

About the Atlas of Living Australia

The Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) project is a collaboration between the Australian Government, the Commonwealth Science and Industry Research Organisation (CSIRO), the Council of Heads of Australasian Herbaria, the Australian Museum, the Museum of Victoria, the Queensland Museum, Southern Cross University, the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery and the University of Adelaide. It is funded by the Australian Government under the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy and further supported by the Super Science Initiative of the Education Investment Fund.

The Atlas will support biological and ecological sciences by improving the accessibility and usability of Australia's biodiversity and ecological data. It aims to enable anyone to locate, access and combine information on all aspects of Australian biodiversity, online.

Assisting the Australian Microorganism Community

The Atlas, in consultation with the Council of Heads of Australian Collections of Microorganisms (CHACM, <http://www.ala.org.au/about/atlas-partners/council-of-heads-of-australian-collections-of-microorganisms/>), is working on 3 initiatives to support the Australian microorganism community:

- re-development of a microorganism community-based web site/portal (AMRiN <http://amrin.org>) to facilitate sharing of information within the microorganism community
- implementation of BioloMICS software (<http://www.bio-aware.com/>) as a tool for managing microorganism collections. BioloMICS was selected by CHACM as its preferred software tool
- export of selected data from microorganism collection databases (BioloMICS, Access, Excel etc) for publishing on both the ALA site (<http://www.ala.org.au>) and AMRiN.

As appropriate, access to sensitive data will be restricted in both the ALA site and AMRiN.

The Atlas is offering to:

- provide BioloMICS licences to organisations that wish to adopt it, including paying licence maintenance fees to at least June 2012
- assist with implementing BioloMICS, including liaising with IT departments and installing BioloMICS as necessary
- assist with migrating existing databases or electronic files to BioloMICS
- provide initial training in BioloMICS
- advise on establishing a web presence for microorganism collections using BioloMICS, if required
- assist in the design and implementation of protocols and mechanisms to export data from collection databases for sharing through the ALA site and AMRiN.

Contact

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