BDBSA SuperTables – Field Definitions

Magpie-lark nest, Murray Mallee. Photographer: DEW, Survey: 0714, Year: 2010

This information sheet describes the data fields within the Biological Databases of South Australia (BDBSA) Flora and Fauna SuperTables. Please refer to the following links for overviews of BDBSA and SuperTables:

- Biological Databases of South Australia - Overview
- BDBSA SuperTables - Overview

FAUNACODE (Fauna only)

Generated from a combination of the first two letters of the dataset (e.g. SU = Survey), the first letter of the taxon group (e.g. A=Amphibia, B=Birds, F = Fish, I = Invertebrates, M = Mammalia and R = Reptilia), the unique identifier from that database (e.g. Survey and Opportune use VISITNR and SPSEQNR) and if applicable a voucher specimen identifier (MUSEUMHERBMNR). For example, SUM16171-23-M12345 or OPM487-27.

FLORACODE (Flora only)

Generated from a combination of the first two letters of the dataset (e.g. SU = Survey), the first letter of the taxon group (P = Plant) and the unique identifier from the database (Survey and Opportune use VISITNR and SPSEQNR and if applicable a voucher specimen identifier (MUSEUMHERBMNR); Plant Population uses POPULATIONNR and VISITNR; State Herbarium of SA (ADHERB) uses the HERBARIUM CATALOGUE NUMBER; and Roadside Vegetation uses O, U, E to define Overstorey, Understorey and Emergent species, ROADSIDESEGNR and the relevant unique database plant species number). For example, SUP10814-55, SUP9989-9-AD99343158, OPP1254-55, PPP430-430, AD96832161 or RVPO1181-332.

NSXCODE

Unique code for each taxonomic entity (species name) in the database, used to allow record taxonomy to be updated as changes occur.

LATITUDE

The latitude (y) coordinate of the sighting in GDA2020 and decimal degrees. For Roadside Vegetation (RV) this is the centroid of the road segment and has been offset by a generic distance of 10 m from the road network. Certain records made available on public websites will have been denatured to 0.1 degree based on the department's Environmental Sensitivity Data Management Procedure. Refer to ISDENATURED for a description of denaturing.

LONGITUDE

The longitude (x) coordinate of the sighting in GDA2020 and decimal degrees. For Roadside Vegetation (RV) this is the centroid of the road segment and has been offset by a generic distance of 10 m from the road network. Certain records made available on public websites will have been denatured to 0.1 degree based on the department's Environmental Sensitivity Data Management Procedure. Refer to ISDENATURED for a description of denaturing.

MGAZONE

The Map Grid of Australia 2020 (MGA2020) Zone that the Eastings and Northings relate to (e.g. Zone 52, 53 or 54 in South Australia).

EASTING

The Easting (x) coordinate of the sighting in Map Grid of Australia 2020 coordinate system. For Roadside Vegetation (RV) this is the centroid of the road segment and has been offset by a generic distance of 10 m from the road network.

NORTHING

The Northing (y) coordinate of the sighting in Map Grid of Australia 2020 coordinate system. For Roadside Vegetation (RV) this is the centroid of the road segment and has been offset by a generic distance of 10 m from the road network.

ISDENATURED

The department's Environmentally Sensitive Data Management Procedure defines records that have their coordinates denatured to 1 decimal (0.1 degree or ~10 km) for public distribution. The Longitude and Latitude have been truncated to 1 decimal place. Those defined as sensitive are classified as 'Environmental Sensitivity – One decimal degree' otherwise records are 'N'.

SOURCE

Abbreviation of the dataset from which the records have come (i.e. SU = Survey, OP = Opportune, PP = Plant Population, AD = State Herbarium of SA ADHERB database, RV = Roadside Vegetation Survey).

Note: Records that were formerly in the Reserves database can now be found as OP records.

For more information refer to BDBSA – Overview Information Sheet.

SIGHTINGDATE

The date the sighting occurred. Always check the DATEACCURACY where SIGHTINGDATE is the first of a month or year.

DATEACCURACY

Accuracy of the Sighting Date recorded. Date Accuracy indicates whether the Sighting Date is accurate to the Day (D); Month (M); Year (Y); Decade (T) or Century (C).

PATCHID

Patch Identifier is a number generated within the Survey and Opportune datasets, uniquely identifying the site. Example "18175". An individual patch may contain multiple visits and species records.

