

Western Australian Flora Statistics

Current Statistics - Vascular Flora - June 2014

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

Category	Pteridophytes	Gymnosperms	Monocots	Dicots*	Total
Total names ^A	143	40	3830	16798	20811
Non-current names ^B	35	14	1160	4848	6057
Current names ^C	108	26	2670	11950	14754
Species with infraspecies ^K	8	0	145	969	1122
Current taxa ^D	100	26	2525	10981	13632
Current alien taxa	8	9	363	860	1240
Current native taxa	92	17	2162	10121	12392
Current species ^E	98	26	2368	10001	12493
Current alien species	8	9	355	848	1220
Current native species	90	17	2013	9153	11273
Manuscript names ^F	0	0	19	56	75
Phrase names ^G	0	0	272	1139	1411
Published species ^H	98	26	2100	8936	11160
Published alien species ^I	8	9	355	846	1218
Published native species ^J	90	17	1745	8090	9942
Named hybrids ^L	0	0	28	35	63
Un-named	0	0	2	18	20

hybrids					
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Data sourced on 1st June 2014. Compare with [the 2013 figures](#).

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

* The term dicot is here used in its traditional sense to retain compatibility with previous tables and for ease of use. 'Dicotyledons' is now strictly a paraphyletic assemblage of the Nymphaeales, 'magnoliids' and 'eudicot' clades (cf. [New Systematic Sequence](#)).

- 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- F - number of proposed but unpublished taxa (ie.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- G - number of assigned but unpublished taxa (ie.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).
- L - number of current names recorded in the Census denoting taxa which are named hybrids or un-named hybrid formulae.

2014 Highlights

For the vascular plants, a brief comparison of the 2014 data with 2013 data shows:


- the addition of 250 vascular plant names to the Census of Western Australian Plants database;
- there are 93 additional taxa recognised as occurring in the State: 85 native taxa and 8 naturalised taxa;
- the number of published species rose by 106 to 11,160, including 98 native species and 8 naturalised species;
- a small decrease in the number (-22) of manuscript names in current use, down to 75, continuing the trend of the last 6 years, due either to their formal publication or their conversion to phrase names as part of the Australian Plant Census project;
- a very small increase (+4) in the number of phrase names in current use, up to 1,411;
- therefore, for the fourth year in succession, there has been a decrease (-18) in the number of putative taxa yet to be researched and published, from 1,504 in 2012 to 1,486.

Other Collections Statistics

Data sourced on Friday, 7 June 2013. Other core statistics often required for citation in various works include the number of:

- specimens now held in the WA Herbarium Specimen Database (WAHERB) = 742,276
- plant names now held in the WA Herbarium Census of WA Plants Database (WACENSUS) = 23,097
- accessions now held in the WA Herbarium Library Database (WALIB) = 23,741
- images now held in the WA Herbarium Image Collection = 37,885
- composite images illustrating taxa in FloraBase = 6,970

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.

Related content

- [2014 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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