

PLANT PHOTOGRAPHY

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General

Photographic equipment - phone, camera. Spare battery and memory card. Tripod.
Clean footwear, be careful of other plants

Thorough Observation = easier ID
Select a good specimen.

Note: Location, date, habitat (where plant is growing), abundance

Details

Take a series of photos for each plant (more is better than too few). You can load multiple photos for an observation into iNaturalist.

- 1 Overall plant to demonstrate habit (woody or herb-like) showing scale if possible by including a recognizable object in the photo.
- 2 Whole flower/fruit - from different angles. Try to include the pistil & stamen/s of the flowers.
- 3 Close-up of petals, sepals, stamens, pistils, fruit and seed
- 4 Stems and leaves (upper and underside). Presence or absence of hairs?
How are the leaves attached to the stem – alternating versus opposite?
- 5 Other distinguishing features

Flowers

Solitary or clusters
How is it attached to stem
Number of petals, sepals, stamens, pistil - (how many & how arranged)
Shape, size, texture, colour, smell
Visible pollinators

Plants

Woody or herb-like
Stems, and branching patterns
Leaves (shape, opposite/alternate, vein patterns)
Flowers, fruit or seeds

Trees/ Eucalypts

location (riverflat, hillside, at beach)
bark (rough, smooth, stringy, ironbark, flaky)
flower buds (number in cluster, shape, pedicel (stem))
fruit (number in cluster, shape, length and shape of stem)
leaves (shape, juvenile or adult)
*flowers are not very useful for identification
*a photo of just a tree is not very useful

The more clues, the easier the identification.

FUNGI

Fungi are NOT plants. They are in their own Kingdom.

Mushroom shaped fungi are the most obvious forms we see. There are many other forms and colours, large and quite small, many hidden in dark places (e.g. inside the hollows of rotting logs).

When photographing a mushroom form, try to place a small mirror under the cap to identify if there are 'gills' or 'pores' under the cap.

Is there an 'annulus' (ring or skirt) on the stem (stipe)?

You may be photographing fungi while kneeling on wet ground – be conscious of your posture and knees!