

Western Australian Flora Statistics 2011

This page provides the user with a set of standard statistics on the size, diversity and endemism of the Western Australian vascular flora as at 1st June 2011.

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Vascular Flora Statistics - June 2011

Table 1. Analysis of the size of vascular plant divisions for various categories of name

Category	Pteridophytes	Gymnosperms	Monocots	Dicots	Total
Total names ^A	141	38	3736	16182	20097
Non-current names ^B	34	14	1088	4415	5551
Current names ^C	107	24	2648	11767	14546
Species with infraspecies ^K	7	0	151	958	1116
Current taxa ^D	100	24	2497	10809	13430
Current alien taxa	8	7	360	843	1218
Current native taxa	92	17	2137	9966	12212
Current species ^E	98	24	2337	9831	12290
Current alien species	8	7	352	832	1199
Current native species	90	17	1985	8999	11091
Manuscript names ^F	0	0	36	173	209
Phrase names ^G	0	0	267	1084	1351
Published species ^H	98	24	2062	8704	10888
Published alien species ^I	8	7	352	830	1197
Published native species ^J	90	17	1710	7874	9691

Data sourced on 1st June 2011. Compare with [the 2012 figures](#) or with [the 2010 figures](#).

The terms *taxa* here refers to entities at species level and below; and *species* refers only to those entities at species rank.

^A - total number of vascular plant names in the database

^B - number of synonymous, excluded or misapplied names (ie. plant names no longer in current use, at least in WA)

^C - number of currently accepted plant names (ie. includes the species-level name when infra-species exist)

^D - number of currently accepted taxa (ie. excludes the species-level name when infra-species of that taxon exist)

^E - number of currently accepted species (ie. only the species-level names, excludes any infra-species names)

^F - number of proposed but unpublished taxa (ie. informal names proposed on specimens or in manuscripts)

^G - number of assigned but unpublished taxa (ie. informal names assigned to specimens for further analysis)

^H - number of formally published species names (ie. formally published names described in botanical literature)

^I - number of published naturalised alien species (ie. formally published names of weed species occurring in WA)

^J - number of published species native to Western Australia (ie. formally published names of native WA species)

^K - number of species with subordinate current taxa (subspecies, varieties and formas).

2011 Highlights

For the vascular plants, a brief comparison of the 2011 data with 2010 data shows:

- the addition of 180 names to the Census of Western Australian Plants database;
- there are 49 additional taxa recognised as occurring in the State: 40 native taxa and 9 naturalised taxa;
- the number of published species rose by 77 to 10,888, including 68 native species and 9 naturalised species;
- a decrease, for the fourth consecutive year, in the number (-51) of manuscript names in current use, down to 209, due either to their formal publication or their conversion to phrase names as part of the Australian Plant Census project;
- a small increase (+11) in the number of phrase names in current use, up to 1,351;
- therefore, for the first time since these statistics have been tracked ([Paczkowska and Chapman, 2000](#)), there has been an decrease (-40) in the number of putative taxa yet to be researched and published, from 1,600 in 2010 to 1,560 in 2011 (equal to the 2008 figure).

Compiler's Note

💡 While the current contents are manual concatenations of census data, or static tables drawn from recent published works, it is intended that future versions of this page will contain live flora statistics drawn directly from the constantly maintained datasets held at the Western Australian Herbarium. At that time we would also seek to disseminate the standard logic behind the accurate calculation of these statistics. In this way, not only will the latest figures be available at all times, but the correct methodology for calculating and applying those figures will become better understood.

Compiled by [Alex Chapman](#); last updated on 1 July 2011.

Related content

- [2011 Highlights](#)
- [Preliminary Statistics - Cryptogams](#)
- [A summary of Floristics and Endemism in WA](#)
- [New systematic family sequence](#)

Did you notice?

There is, in general, a diminishing relationship between figures in subsequent rows of the table, as figures in each category are subtracted from the ones above.

Eg. in each column: $A - B = C$.

Having trouble deciding...

... the most appropriate data for your purpose? **The highlighted rows** are the recommended figures if you need:

- to cite the actual number of known vascular plant entities in WA ^D, or
- a conservative estimate of the number of well-documented vascular plant species ^H.



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