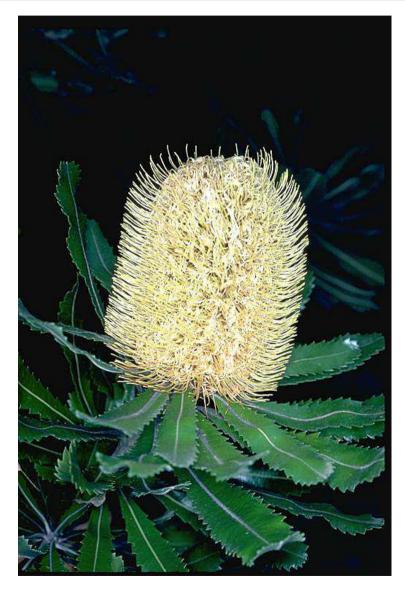


Mapping Biodiversity

The Atlas of Living Australia

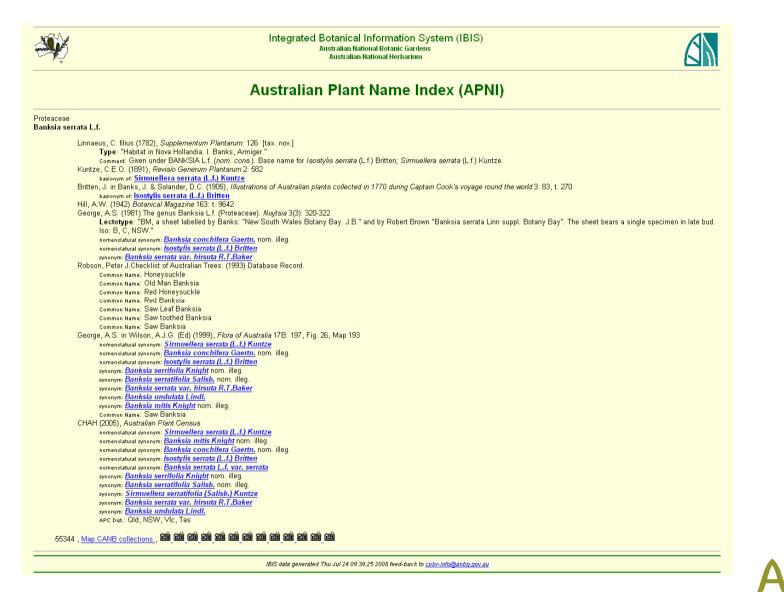
Saw Banksia - Banksia serrata



ALA

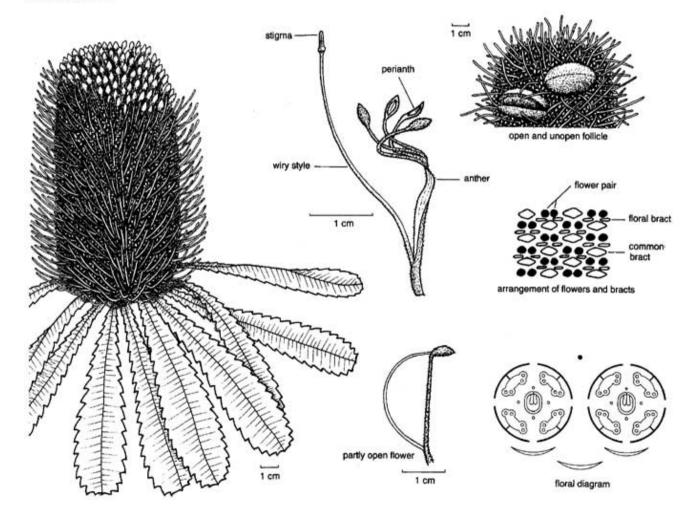
© ANBG (photographer M. Fagg)