SIGHTINGNR

Sighting Number is a number uniquely identifying an historical opportune (OP) species sighting.

Sighting Numbers were generated within the Opportune dataset before the merging of the Opportune and Survey datasets in 2010. It has been retained to allow interrogation of historical OP records.

SPECIESTYPE

Identifies the taxonomic group (A=Amphibia, B=Birds, F = Fish, I = Invertebrate, M = Mammalia, P = Plants and R = Reptilia) of the observation. It is included in the FLORACODE and FAUNACODE.

VISITNR

The unique visit identifier within the database for the visit, used in the FLORACODE and FAUNACODE.

SPSEQNR

Unique species number within a visit in the database, used in the FLORACODE and FAUNACODE.

POPULATIONNR (Flora only)

Only populated for Plant Population records, (where SOURCE = PP). It is a unique identifier for each plant population recorded.

RELIABNR

Estimation of positional accuracy of the coordinates, being a combination of the distance of the coordinates to the real location on the ground and the distance over which the species were observed. In Roadside Vegetation (RV) this is derived from the length of the road segment). The description of these codes is available in RELIABDESC.

RELIABDESC

Description of RELIABNR, in terms of the positional reliability of the coordinates, (e.g. 0-5 m, 1-10 km).

SPRELIABCODE

An indication of the reliability of the species coordinates and/or taxonomy identity.

The field contains a mixture of codes from the different databases. Survey and Opportune displays as just Y (Reliable) or N (Not Reliable). For Roadside Vegetation data it has been Presumed (P) that species identity is reliable. The roadside survey method requires consultants to collect representative specimens during a survey and have them identified by the herbarium. Plant Populations have a more complicated reliability code. Plant Population codes are 1=Voucher in a state herbarium: ID by herbarium staff or taxonomist; 2 = ID by herbarium staff or taxonomist; 3 = ID by experienced field botanist; 4 = Unconfirmed field sighting and 5 = Correct ID doubtful.

Flora

A filter has been applied to the dataset so that only records with Y or Null or P or 1–4 are included

Fauna

A filter has been applied to the dataset so that only records with Y or Null are included. There are no Fauna records in Plant Population or Roadside Vegetation Databases.

SURVEYNR

Unique number allocated to each project or survey. It is only populated in the Survey and Opportune datasets.

SURVEYNAME

The name of the project relating to SURVEYNR.

OBSERVER

The person(s) who observed the species.

ISVOUCHERED

Whether a specimen of the species observed was vouchered and lodged with the herbarium (for plants) or SA Museum (for fauna) (Yes = Y, No = Blank or N). However, for Plant Population records, if SPRELIABNR = 1, then this field is populated with Y (regardless of visit). All roadside vegetation data = N. Consultants collect representative specimens during a survey that are identified by the herbarium but they may not be officially lodged with the herbarium.

METHODNR (Fauna only)

A code to record the method used to observe and/or collect specimens of fauna species. Descriptions are in METHODDESC. Records with the following METHODNRs have not been included in the dataset: 23 (subfossil: within pellet); 73 (subfossil: within cave deposit); 76 (subfossil: within midden); and 77 (subfossil: within deposit).

METHODDESC (Fauna only)

Description of observation/collection method used, related to METHODNR.

ISCURRENT

Is the taxonomy applied to the species observation current? If Y, the taxonomy is current, or if N, the taxonomy has been updated and the record taxonomy needs to be resolved to reflect this revision.

ISINDIGENOUSFLAG

Identification of species as introduced/native to South Australia: introduced = N; native = Y; not certain if native or introduced = ?.

SPECIES

Taxonomic name for species observed (combined GENUSNAME and SPECIESNAME) e.g. '*Acacia ligulata*'. Taxonomic names that no longer are current (ISCURRENT = N) have (NC) appended after the species name.

GENUSNAME

Taxonomic genus of species observed e.g. '*Manorina*'.

SPECIESNAME

Taxonomic species name (doesn't include genus) of species observed e.g. '*flavigula*'.

FAMILYNAME (Flora only)

Taxonomic Family Name of Species.

CLASSNR (Fauna only)

Unique identifier for taxonomic Class of species. Descriptions are in CLASSNAME.

CLASSNAME (Fauna only)

Taxonomic class to which the species belongs, related to the field named CLASSNR.

