Tree with the largest stem diameter in South Africa

(2019)

Species: *Adonsonia digitata*

Common name: Baobab

Location: Limpopo-Mutale municipality

Size index: 426 (Height 20.5m; trunk circumference 33.94m; crown diameter 40m)

The Sagole baobab is located in the northernmost province of the country. This is the largest of all recorded five baobabs listed on the champion tree list in the country, and is the largest indigenous tree in South Africa. It has the second thickest trunk in the world (a Mexican Cypress called the Tule Tree in Mexico holds the record). Carbon dating was done to determine the age of the tree to around 1 200 years old. The hollow interior of the tree offers cavities for nesting and habitat for a colony of rare spine tail swallows. Many people believe that the baobab symbolises a spiritual connection between them and their ancestors. The tree receives both local and international visitors.
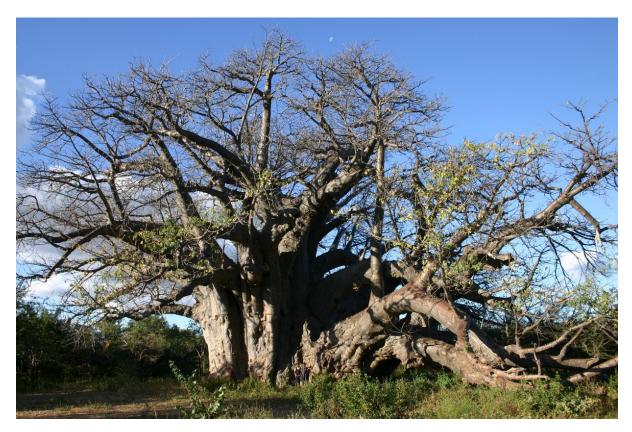

Image: *Adonsonia digitata;* the baobab at Sagole, Mutale municipality, Limpopo