Banksia serrata - names



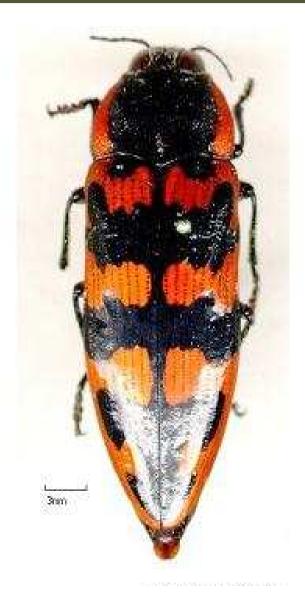
Banksia serrata – biology

Banksia serrata





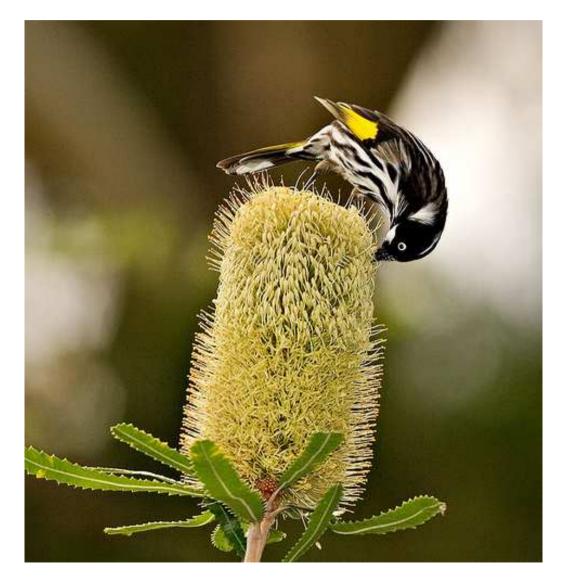
Interactions – Banksia Jewel Beetle





© Agriculture Western Australia

Interactions – New Holland Honeyeater



Interactions – *Phytophthora cinnamomi*





Banksia serrata - literature

Aust. J. Bot., 1988, 36, 415-31

The Survival and Population Response to Frequent Fires of Two Woody Resprouters Banksia serrata and Isopogon anemonifolius

R. A. Bradstock AB and P. J. Myerscough A

^ASchool of Biological Sciences, Macleay Building A12, University of Sydney, N.S.W. 2006. ^BPresent address: N.S.W. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Box N189, Grossenor St, Sydney, N.S.W. 2000.

Abstract

Plants of *B. servata* and *I. anemonifolius* resprcut after fire, although the species diff (single-stemmed small tree, multistemmed low shrub respecively). If fires occur be lished plants are fire-tolerant, populations will decline. The age of first fire tolerance lower in *B. servata* (6 yearr) than in *I. anemonifolius* (about 13 years). Rates of surduring fires were measured in the field along with rates of stem regrowth in fireiyuveniles. These results were used to predict rates of population decline under repeate closely spaced to prevent the survival of newly established genets.

In both species, juveniles were more prone to death than adults in fires and high-im most deaths. In *B. servata*, adult stems (>2-0 cm d.b.h.) are mostly fire-tolerant, bet years apart can prevent may juveniles which survive from reaching adulthood. This likely in *I. anennonifolius*. As a result stands of *B. servata* may decline mc *I. anennonifolius* under 5-year fire cycles. *I. anennonifolius* populations, however, mu to decline when the interval between fires is slightly longer (e.g. 10 years) because lign juveniles develop at a slower rate than in *B. servata*. Extinction or substantial do numbers may be approached in stands of elifer species after 50 years under some repe fire cycles. The rate of such declines will depend directly on the structure of popular of adults and juveniles).

