

# AusTraits: a curated plant trait database for the Australian flora

## AusTraits is a transformative database

of the traits of Australia's 22,000 plant species, standardised from hundreds of disconnected primary sources.

To make the data from published scientific papers, floras, taxonomic species descriptions, and individual lab archives interoperable, a reproducible workflow has been developed, and is hosted on GitHub. This project will strengthen and extend the database with new data sources and improved standards and description, enhancing data findability, interoperability and reusability. The resource will be released under an open source license (CC-BY 4.0).

### Start date

3 June 2019

### Expected completion date

21 October 2019

### Investment by ARDC

\$49,999

### Co-investment partners

[The University of New South Wales](#)

[Macquarie University](#)

### Lead node



UNSW  
SYDNEY

## 2. Improved interoperability

Data and metadata standards used will be reviewed to improve interoperability and reusability of AusTraits.

## 4. AusTraits Data Paper

New data contributions included in AusTraits data paper for submission to Scientific Data.

## 1. New data sets added

New data sources will be identified, standardised and added to AusTraits.

## 3. Improved discoverability and accessibility

Liaise with UNSW Library and Research Technology Services regarding making AusTraits discoverable through multiple channels.

## 5. Completion of project

Project outcomes will be presented at the ARDC Data & Services Summit in October 2019.



### Transformative dataset

AusTraits increases our collective understanding of the Australian flora, enabling quantification at new scales of how vegetation responds to environmental change and what types of species grow where and why.



### Community-driven

Enabling diverse researchers and institutions to share plant trait data to a sustainable community resource.

## Who is this project for?

- Researchers
- Natural resource managers
- Government (state and commonwealth)



## What does this project enable?

AusTraits fills a substantial gap in Australian and global biodiversity resources, enabling fundamental and applied questions to be addressed at scale. AusTraits will be a living resource, with a series of releases made over the coming years containing ever-expanded and improved data.



## Handy resources

- [Final Report](#) [PDF 125KB]
- [FAIR Assessment](#) [PDF 88KB]
- [Presentation](#) [PDF 2MB]
- [Learn more](#) about the Storage and Compute Discovery Activities.
- [Learn more](#) about the Skilled Workforce Discovery Activities and summit
- [Learn more](#) about the Data and Services Discovery Activities.
- [Read the news article](#) about launching our Discovery Activities.
- [Read the news article](#) about the Storage and Compute open call for project proposals.
- [Learn more](#) about the ARDC Discovery Projects.



The University of New South Wales

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