

Forest Facts

South-East
Queensland

No. 3.3

This information is mainly derived from Comprehensive Regional Assessments carried out for the SEQ Regional Forest Agreement.

prepared by

Australian Rainforest
Conservation Society

for

ARCS

Queensland Conservation
Council

The Wilderness Society

For further information:
ARCS

19 Colorado Avenue
BARDON QLD 4065
Telephone 3368 1318
Facsimile 3368 3938

email admin@rainforest.org.au

Forests of South-East Queensland

The Flora

South-East Queensland has an outstandingly rich forest flora. The diversity of forest flora in SEQ is exceeded only by that of the Wet Tropics of Queensland. Although representing only three-quarters of one per cent of the area of Australia, SEQ provides habitat for 49 percent of Australia's ferns, 45 percent of cycads and 23 per cent of Australia's vascular plant species overall.

A comparison with other States or regions shows that SEQ is outstanding with

Table 1. Native Vascular Flora recorded from SEQ forests

Group	No. of Species in SEQ Forests	Percentage of Australian Total
Flowering plants	3546	22
Ferns	196	49
Conifers	12	27
Cycads	12	45
Total	3766	23

SEQ represents three-quarters of 1 per cent of the area of Australia.

respect to all vascular plant groups.

About 273 species are endemic to the region, ie they are found only in SEQ or in the immediate surrounding areas such as North-East New South Wales. Of these endemics 42 percent are rare or threatened with extinction. The highest levels of endemism are found in areas that include

State Forests such as:

- SF471 Mt Coulston and SF391 Bulburin on the Many Peaks Ra.,
- SF316 Kroombit Tops on the Dawes Ra.,
- SF840 Elliott River in the Mary River lowlands,
- SF67 and SF220 on the Coast Ra.,
- SF124 Glastonbury, SF146 Imbil, SF135 Kenilworth and SF274 Conondales,
- SF351, SF689, SF368 and SF249 in the Maroochy River catchment,
- SF589 (Beerburum SF),
- SF309 on the D'Aguilar Ra.,
- SF564 (White Mountain SF) in the Helidon Hills area.

About 261 species of flora are rare or threatened with extinction with a further 43 pending listing including 13 endangered species. The 33 currently listed endangered species include *Alectryon ramiflorus*, *Austromyrtus gonoclada*, *Macadamia jansenii*, *Macrozamia platyrhachis*, *Plectranthus torrenticola*, *Pouteria eerwah* and *Triunia robusta*.

Of the 46 currently listed and pending endangered species only 27 occur on public land. Of the 19 in State Forests, 5 are located amongst plantations.

Areas important to conserve endangered species include SF583 Wietalba, SF316 Kroombit, SF391 Bulburin, SF832 Cordalba, SF54 Bania, SF57 Nour Nour, SF893 Mt Mee, SF1239 Mapleton, SF832 Bellthorpe and SF528 Deongwar.

In addition there are 76 species vulnerable to extinction, and 152 are rare.

Table 2. Native Flora species recorded from forests by State or Region

Floral Group	State or Region					
	NE NSW	NT	Tas	Vic	WA	SEQ
Flowering plants	2045	1596	936	2828	2548	3546
Ferns	146	85	96	124	75	196
Conifers	10	3	11	7	11	12
Cycads	10	7	0	0	5	12
Total	2211	1691	1043	2959	2639	3766

Source: Australia's State of the Forests Report 1998, National Forest Inventory, Commonwealth of Australia. Flora of Australia Vol.48 (1998)