Declines in populations of these resprouters may be likely under current fire re Sydney region of New South Wales, although these species are more likely to persist i of frequent fre (<10 year interval) than some cohabiliting species of obligate seeders

Introduction

Species of woody plants that recover from fire by resprouting are comm prone regions of the world (Kruger 1983; Mooney and Hobbs 1986). Rel species that rely solely on seeds for regeneration (obligate seeders), r thought to be able to persist when fires are frequent because the time i new shoots, flower and set seeds is often short (Keeley and Zedler 1978). plants normally capable of resprouting die when burnt and mortality ma the interval between fires is very short (J. C. Noble 1982, 1984; Zedler et season and intensity of any fire may also affect survival (Gill and Grov Noble 1984). Ultimately, the number of plants within populations v enough new individuals survive to take the place of those that die. If fire a new plants have reached survival size and can resprout, replacement with Quick regrowth and sexual reproduction will not help to replace dead ad plants are slow to develop and thus unlikely to survive any imminent fire. possible that populations will decline if repeated fires are frequent, but about the rate of decline and critical interval between fires for resprouting 0067-1924



Journal of Ecology (1989), 77, 509-523

SEASONAL VARIATION IN FLOWERING INTENSITY AND POLLINATION LIMITATION OF FRUIT SET IN FOUR CO-OCCURRING BANKSIA SPECIES

B. J. COPLAND AND R. J. WHELAN

Biology Department, University of Wollongong, Wollongong, NSW, 2500 Australia

SUMMARY

 Patterns of flowering, levels of fruit set and pollination limitation of fruit set were tower four years in a group of four co-occurring Banksia species (Proteaceae) in manustralia.

numbers of inflorescences per plant varied markedly between years, but the neet, peak and completion of flowering was relatively consistent among years

of the four species studied flowered in winter, and flowering times for these pped substantially.

et in the three winter-flowering species varied both within and between years. as caused by differences in the proportions of inflorescences successfully and not by differences in numbers of fruits produced per inflorescence.

set in Banksia ericifolia was examined in detail. The proportion of es setting fruit was generally lower in late-season samples than earlier each arce limitation probably explained this because experimental additions of llen failed to increase fruit set in late-season inflorescences in any year.

-supplementation did increase fruit set in *B. ericifolia* on one occasion: peak 1985. This was the time of highest flowering intensity during the four years of Fruit set in *B. spinulosa* and *B. paludosa* was also increased by pollen tion in this year. These results indicate that pollination was limiting fruit set in er, they suggest that interspecific competition among plants for pollination irring and should be examined directly.

ximately half of the inflorescences produced by the *B. ericifolia* plants studied ar years of the study appeared during peak flowering in 1985. The greatest to the seed bank, which is stored in the canopy until released by a future fire, curred at this time.

tion of fruit set by ineffective pollination, although it may occur only rarely, e a disproportionately large impact on reproductive success over a relatively re period.

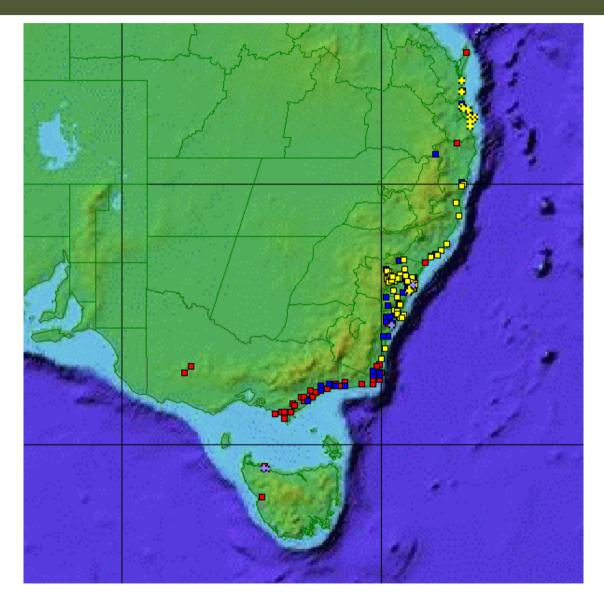
INTRODUCTION

terns displayed by plants have significance in many areas of ecology. rn used in studies of the organization of communities (Stiles 1978), theory (Pyke, Pulliam & Charnov 1977), and the evolution of rgies (Schaffer & Gadgil 1975). Two areas of particular interest recently stions of (i) whether or not sympatric plant species compete for the tors (Waser 1983; Campbell 1985) and (ii) whether or not resource ination sets the proximate limit to fruit set in the field (Bierzychudek cbelo 1987; Horvitz & Schemske 1988). These questions are clearly he potential for competition for pollinators will depend upon being in short supply.

