland at top of sheath on the outside, margins inrolled beneath	clayish soil	N Cape Flats and West Coast	Common, Milnerton and Durbanville Race Courses	scarce species restricted to small patches of natural fynbos left on the northern Cape Flats, point at top of sheath is diagnostic but difficult to spot
ilicifolia		broadly ovate pointed toothed leaves, 9–17 mm long, 7–14 mm wide, forming long shoots	fynbos on sandstone	Cape Peninsula & eastern Cape Fold Mountains to Port Elizabeth	Chapman's and Noordhoek Peaks	this and the next two species are very similar and difficult to separate; very common E of George but rare on the Peninsula



×integerrima	broadly ovate pointed smooth leaves, 15–22 mm long, 7–10 mm wide, forming short shoots or long shoots	fynbos on sandstone	Cape Peninsula		the King's Blockhouse population is a putative hybrid between <i>C. ruscifolia</i> and the population on the saddle
×intermedia	oblong pointed toothed leaves, 13–25 mm long, 6–13 mm wide, forming short shoots or long shoots	fynbos on sandstone	Cape Peninsula	Kirstenbosch, Silvermine (Noordhoek Peak)	possibly of hybrid origin between <i>C. ilicifolia</i> and <i>C. ruscifolia</i>
juniperina	short needle-leaved species, 4–9 mm long, 0.5–1 mm wide, fruit with 6 distinctive ribs and transverse ribs in between	heavy clayish slopes	Nieuwoudtville to Swellendam	Rhodes Memorial, Rondebosch Common	a common species on lowland clayish soil, but very variable due to hybridisation with other species and then the transverse ribs are lost
longifolia	grassy-leaved species that grows in streams and by lagoons, leaves the same as <i>C. strobilifera</i> but much larger throughout, 30–65 mm long	edge of water or in streams	West Coast to Stillbaai	Rondevlei	a scarce species because of its preference for places near the sea, which are threatened by human development
obcordata	leaves 3–9 mm long, often pressed against stem, outer leaves larger than middle one, which is usually notched at the apex	sandy soil, usually near the sea	Cape Peninsula to Cape Agulhas	Rondevlei, Simonstown Mts, Cape Point	occasionally cultivated and very tolerant of seaside conditions – found near to the Cape of Good Hope
odorata	scrambling species with very broad ovate unifoliate leaves, 20– 65 mm long	wet kloofs	West Coast to Port St Johns	Table Mt (Skeleton Gorge, Nursery Ravine)	forms dense patches, covering quite large areas in tangled masses along streams
pedunculata	flowers on a long stalk, large trifoliate leaf with long petiole, 10–45 mm long excluding petiole	wet kloofs	Franschhoek to Kogelberg	Table Mt (Orange Kloof), Jonkershoek	only known from Orange Kloof on the Peninsula, easily recognisable if in flower, but long-petiole of leaves is also very diagnostic
phillipsii	deeply-toothed leaves, 25–45 mm long, plants very tall with a single stem	heavy clayish slopes	Franschhoek to Helderberg	Helderberg, Jonkershoek	striking species because of its tall unbranched stem (up to 4 m)
polygonifolia var. trifoliata	Variously hairy and shaped trifoliate leaves, 3–11 mm long, fruit often reddish, with incurved wings; var. polygonifolia has unlobed middle leaflet	fynbos on sandstone	N Cederberg to Stanford	Lion's Head, Devil's Peak, Cape Point	very variable species, but diagnostic on the Peninsula by its fruit; away from the Peninsula there are several very similar species.
ruscifolia	tough unifoliate pointed leaves, 9– 15 mm long, forming short shoots unlike <i>C. theodori-friesii</i>		Namaqualand to Kouga Mts	Lion's Head, Table Mt, Rondebosch Common, etc.	frequently hybridises with other species: e.g. <i>C. integerrima</i> at King's Blockhouse, <i>C.</i> <i>intermedia</i> at Kirstenbosch, <i>C.</i> <i>polygonifolia</i> in Platteklip Gorge
stricta	leaves 4–10 mm long, slightly hairy, with contrasting brownish stipules, margins inrolled beneath	fynbos on sandstone	Cape Peninsula to Uitenhage	Silvermine, Cape Point	very common species, only needle-leaved species with distinctive brown stipules
strobilifera	grassy-leaved species that grows in streams, single-nerved and smooth leaves, 9–45 mm long, sometimes new shoots have leaves the same size as <i>C. longifolia</i>	edge of water or in streams	Kamiesberg to Soutpansberg	Hout Bay, Cape Point	very common in rivers in the rest of the Cape, but uncommon on the Peninsula
subsetacea	needle-leaved species with very fine short upwardly curved leaves, 3–8 mm long, <0.5 mm wide, flowers have 4 sepals	fynbos on sandstone	Cape Peninsula to Pearly Beach	Constantiaberg, Silvermine, Cape Point	distinctive with its feathery branches, fruit is also highly diagnostic with 4-curved ribs
theodori- friesii	similar to <i>C. ruscifolia</i> but only forms long-branches, like a small- leaved version of the Saddle form of <i>C. integerrima</i> , 11–17 mm long, 3–5 mm wide	high altitude mountain fynbos	Cape Peninsula	Table Mt (front table)	endemic to upper table where it grows with <i>C. tridentata</i> , but possible record further south at Noordhoek Peak
tridentata	similar to <i>C. ruscifolia</i> but plants with male flowers common; leaves, 11–13mm long, 3–4mm wide, are more ovate and less hairy beneath, sometimes with a tooth along the edge	high altitude mountain fynbos	Cape Peninsula	Table Mt generally above 600m	thought once to be a hybrid between <i>C. ruscifolia</i> and <i>C.</i> <i>theodori-friesii</i> but no molecular evidence to support this

