

Spekboom

(*Portulacaria afra*)

South Africa's miracle plant



Here are **6** reasons why we love our Spekkies!

It's a carbon sponge

It removes more carbon dioxide from the air because it stores solar energy to perform photosynthesis at night.



It's easy to grow

It can be grown almost anywhere and is easily propagated. It is a great soil binder for preventing soil erosion. They make beautiful hedges and are fire-resistant (i.e. firebreak)

It's very water-wise

It survives droughts effectively and needs almost half the water other hardy plants do.

It's edible

It's highly nutritious and a firm favourite of animals and humans. It not only adds flavour to stews, but also has beneficial medicinal qualities: from the treatment of sore throat to combating fatigue.



It can live up to 200 years

It has the ability to adapt to its surroundings and can grow up to 5 metres. There are different varieties available from dwarf plants, to ones with giant leaves, variegated leaves, drooping branches and prostrate creepers. They make superb bonsais.



It's pretty in pink!

When in full bloom, it is covered in rose pink flowers that attract birds, bees and butterflies.

Join #SpekboomChallenge and plant a spekboom to combat climate change



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