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ALA

Banksia serrata - distribution



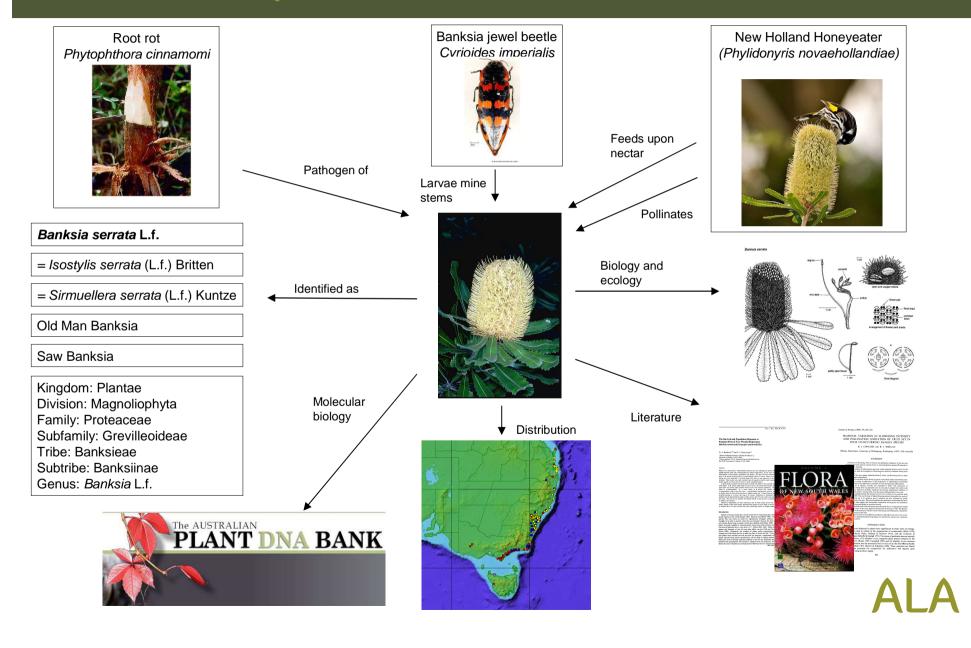


Banksia serrata – molecular data

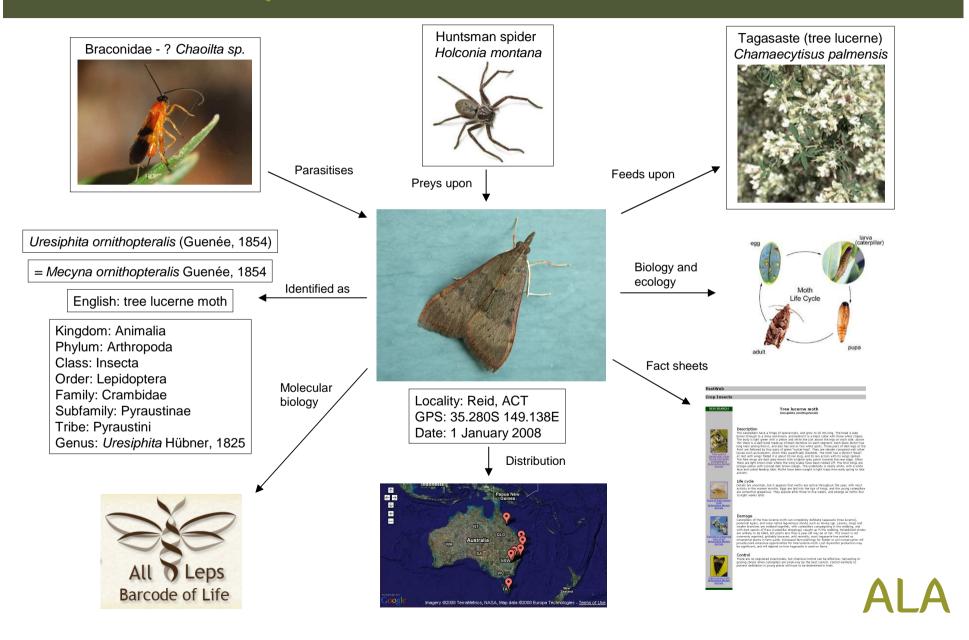




Biodiversity information

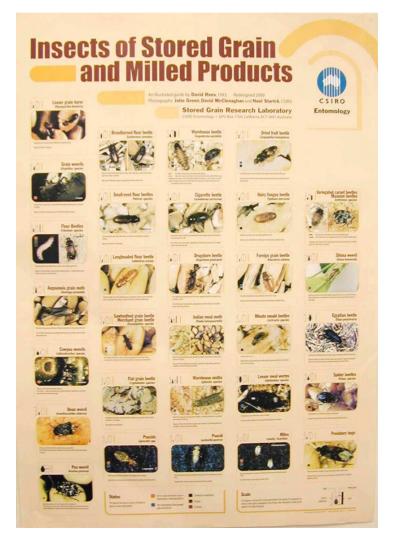


Biodiversity information



Uses: Biosecurity

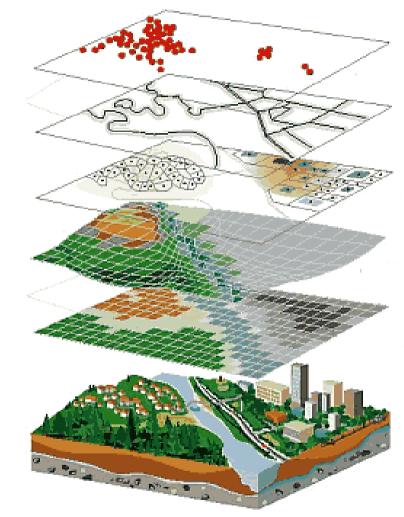
- Questions
 - What is this organism?
 - What does it eat?
 - Does it carry disease?
 - Could it spread in Australia?
 - How can it be controlled?
- Information needed
 - Names and classification
 - Identification keys
 - Images
 - Distribution data
 - Food webs
 - Literature (biology and control)



ALA

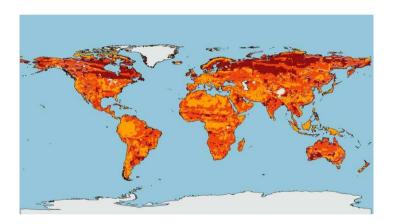
Uses: Land-use planning

- Questions
 - What species are found here?
 - Are they threatened?
 - What are their needs?
 - How can impacts be minimised?
 - How can habitats be restored?
- Information needed
 - Names and classification
 - Distribution data
 - Food webs
 - Literature (biology and control)



Uses: Conservation and climate change

- Questions
 - Which species will be affected?
 - How will their ranges be affected?
 - Can they colonise more favourable regions?
 - Will pest species benefit?
- Information needed
 - Names and classification
 - Climate change models
 - Distribution data
 - Environmental niche models
 - Food webs
 - Literature (conservation and biology)

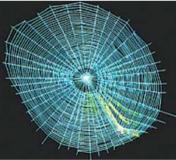


Other uses

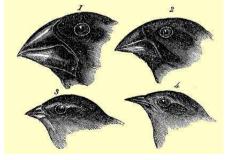
- Crop improvement
- Sustainable use
- Health and medicine
- Biomaterials
- Forensics
- Taxonomy
- Leisure