Class Names:

- 'AMPHIBIA'=Amphibians
- 'AVES'=Birds
- 'PETROMYZONTI'=Lampreys
- 'MAMMALIA'=Mammals
- 'ACTINOPTERI'=Fish
- 'REPTILIA'=Reptiles
- 'CHONDRICHTHYES'=Sharks & Rays
- 'MYXINI'=Hagfish
- 'INVERTEBRATES'=Invertebrates

SUBCLASSNAME (Fauna only)

Taxonomic sub-class of species. Example 'Marsupialia'.

COMNAME

Common name of species observed. Example 'Southern Hairy-nosed Wombat'.

MUSEUMHERBMNR

Observations based on voucher specimens are generally lodged with the State Herbarium of SA (plants) or the South Australian Museum (animals). This process provides confirmation of species identity and allows update of records as species taxonomy changes. The MUSEUMHERBMNR field stores the ID assigned to the specimen as it is integrated into the collections (HERBARIUM CATALOGUE Number and SAM registration number). These IDs are useful if further detail is requested from the State Herbarium or SA Museum. Also see the ISVOUCHERED field in relation to MUSEUMHERBMNR.

SPECIESCONSTAT (Fauna only)

SPECIES with ISINDIGENOUS preceding the name, and National and State Conservation Ratings (ESACTSTATUSCODE and NPWSACTSTATUSCODE) appended after the name e.g. '**Alauda arvensis*' or '*Dasycercus byrnei* AUS: VU SA: V'.

ESACTSTATUSCODE (National rating)

National conservation rating of the species based on the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. VU = Vulnerable, EN = Endangered, CR = Critically Endangered, EX = Extinct. Endangered Species Status Code is based on the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Flora

An asterisk (*) denotes ratings that need to be qualified for a variety of reasons, such as changes to taxonomy, nomenclature or species status assessments. The qualification text for a species is available from the vascular plants BDBSA taxonomy in the status comment fields.

Fauna

A value of "ssp." indicates that at least one subspecies for this species has been given a conservation rating.

A value of "sp." indicates that the species level related to this subspecies has a rating.

It is recommended that users investigate the conservation ratings of any subspecies in their area of interest.

NPWACTSTATUSCODE (State rating)

South Australian conservation rating of the species based on the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*. R = Rare, V = Vulnerable, E = Endangered.

Flora

An asterisk denotes ratings that need to be qualified for a variety of reasons, such as: changes to taxonomy, nomenclature or species status assessments. The qualification text for a species is available from the BDBSA Vascular Plants List in the status comments fields.

Fauna

A value of "ssp." indicates that at least one subspecies for this species has been given a conservation rating.

A value of "sp." indicates that the species level related to this subspecies has a rating.

It is recommended that users investigate the conservation ratings of any subspecies in their area of interest.

BIOREGSTATCODE

Conservation status category codes for each IBRA subregion, reviewed as part of the Regional Species Conservation Assessment Project undertaken between 2008 and 2014. The rating defined is based on the IBRA subregion version 6.2 or IMCRA region that the record falls in (refer to CONSERVATION.RSCA_Subregions). The status category codes are RE = Regionally Extinct, CR = Critically Endangered; EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable, RA = Rare, NT = Near Threatened, LC = Least Concern, DD = Data Deficient, NE = Not Evaluated. All categories except RE and RA are based on IUCN categories. Further details on the definition of each code are contained in the appendices of the regional reports located at the above website.

PARK_ID

PARK_ID is an automatically generated identifier from the department's Protected Area Information System (PAIS) database. This is derived via a spatial overlay of the sighting with the appropriate spatial dataset. For roadside vegetation records the sighting location has been set at a generic offset of 10 m from the road centre line. These records are in road reserves which come under the care, control and management of local government authorities and the SA Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI). Due to variations in spatial accuracy this location could fall within a park but as roadside vegetation is within the road corridor then it is assumed that the roadside vegetation should not fall in a park and no spatial overlay has been done.

RESERVETYPE

Reserve type for Reserve designated by RENRDERIVED field (if the sighting was recorded within the boundaries of a Reserve). CP = Conservation Park, CR = Conservation Reserve, GR = Game Reserve, HA = Heritage Agreement, CA = Conservation Area (Forestry SA), NF = Native Forest, NP = National Park, RP = Recreation Park, RR = Regional Reserve, WA = Wilderness Area. This is derived via a spatial overlay of the sighting with the appropriate spatial dataset. For qualification on roadside vegetation species locations refer to the details under PARK_ID.

