Making a scatter plot

ATLAS OF **LIVING**
AUSTRALIA
sharing biodiversity knowledge
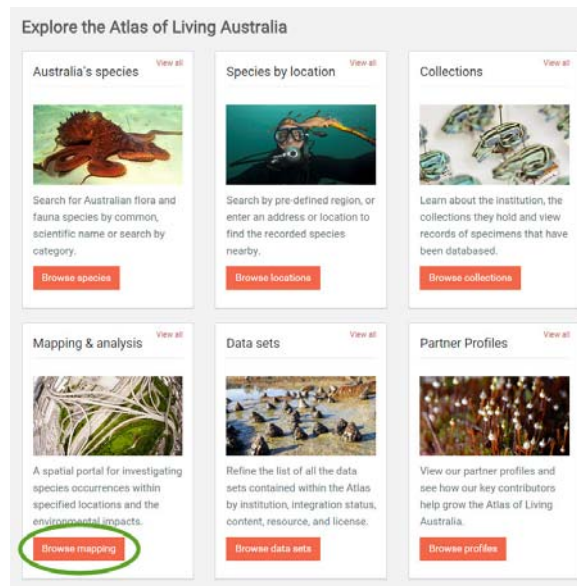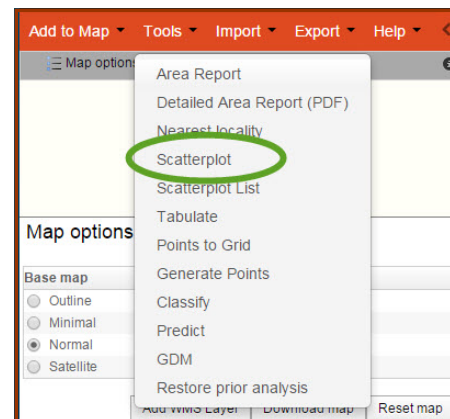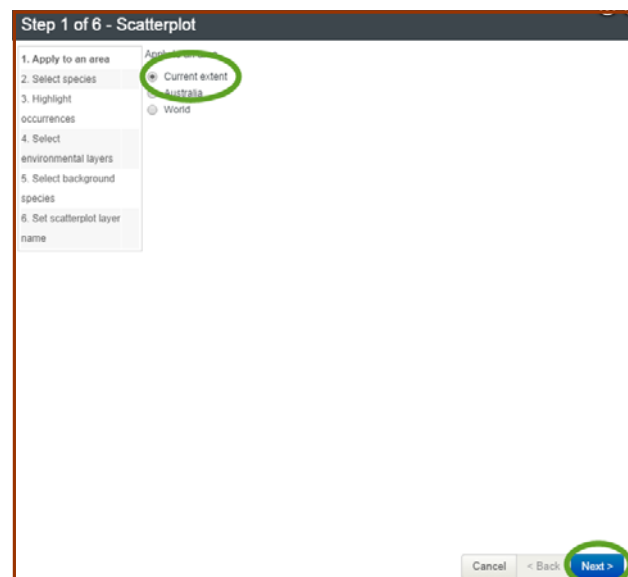
ALA Teacher Guide 7

Begin at the Atlas of Living Australia homepage. Select "Mapping & analysis".

Click on "Tools", then "Scatterplot".

Selecting "Current extent" limits the action to what you can see on the map. If you are zoomed in, the points will only show for that area on the screen.

Type the species or common name in the box and click on it in the list when it appears.
Then select "Next"

Step 2 of 6 - Scatterplot

1. Apply to an area ✔
2. Select species
3. Highlight occurrences
4. Select environmental layers
5. Select background species
6. Set scatterplot layer name

Select species

☑ Include spatially-valid records
☐ Include spatially-suspect records
◉ Search for species by common or scientific name
Enter a scientific or common name
☐ Use the scientific names supplied with the records

Petrogale pen ▼

Petrogale penicillata
species, Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby - found 1521

◯ Use existing species list
◯ Import points

Cancel   < Back   Next >

Click again on "Current extent", then click "Next"

Step 3 of 6 - Scatterplot

1. Apply to an area ✔
2. Select species ✔
3. Highlight occurrences
4. Select environmental layers
5. Select background species
6. Set scatterplot layer name

Highlight occurrences on the scatterplot that are in an area
◯ No highlight
◉ Current extent
◯ Australia
◯ World

Cancel   < Back   Next >

Select two layers for the axes of your scatter plot. There are many layers to choose from. A few simple ones are Elevation, Mean Annual Temperature and Mean Annual Rainfall. Having chosen relevant layers, click 'Next'.

Step 4 of 6 - Scatterplot

1. Apply to an area ✔
2. Select species ✔
3. Highlight occurrences ✔
4. Select environmental layers
5. Select background species
6. Set scatterplot layer name

Select two environmental layers

X Temperature - annual mean (Bio01) ▾   mapped layers ▸

Y Precipitation - annual (Bio12) ▾   mapped layers ▸

☐ Display possible environments in area

Cancel   < Back   Next >

Select "No background species" then click "Next", then "Next" again.