Sources of biodiversity information

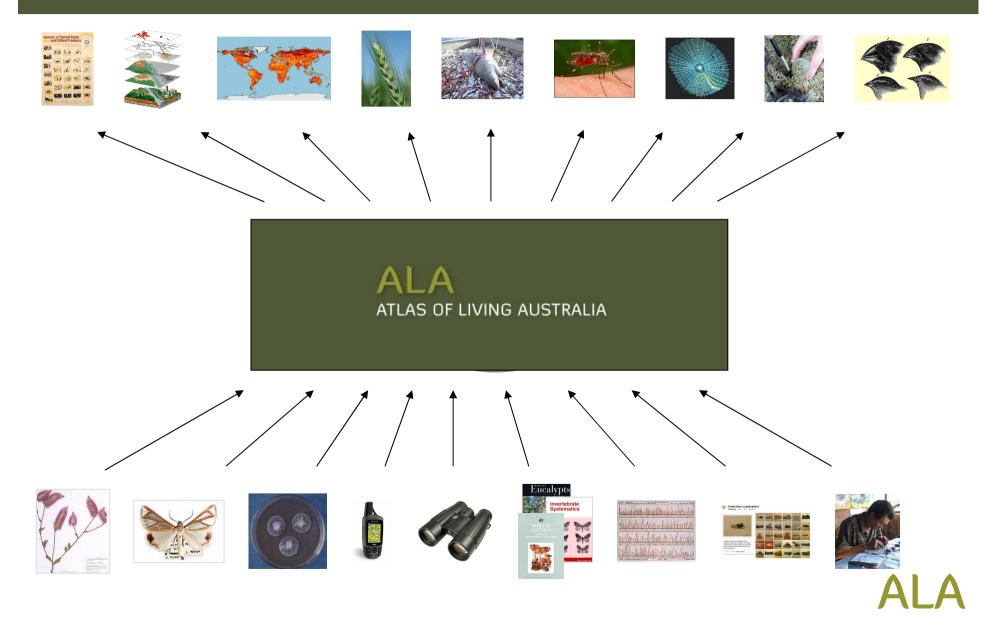
- Natural history collections and herbaria
- Living collections
- Field studies
- Literature
- Molecular research
- Images and multimedia
- Experts





ALA

Making information available to users



Atlas of Living Australia

- Government-funded (NCRIS) project to June 2011
- Mission:
 - To develop an <u>authoritative, freely accessible, distributed and</u> <u>federated biodiversity data management system</u> that links Australia's biological knowledge with its scientific reference collections and other custodians of biological information
 - To share biodiversity knowledge to shape our future
- Participants
 - CSIRO
 - The Australian Museum
 - Museum Victoria
 - Queensland Museum
 - The Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery
 - Southern Cross University

- The University of Adelaide
- DAFF
- DEWHA
- CHAH
- CHAFC
- CHAEC
- AMRRN

Timing of Atlas

- Builds on other national and global projects
 - Australian Virtual Herbarium
 - Online Zoological Collections of Australian Museums
 - Australian Biological Resources Study
 - Global Biodiversity Information Facility
 - Oceanographic Biogeographic Information System
 - Encyclopedia of Life
 - Many more













Challenges: Digitising information

- Important information in non-digital forms:
 - History of printed descriptions and other literature
 - Specimen labels (estimated 1.5 billion globally)
 - Field notebooks
- Many millions of dollars required to make all of this information fully accessible
- Work shared with GBIF and other projects





ScientificName:	Imbophorus pallidus
Family:	Pterophoridae
Locality:	Stirling Range
State:	WA
DateCollected:	1963-09-15
Latitude:	-34.3
Longitude:	118.0
CoordinatePrecision:	10000
CoordinateMethod:	Google Earth
TypeStatus:	Paratypus



Challenges: Digitising literature

- An example:
 - BUGS Bibliography of New Zealand terrestrial invertebrates 1775-1985
 - BUGZ online http://entdocs.landcareresearch.co.nz
 - Scanned entomological literature
 - Searchable text
 - Downloadable PDFs
- Result:
 - A significant body of literature more accessible and better managed than ever before









