



Atlas of Living Australia

www.ala.org.au



The Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) is a partnership of Australian scientific institutions and organisations, funded under the Australian Government's National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS).

The ALA is developing a data management system to catalogue and organise information relevant to the study of Australia's biodiversity.

The project will bring together information from a wide variety of sources, including many of the country's most significant natural history collections and herbaria, ecological and observational data sets, images, online literature, diagnostic tools and molecular data.

Over the next few years, the ALA will deliver a range of tools to enable anyone in the world to discover, access and analyse information on Australia's fauna and flora.

TOOLS FOR RESEARCH

- A registry of information resources on Australian biodiversity
- Search interfaces to locate information by species, topic, local region and other categories
- Tools to compare species and identify organisms.
- Overview pages for every Australian species
- Tools to map and analyse the occurrence of Australian organisms
- Tools to capture and store observations and user-provided data
- Linkages to international data sharing projects
- Collaboration with the Australian agencies and organisations developing software

ALA PARTNERS

- CSIRO
- The Australian Museum
- Museum Victoria
- Queensland Museum
- Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery
- Southern Cross University
- University of Adelaide
- Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts
- Council of Heads of Australasian Herbaria
- Council of Heads of Australian Faunal Collections
- Council of Heads of Australian Entomological Collections
- Australian Microbial Resource Research Network











queensland museum www.qm.qld.gov.au



Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery





Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry









Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts



ALA — sharing biodiversity knowledge to shape our future

Sources of biodiversity data

SPECIMENS AND OBSERVATIONS



NAMES, CLASSIFICATIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS



IMAGES AND MULTIMEDIA



MOLECULAR AND PHENOMIC DATA





Atlas of Living Australia

DATA IN STANDARDISED FORMATS

METADATA DESCRIBING RESOURCES

NAME INDEX

- scientific names
- common names
- synonyms
- classifications

SPECIES PAGES

- dynamically generated
- links to data resources
- links to GIS mapping tools
- · image thumbnails

METADATA REPOSITORY

- resource description
- ownership
- access rules
- keywords and vocabularies

OCCURRENCE INDEX

- by species
- by latitude & longitude
- co-ordinate precision
- standard values

IDENTIFICATION TOOLS

- links to online keys
- links to taxonomic literature
- · diagnostic images

REGIONAL ATLAS

- geo-referenced data
- integrated GIS layers
- summary by region

ANNOTATION TOOLS





WEB SERVICES



Uses of biodiversity data

LAND USE PLANNING

- · Which species occur here?
- · Are they at risk?
- · How can impacts be minimised?
- · How can habitats be restored?



BIOSECURITY

- What is this organism?
- · Does it carry or cause disease?
- · Could it spread in Australia?
- · How is it controlled?



CONSERVATION & CLIMATE CHANGE

- · Which species will be affected?
- · How will ranges be affected?
- Will populations be able to relocate?
- Will pest species benefit?

