

## **Media Release - New wildlife books:**

***AFRICA's MAMMALS – Discovering 101 species*** (English Edition: ISBN 978-0-620-46198-6)  
***SOOGDIERE van AFRIKA – Ontdek 101 spesies*** (Afrikaans Edition: ISBN 978-0-620-46199-3)

The above two books have been written by dr. Madelein J Grundlingh. Dr. Grundlingh and her daughter, Maritza Grundlingh, are also responsible for all the mammal photographs in both books, while André Olwage has done the insect photographs, artwork and graphic layout of both books.

### **The authors:**

Dr. Madelein J Grundlingh is a professionally qualified and experienced zoologist and conservation education specialist, former lecturer, biology teacher, and not only scriptwriter of wildlife television programmes, but also a passionate wildlife photographer and the founder of DJANI Wildlife Projects, a wildlife conservation initiative specialising in conservation education and the development of wildlife educational resource material. She believes that knowledge changes attitudes and that informed people are more inclined to be conservation conscious people - exactly what is needed if we want to preserve and conserve this absolutely perfect planet for all existing living creatures to survive and thrive in. During the past three years dr. Grundlingh has reached and involved more than 50 000 pupils and teachers during her conservation programmes presented free of charge at schools. She is also directly involved in the “Go Green” projects at various secondary and primary schools. In addition, dr. Grundlingh has recently developed and written a learners textbook, interactive DVD, teachers’ scheme of works and learner worksheets, all on Education for Sustainable Development.



**André Olwage** is a professional and very talented wildlife artist and specialist graphic designer, commissioned amongst others by the Veterinary Research Institute of South Africa, the Transvaal Museum, University of Pretoria and the SA Post Office. His excellent oil and watercolour paintings and drawings of insects, not to even mention his airbrushed artwork, have been included in various academic books and publications, both nationally and internationally. André also designed and created the wildlife artwork for some of our national stamp collections.



### **The content:**

This beautifully illustrated hardcover book (224 pages, size: 280 x 215 x 15 mm) is in a class of its own. It differs from any other existing wildlife book in that it focuses on providing as much unique information as possible on each of the 101 different species in a condensed, yet, most informative and stunningly illustrated style. This book consequently, fills a niche between a fieldguide and a specialist academic book that focuses on wildlife and animal behaviour. The introduction of the book provides not only an amazing description of the wonder of Africa’s biodiversity, but also the reality regarding human ignorance, negative attitudes and often destructive actions against nature and all other forms of life. In order to avoid unnecessary text, the table of content also serves as a taxonomic layout of all 101 included mammal species, while the feeding status (carnivore, herbivore or omnivore) of each species is indicated with a specific colour code. The same colour code is also repeated in the comparative species tables at the back of the book. Each double page represents a different mammal species with the species’ general information summarised in a table on the page (e.g. mass, speed, longevity, gestation, teeth, etc.), while a distribution map, spoor print, pupil shape in bright light, as well the species’ common name in other languages, are also included.

As an animal lover and specialist, dr. Grundlingh wanted to include in these books the type of information, which she would like to find in a mammal book herself – especially in both English and Afrikaans. The descriptive text consequently focuses on unique information, for example: why a tree squirrel is able to run at high speed along branches without bumping into it; why some antelope bulls defecate and urinate in a distinct posture; how do forest species locate one another in dark, thick vegetation; why some antelope females lack horns; what is the origin of animal names such as “kommetjiegatmuishond”; and much more. In addition, a comprehensive comparative table on the statistic data of all 101 species; a table giving the records held by all African mammals (tallest, fastest, smallest, most water-loving, toughest, etc.); as well as a geographic and vegetative map of Africa; glossary; references for suggested further reading; and comprehensive index are also included.

Both editions are published and distributed by DJANI Wildlife Projects. The retail price is R299,95 (VAT included) and both books are available directly through their website ([www.djaniwildlife.co.za](http://www.djaniwildlife.co.za)) as well as from Estoril Bookstores in Gauteng and all Tigers Eye Stores nationwide. Please contact DJANI Wildlife Projects for any enquiries or more information: tel: 073 1700 737, fax: 086 689 8841 or [books@djani.co.za](mailto:books@djani.co.za).