ALA

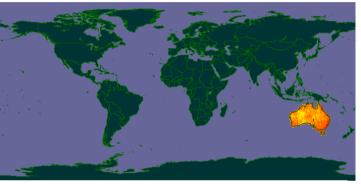
Challenges: Standardising data

- Need structured data for machine use
- Need agreed standard data elements
 - ScientificName
 - DecimalLatitude, Decimal Longitude
 - CoordinatePrecision
- Need standard formats for data values
 - New South Wales vs. NSW vs. N.S.W.
 - Australia vs. Australien vs. AU
 - 2008-05-15 vs. 05/15/2008 vs. 15 May 2008
 - Specimen vs. S vs. Voucher
- Standards allow data to be combined and reused
- Biodiversity Information Standards (TDWG)

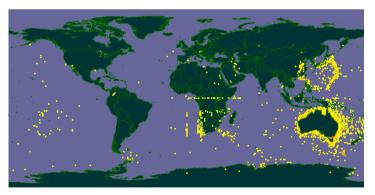
Biodiversity Information Standards

Challenges: Detecting errors

- Misspellings:
 - Ornithorynchus / Ornithorhynchus?
 - Mt. Tambourine / Mt. Tamborine?
- Coordinate problems:
 - Positive values for South or West
 - Latitude / Longitude transposed
 - Coordinates not near Locality
 - Unknown precision
- Other issues:
 - Same record shared through different routes
 - Unknown collecting strategy



GBIF data for "Australia" intersecting Australian continent



GBIF data for "Australia" not intersecting Australian continent

ALA

Challenges: Handling taxonomy

- 250-year history of seeking to interpret biodiversity
- Many names for the same species
 - Ornithorhynchus anatinus vs. Ornithorhynchus paradoxus
 - Species described more than once
 - Species moved to new genus
 - Split into multiple species concepts
 - Merge into one species concepts
- Common names
- Alternative opinions on higher classification
- Result:
 - Related information found under different names





Developing the ALA

- User needs analysis
 - Document how users find biodiversity information today
- Collaborative software development
 - Reuse code from GBIF data portal
 - Develop solutions supporting other Australian data networks (AVH, OZCAM, APPD, AMRIN)
 - Share components with Encyclopedia of Life, OBIS, etc.
 - Develop taxonomic tools with ABRS and ANBG
- Work with other Australian infrastructure projects
 - NCRIS Platforms for Collaboration
 - NCRIS Integrated Biological Systems
 - NCRIS Terrestrial Ecological Research Network
 - NCRIS Australian Biosecurity Information Network
- Start with general purpose tools
 - In future develop portals for specific user groups

ALA: Metadata Repository

- Metadata: information about data resources
- Describe all resources, including:
 - Collection databases
 - Ecological/observational databases
 - Images and image libraries
 - Online bibliographies and literature
 - Sequence data
 - International networks
- Metadata includes:
 - Description
 - Ownership and access details
 - Terms from vocabularies, gazetteers, ontologies...

Basic Information	
Collection Name	Australian National Botanic Gardens Herbarium
Preferred Code	CBG
Kind of Collection	Herbarium
Location	Not stipulated
Contact Details	
Phone	[61] 2/ 6250-9450.
Fax	[61] 2/ 6250-9599.
Website	http://www.anbq.gov.au/anbg/
Address	
Department	Herbarium
Street	G.P.O. Box 1777
City	Canberra
State	A.C.T.
Post Code	2601
Country Name	Australia
Alternative Postal A	ddress
Street	Clunies Ross Street, Black Mountain.
City	CANBERRA
State	Australian Capital Territory
Notes	
	m collections, staff, databases, and research programs of al Botanic Gardens (CBG) were combined with those of the

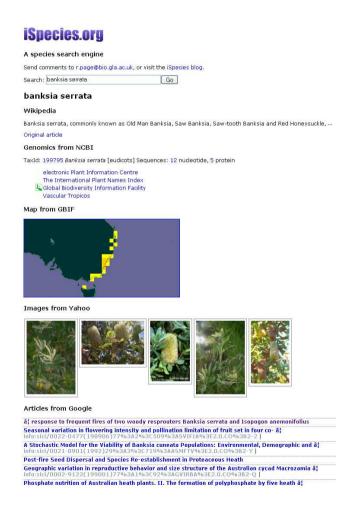
abbreviation for the combined collections. Specimens originally from CBG will continue to be cited as CBG. The approximately 250 000 CBG specimens are

included in the total for CANB. Information regarding CBG is included with CANB. Correspondence, including loan requests, should be directed to CANB.

