



Department of Conservation  
and Land Management

COMO PUBLICATIONS

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# CALM BRIEFING PAPER 5/87

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## WESTERN AUSTRALIAN HERBARIUM

The Western Australian Herbarium has been part of the Department of Agriculture for many years. Although the Task Force on Natural Land Management recommended that it become part of CALM when the Department was first created in 1985 no action was taken by Government at that time. Now the Functions Review Committee, as part of its review of the Department of Agriculture, has recommended that the Herbarium be transferred to CALM and this recommendation has been agreed to by Government.

The transfer is now underway. A Steering Committee, comprising representatives of the Department of Agriculture, the Herbarium and CALM, has been set up to oversee the transfer. A number of working groups have been created to consider specific amalgamation arrangements. The initial tasks of the Committee and the Working Groups are to identify the FTE staff number and financial support provided to the Herbarium by the Department of Agriculture so that these resources can also be transferred and to smooth the personal considerations involved in the transfer.

Working Groups have been identified on Staff and Finance; Computing; Plant, Buildings and Grounds; Records; Publications; and Library.

CALM welcomes the decision to transfer the Herbarium. The professional botanists and support staff will make a significant contribution to our role of conserving the State's flora. In addition to the research role carried out by Herbarium staff, the Herbarium has a significant additional function - the curation of the State's collection of flora specimens.

Roger Underwood  
GENERAL MANAGER

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