# The Atlas of Living Australia sharing Australia's biodiversity knowledge



www.ala.org.au

The Atlas of Living Australia provides everyone from scientists to school students and land managers with free online access to a vast repository of information about Australia's biodiversity. It brings together information that used to be fragmented across biological collections, institutions and government agencies.

Powerful mapping and analysis tools provided as open source software allow researchers and the public to explore and analyse information in novel ways and in the blink of an eye. The information in the Atlas is generating new research possibilities, improving knowledge and changing the way environmental management occurs in Australia.

The Atlas is a critical resource for research and conservation. It's also a fun, interactive tool for anyone who wants to find out more about Australia's unique and beautiful biodiversity.















Spotted a goanna? Photographed a fungus? Recorded audio of a bird? The Atlas needs citizen scientists to contribute sightings.

### Look up a species

Look up any species that occurs in Australia to find a description, a distribution map, an image gallery, literature and information about conservation status, classification and names. You can also gain access to all of the occurrence records of the species, from specimens held in biological collections (from Museums, Herbaria and other institutions), to records made during scientific field trips and sightings by citizen scientists. Shown here is the species page for the orange-bellied parrot.

Biodiversity data is provided under open licence arrangements, making the Atlas the most comprehensive and accessible data set on Australia's biodiversity ever produced.

Behind the scenes the Atlas is made up of:

- almost 39 million records\*

   on Australian species which include both specimen-based data (such as an egg held in a museum collection) and observational data (such as a bird sighted during a field trip)
- over 380 environmental layers that let users explore the relationship between species distribution and factors such as rainfall, temperature, soil moisture, political or regional boundary, fire and vegetatation. These spatial layers include climate change layers for projecting future species distribution.
- a wide range of mapping and analysis tools.

\* as at May 2013 and growing rapidly





## Explore your area

Enter an address, GPS coordinates, postcode or place name to find what species live nearby. Shown here are all the species records that occur within a 5km radius of a street address in Sydney. From this, you can create a field guide or download records for research, education or biodiversity management.

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isplay records in a				oad		
Group	Species		Species: Common Name	Recor	ds	Satell
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Animals	1269	2.		7		Turramurra
Mammals	40	3.	Acacia binervata: Two-veined Hickory	3		Berrose
Birds	264	4.	Acacia binervia: Coast Mvall	5		
Reptiles	43		Acacia brownii : Brown's Acacia	4		South Turramurn
Amphibians	15		Acacia bynoeana : Bynoe's Wattle	2	=	
Fish	23		Acacia cardiophylla : Wyalong Wattle	1		
Molluscs	42		Acacia decurrens : Black Wattle	9		
Arthropods	838	9.	Acacia echinula : Hedgehog Wattle	6		Easy Contraction of the Contract
Crustaceans	5		Acacia elata : Cedar Wattle	7		
Insects	741		Acacia elongata : Slender Wattle	2		
Plants	1306	12.		9		3
Bryophytes	28	13.	Acacia fimbriata : Brisbane Golden Wattle	4		
Gymnosperms	10	14.	Acacia floribunda : Catkin Wattle	23		Not. Ryde
FernsAndAllies	49	15.	Acacia granitica : Granite Wattle	1		
Angiosperms	1219		Acacia hispidula : Little Harsh Acacia	8		de Andre Street and Andr
Monocots	373		Acacia implexa : Bastard Myall	10		Rvde E vid Line Com La Combridge
Dicots	846		Acacia irrorata subsp. irrorata : Green Wattle	1		Naremburn
Fungi	27		Acacia irrorata : Blue Skin	3		Putney St Leonards
Chromista	0		Acacia linearifolia : Narrow leaved Wattle	4		Putney Park, A40
Protozoa		201	cacia	79		Cooking Hunters Hill
				58		Map Data - Terms of Use Report a m

Try it on the go! The OzAtlas mobile app lets you explore the local area wherever you go.





### ALA – Giving you access to Australia's biodiversity data



### Analyse and map species

The Atlas features a wide range of powerful mapping and analysis tools. This map shows the distribution of records for all species of the genus *Exocarpos* (Native Cherry), mapped on a background showing variation in annual mean solar radiation across Australia.



### QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE ATLAS

Records in the Atlas: 39 million

Species pages: more than 170 000

Most recorded species: Australian Magpie, 453 505 records

Records dating from the 18th Century: 4363

Fossil records: 22 114

Over 500 million records downloaded for research, education, biosecurity, environmental management, conservation and other purposes.

Average number of unique visitors per day to www.ala.org.au: 2500

As at May 2013

## Get involved

The Atlas of Living Australia encourages you to get involved in a number of ways - from contributing species sightings (even of caterpillars in your garden), to going on a virtual expedition, such as helping the Australian Museum transcribe labels from bivalve specimens.



## Take it with you

The Atlas supports two mobile apps:

- OzAtlas, for finding out what species occur wherever you happen to be, as well as for uploading sightings of species when you're on the go
- specialised apps supporting complex mobile data capture for a range of groups.

### Customise

The Atlas is built using open source software and all capabilities are available through web services, allowing anyone to build a web site that leverages capabilities and data from the core Atlas system. Customisable field data capture portals are also available and these are now in active use by over 25 individual groups, including researchers, natural resource managers and citizen scientists. These portals are helping in the cause to gather data critical to Australia's understanding of biodiversity.

### ALA Partners



CSIRO, Australian Museum, Queensland Museum, South Australian Museum, Museum Victoria, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, The Council of Australasian Museum Directors (CAMD), Museums and Art Galleries of Northern Territory, Western Australian Museum, The Council of Heads of Australasian Herbaria (CHAH), The Council of Heads of Australian Entomological Collections (CHAEC), Southern Cross University, The University of Adelaide, The Council of Heads of Australian Entomological Collections (CHAFC), The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), The Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPaC), Australian Biological Resources Study, The Council of Heads of Australian Collections of Microorganisms (CHACM).

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### Photo credits PAGE 1

- New Holland Honeyeater by Leo Berzins
   An Eastern Talma, *Chelmonops truncatus*, by Richard Ling, flickr
- Caterpillar of Lesser Wanderer, Danaus chrysippus petilia, by John Tann
- 4. *Grevillea lanigera*, the Woolly
- Grevillea, by Karen Gough
- Eastern Grey Kangaroo by Leo Berzins
   Ruby Bonnet, *Mycena viscidocruenta*, by Arthur Chapman

### PAGE 2

- 1. Gippsland Water Dragon, Physignathus lesueurii howittii, by Leo Berzins.
- Teliospores of Sphaerophragmium quadricellulare on Acacia pennata subsp. kerrii by Dr Roger Shivas, Queensland Plant Pathology Herbarium.
   Flame Robin by Leo Berzins
- A fara of butterflies from the Australian National Insect Collection at CSIRO Entomology, by Carl Davies, CSIRO

### PAGE 4

- Eastern Sedgefrog, Litoria fallax with a Red-footed Spider-Ant, Leptomyrmex varians var. rulipes, by Arthur Chapman
- Artnur Chapman
   Leaf of a small *Drosera* plant by Jean Hort