

Western Australian Flora Conservation Taxa

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Under the Wildlife Conservation Act, the Minister for the Environment may declare species of protected flora to be **Rare Flora** if they are considered to be in danger of extinction, rare or otherwise in need of special protection. Such species are referred to as Threatened Flora, and receive special management attention.

There are also three categories of **Priority Flora** defined to cover poorly known species. The categories are arranged to give an indication of the priority for undertaking further surveys based on the number of known sites, and the degree of threat to those populations. A fourth category of priority flora is included for those species that have been adequately surveyed and are considered to be rare but not currently threatened. Special consideration should be given to the management of these species.

The conservation codes presented in FloraBase are based on the latest available publication (Atkins, 2006)¹. Note, however, that new Priority taxa may be added, or priority rankings re-evaluated as authoritative conservation information becomes available.

A taxon name which is no longer current will retain its Rare status until publication of the next Declared Rare and Priority Flora List.

Get a <u>complete listing of Western Australia's flora conservation taxa</u>, or use the links below for a listing within each category.

X: Declared Rare Flora - Presumed Extinct: taxa which have not been collected, or otherwise verified, over the past 50 years despite thorough searching, or of which all known wild populations have been destroyed more recently, and have been gazetted as such, following approval by the Minister for the Environment, after recommendation by the State's Endangered Flora Consultative Committee

R: Declared Rare Flora - Extant: taxa which have been adequately searched for, and are deemed to be in the wild either rare, in danger of extinction, or otherwise in need of special protection, and have been gazetted as such, following approval by the Minister for the Environment, after recommendation by the State's Endangered Flora Consultative Committee.

(= Threatened Flora = Endangered + Vulnerable)

P1: Priority One - Poorly Known: taxa which are known from one or a few (generally <5) populations which are under threat, either due to small population size, or being on lands under immediate threat, e.g. road verges, urban areas, farmland, active mineral leases, etc., or the plants are under threat, e.g. from disease, grazing by feral animals, etc. May include taxa with threatened populations on protected lands. Such taxa are under consideration for declaration as 'rare flora', but are in urgent need of further survey

<u>P2: Priority Two - Poorly Known</u>: taxa which are known from one or a few (generally <5) populations, at least some of which are not believed to be under immediate threat (i.e. not currently endangered). Such taxa are under consideration for declaration as 'rare flora', but are in urgent need of further survey

<u>P3: Priority Three - Poorly Known</u>: taxa which are known from several populations, at least some of which are not believed to be under immediate threat (i.e. not currently endangered). Such taxa are under consideration for declaration as 'rare flora', but are in need of further survey

P4: Priority Four - Rare: taxa which are considered to have been adequately surveyed and which,

whilst being rare (in Australia), are not currently threatened by any identifiable factors. These taxa require monitoring every 5–10 years

Get a listing of conservation taxa for each phytogeographic region using the map below. See the <u>primer on WA's IBRA regions</u> for further information.

Map 1. Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia 5.1



¹ Atkins, K.J. (2006). *Declared Rare and Priority Flora List for Western Australia, 30 June 2006*. Dept of Conservation and Land Management. Como, W.A.

Compiled by Alex Chapman; last updated on 7 August 2006.



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