

Part 1: Resources by geographical region: national, State/Territory, and local, including public identification services, flora information systems, floras, censuses, and general field guides.

Floras are scientifically authoritative books used to identify all plants of a particular region. They are usually comprehensive (up to date of publication), and provide moderately to highly technical identification keys and short descriptions for all families, genera and species, together with explanatory glossaries, and sometimes line drawings or photographs. In several jurisdictions the printed Floras have been, or are being, translated into on-line electronic form as *flora information systems*, allowing wider and free delivery and more frequent updating. Both types of product are usually produced by a government Herbarium, that will often also have a *plant identification service*.

Handbooks and *field-guides* tend to be more heavily illustrated and written in a more plain-English style than Floras. However they are often not fully comprehensive (concentrating on the more common or conspicuous species), the descriptions are often very abbreviated, and they may or may not contain identification keys.

Identification services listed here are those offered by major metropolitan or some regional herbaria. Be aware that some regional botanic gardens, and some some offices of environmental, primary industry and forestry agencies, may also house herbarium-style reference collections (specimens or photos) and/or be able to provide expert advice. Only space and time have prevented us from surveying and including these as specific options.