ALA

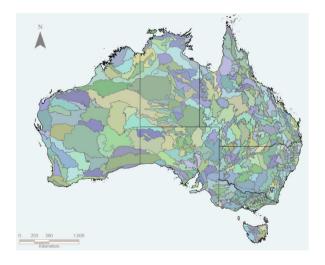
ALA: "Yellow Pages" for species

- Pages for every species (and higher taxon)
 - Links to all information resources
 - Organised by major category
 - Image thumbnails
 - Literature links
 - Links to GIS mapping
- Dynamically generated
- Direct users to original resources
- Web services
 - Enable other sites and tools directly to link content



ALA: Regional biodiversity atlas

- All georeferenced data for Australian biota
 - Specimen records
 - Observations
 - Ecological data sets
- Integrated GIS layers
 - Climate, geology, soil, vegetation, etc.
- Indexed by regions
 - Local government areas
 - Water catchment areas
 - IBRA regions
 - National parks
- Fact sheets/species lists for each region

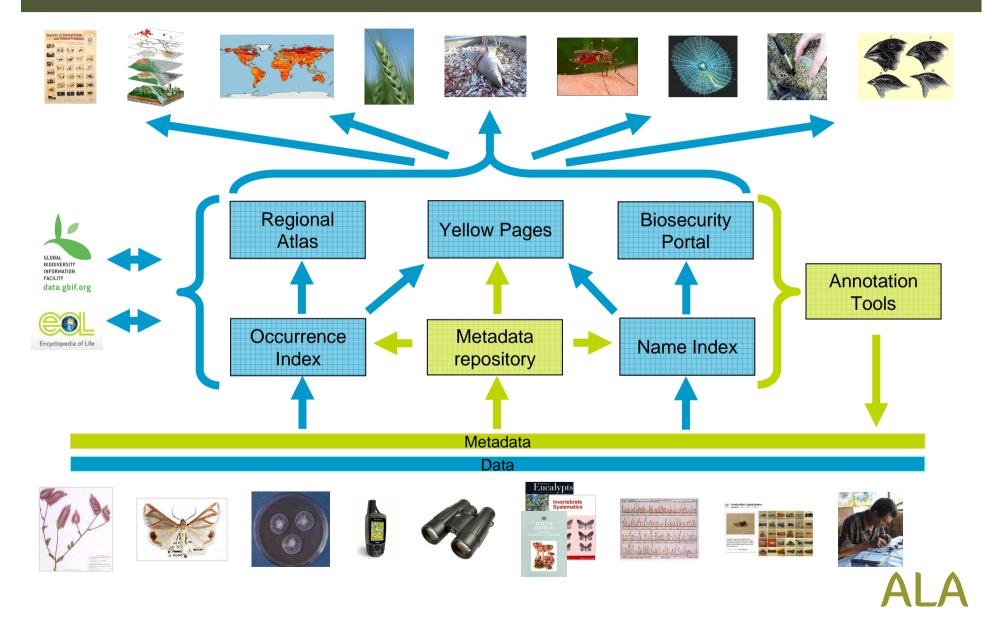


ALA: Annotating data

- Need tools to store comments on any record
 - User-suggested errors or corrections
 - Corrections from automated validation tools
 - Comments or structured corrections
 - Links to further information
 - Responses from data providers (conversation threads)
- Services to retrieve comments via record identifier
- Allow any tool or web site to see comments
- Allow data providers to import comments



ALA: Putting it all together



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