



## Identification Tools

### Tools

Citizen Science

Imaging

Identification Tools

How do identification keys work?

Types of identification tools

About Identify Life

Sensitive Data Service

Spatial Analysis

Taxon Web Services

Online & Desktop Tools  
Review

## Identification Tools

Identification is an important aspect of the Atlas of Living Australia. If you can identify something – find a name for it – you will be able to search the Atlas to find out more about it.

The Atlas is supporting identification in several ways.

In partnership with the [Centre for Biological Information](#) based [Encyclopedia of Life](#) [eOL](#) project, the Atlas is exposing use and need, more readily accessible.

This is being done through the [IdentifyLife](#) project, a global living organisms.


The Atlas is also providing support for specific identification throughout the world to build and manage databases.

A third way in which the Atlas is supporting identification the species of wattles (Acacia) in Australia will be made available.

## Identification keys and descriptive data

The Atlas activity on identification tools is part of a broader Australia's living organisms. Descriptive data takes many monographs and revisions, or simpler descriptions with descriptive data in identification keys and other data.

Initially, these different types of descriptive information language made available through the Atlas's species available through IdentifyLife. Over time, however, we coded data for identification keys from literature referred from coded data stored in IdentifyLife. This integration information.




Home Explore **Tools** Share Support Contact Us About the Atlas


My Profile Log in

Home : Explore : Themes : Wattles


### Wattles




Silver Wattle  
*Acacia dealbata*




Prickly Moses  
*Acacia verticillata*




Cinnamon Wattle  
*Acacia apiculata*




Banksian Wattle  
*Acacia farnesiana*




Blackwood  
*Acacia melanoxylon*




Purple Acacia  
*Acacia purpureopetala*



Orchid Wattle  
*Acacia appinensis*



Golden Wattle  
*Acacia pycnantha*



Snowy River Wattle  
*Acacia boormanii*

#### Themes

- Iconic Species
- Threats
- Wattles
- What are Acacias?
- Symbolic importance of Acacia to Australia
- Human use of wattles
- Acacia Evolution
- Shorebirds
- Arts
- Biodiversity Events
- Biodiversity Case Studies

#### What are Acacias?

The genus *Acacia* (Wattle) is the largest group of vascular plants in Australia with almost 1000 species currently recognized. Wattles dominate vast areas of this country but are especially common and conspicuous in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-tropical regions. Acacias grow in almost every conceivable habitat, from high alpine regions of Victoria to the tropical rainforests of northern Queensland. They are very conspicuous in the arid interior – where we find the Mulga (*Acacia aneura*) and its relatives which occupy more than 20% of the land surface of the Australian continent.

[Read more>>](#)

#### Symbolic importance of Acacia to Australia

Acacia is an iconic Australian genus and it assumes great symbolic and other significance in this country. Furthermore, there are enthusiastic amateur groups such as the Acacia Study Group and the [Wattle Day Association](#) [eOL](#) that are devoted to preserving and promoting Acacia as an important part of Australia's cultural heritage. Further details on the symbolic use Acacia is given in the [World Wide Wattle](#) [eOL](#).

[Read more>>](#)

#### Human use of wattle

It is not surprising that a large genus like *Acacia* with such diverse morphological, biological and ecological attributes offers great scope for economic, environmental and social utilisation. Many species have had a long history of usage both within Australia and abroad for a wide range of purposes as discussed below.

[Read more>>](#)

Home : Tools : Citizen Science

## Citizen Science

### Tools

Citizen Science

How to Get Involved

Current Citizen Science Projects

Demonstration Sites

Imaging

Identification Tools

## Helping Citizen Science grow in Australia...

The Atlas of Living Australia has developed a [Citizen Science web application](#) to help naturalist groups and researchers collect species observation information from community volunteers. We have set up a [number of demonstration sites](#) where you can explore what's been done and which will be regularly updated as new sites and functionality are released. In 2011 you will also be able to download this software and run it on your own web sites see [\(with some caveats\)](#).

The Citizen Science web application (called the Biological Data



will be disseminated as an open source product. This declined, you can actively help the Atlas to continue to



**Wild Backyards**

Be a backyard explorer and discover more about the hundreds of animals living in our backyards.

Tiny frogs, beautiful butterflies, crabs, ants and lizards — you'll be amazed at what you find.

Wild Backyards makes it easy for you to identify your backyard fauna, with photographs and user-friendly information of common species.

Then, by uploading your photographs and sightings to the online Wild Backyards site, you will be helping scientists track the many species throughout Brisbane, providing an invaluable record of our biodiversity.

Your sightings will be sent to the [Atlas of Living Australia](#) portal, an initiative to improve access to essential information on Australia's biodiversity.

Brisbane is recognised as the most biologically diverse capital city in Australia. As recently as 2005 the Queensland Museum discovered more than 200 new species and many rare species in the urban landscape throughout Brisbane. You contributed!

[Click here to join the first survey for the Wild Backyards project.](#)

Wild Backyards is a partnership between Queensland Museum, the Atlas of Living Australia and local newspapers.

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Latest Statistics

Number of species in the first guide: 36

Last Record

Was loaded on 10 May 2011 and was a Acacia House Finch, hemidechys formosa in the group Finches.

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