

Acknowledgments

Much is known about the southwestern Australian flora. The impetus for preparing this book was the need to compile this vast knowledge base into one publication. We would like to thank members of the Department of Environment and Agriculture (and its predecessor the Department of Environmental Biology), Curtin University, Western Australia, for their support and encouragement during the writing phase, especially Professors Jonathan Majer and Jacob John. Special mention goes to the thousands of students we have taught in the undergraduate unit 'Flowering Plants/Australian Flora' (and their predecessors) for inspiring us to make this book a reality.

Most photographs and drawings were sourced from the authors' personal collection. Allen Lowrie graciously provided photographs of the wasp-pollinated orchids, in addition to images of other orchids and *Drosera* species. Mark Brundrett kindly provided additional orchid photos including the monotypic genera and the underground orchid. Special thanks to Jiri Lochman of Lochman Transparencies for providing several photos from his vast photographic collection. William Archer allowed us the use of photographs from his online collection *Esperance Wildflowers*. We also thank Haylee D'Agui, Geoff Burrows, Melissa Darling, Katherine Downes, Aaron Gove, Geoffrey Groom, Peter Mioduszewski, William Parkinson, Allan Tinker and Stephen van Leeuwen for providing additional photographs. Katherine Downes is thanked for providing information on fire ephemerals and soil-stored seeds. Hervé Sauquet provided the Proteaceae chronogram that was then reanalysed for fire-proneness and fire-related traits and redrawn by Tianhua He. Maps and tables were compiled from published journal articles or books, the sources of which are acknowledged in their associated captions. Wesley Lamont is thanked for redesigning the maps and all line drawings. Christine Cooper and Tim Lardner assisted with access to relevant references. Alex George, Neville Marchant, Laco Mucina and Ross Young graciously commented on earlier drafts. Brian Heterick assisted with ant identifications. Special thanks to Fran, Byron and Zoe from Dome Maylands for all their encouragement and support during the later drafts of the book.

We dedicate this book to Peter Mioduszewski, a colleague and friend who had a passion for the southwestern Australian flora and natural history in general. He was well respected by his peers, and the students he assisted as a botanical technical officer at Curtin University. Peter passed away suddenly in late 2012. In his memory we selected one of his photographs for the cover page.

We began writing this book in 2010, the International Year of Biodiversity.