Step 5 of 6 - Scatterplot

1. Apply to an area ✔
2. Select species ✔
3. Highlight occurrences ✔
4. Select environmental layers ✔
5. Select background species
6. Set scatterplot layer name

Select background species
☑ Include spatially-valid records
☐ Include spatially-suspect records
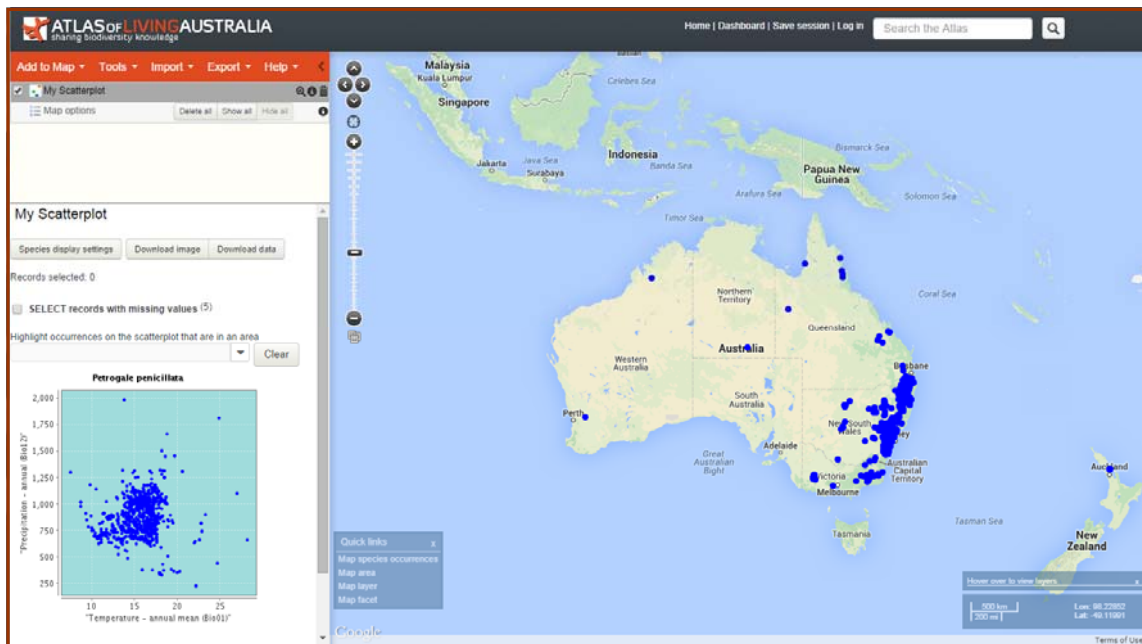◉ No background species
◯ Search for species by common or scientific name
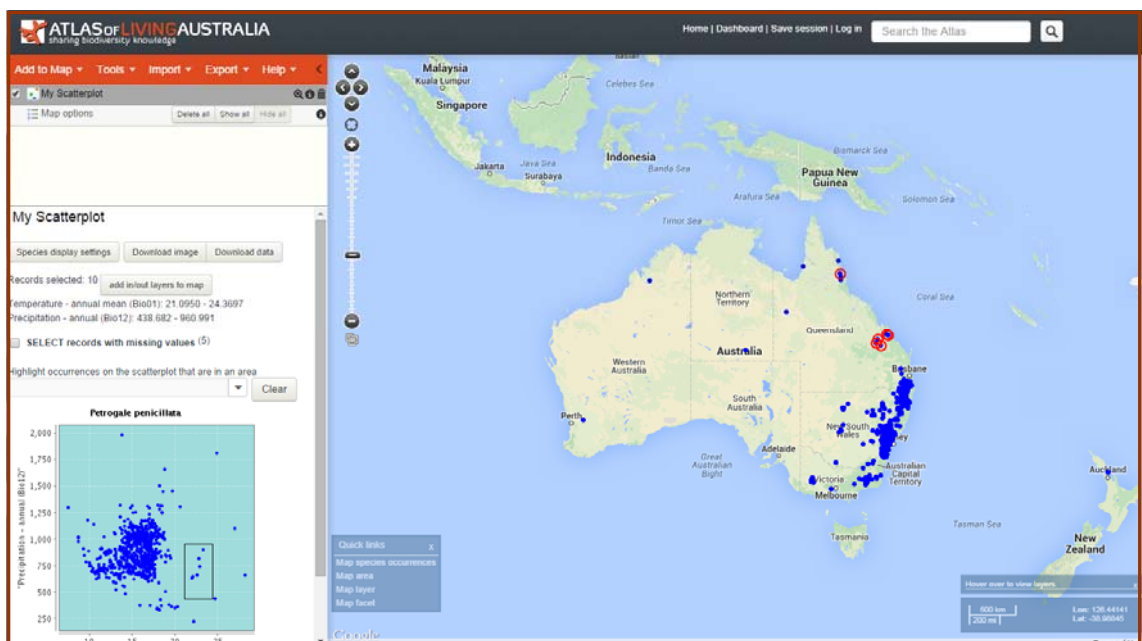◯ Create new species list
◯ Use existing species list
◯ Import points

Cancel   < Back   Next >

Your scatter plot will then appear to the left of the species distribution map .

On the scatter plot, you can draw a box around certain points, and those points will be highlighted on the adjacent map

If you go back a few steps, you can choose to select a background species for your scatter plot.

The adjacent map will look the same, but the scatter plot has a light pink colour in the background, which is the matching distributions of the chosen background species.