RESERVECODE

Reserve Code for Reserve is a number designated for each reserve (if the sighting was recorded within the boundaries of a Reserve). Reserve Code uniquely identifies the Reserve (e.g. 1012). This is derived via a spatial overlay of the sighting with the appropriate spatial dataset. For qualification on roadside vegetation species locations refer to the details under PARK_ID.

RESERVENAME

Reserve Name appended with Reserve Type for NPWSA Reserve, if the sighting is within a Reserve. For example, 'Althorpe Islands (CP)'. For Heritage Agreements, Reserve Name is the Reserve Code with the Reserve Type e.g. '1012 (HA)'. This is derived via a spatial overlay of the sighting with the appropriate spatial dataset. For qualification on roadside vegetation species locations refer to the details under PARK_ID.

NUMOBSERVED

Number of individuals observed (e.g. when a flock of birds is observed rather than an individual). This can include an exact number (e. g; 1, 5, 17) or number ranges or words to describe how many were observed when an exact number is not possible (e. g; many, >1000, 30-40). If no count was performed on the individuals observed then the number observed would be recorded as 'present but not counted'. If a species was searched for but no individuals were observed then number observed would be 'none detected'. A filter has been applied to the Supertable dataset so that all records defined as 'none detected' (i.e. absence records) have been removed.

GENLOC

Generated Location describes the location of an observation using distances and bearings of the coordinates to gazetted locations. Example "13.3 km WNW of Mount Chandler (summit)".

LOCATIONCOMM

The location comment (LOCATIONCOMM) provides a general description of the location where the observation occurred. This field should be used to verify the coordinates of the observation if there is a question as to their accuracy. For roadside vegetation records this is the name of the road at time of survey and a generated distance to a gazetted location (e.g. town, suburb, mountain).

HABITATCOMM

The habitat comment (HABITATCOMM) provides a general description of the habitat where the observation occurred. This comment can be used to provide further evidence or ecological context about a species observation. For roadside vegetation records this is the vegetation association defined for each roadside segment.

SIGHTINGCOMM

The sighting comment is used to store further details and evidence about the species observation that are not able to be stored in individual database fields. This is commonly used for third party datasets to store all other values that BDBSA does not accommodate, and as such provides important context for records. For roadside vegetation this is defined for all records as 'Collected using the department's Roadside Vegetation Survey Methodology' to indicate the process of the sighting method. Users should refer to the manual for more explanation of how species observations have been derived.

HERBREGION (Flora only)

The Herbarium Region the sighting was recorded in. It is generated by spatially overlaying the records in Survey, Opportune, Roadside Vegetation and Plant Populations with the Herbarium Regions spatial layer.

NPWREGION

Derived via spatial overlay of species observations with the DEW NPW Regions spatial dataset. If outside of South Australia, the field is populated with 'No Region'.

NPWDISTRICT

Derived via spatial overlay of species observations with the DEW NPW Districts spatial dataset. If outside of South Australia, the field is populated with 'No District'.

LANDSCAPEREGION

Derived via spatial overlay of species observations with the Landscape Management Regions spatial dataset. If outside of South Australia, the field is populated with 'No Region'.

BIOREGION

The IBRA or IMCRA region code based on current published version. Derived via spatial overlay of species observations with the IBRA and IMCRA spatial datasets. IBRA and IMCRA overlap for the Islands of South Australia and the IBRA region takes precedence.

BIOREGIONNAME

The IBRA or IMCRA region name based on current published version. Derived via spatial overlay of species observations with the IBRA and IMCRA spatial datasets. IBRA and IMCRA overlap for the Islands of South Australia and the IBRA region takes precedence.

BIOSUBREGION

The IBRA subregion or IMCRA region code. Derived via spatial overlay of species observations with the IBRA subregions version 6.2 and IMCRA spatial datasets. IBRA and IMCRA overlap for the Islands of South Australia and the IBRA region takes precedence. Used to derive the BIOREGSTATCODE

BIOSUBREGIONNAME

The IBRA subregion or IMCRA region name. Derived via spatial overlay of species observations with the IBRA subregions version 6.2 and IMCRA spatial datasets. IBRA and IMCRA overlap for the Islands of South Australia and the IBRA region takes precedence.

DISTRIBNCODE

Code to identify distribution of project observations (based on SURVEYNR). Records with DISTRIBNCODE equal to 1 and 2 are available for public access. Records with code 3 and 4 are from sensitive datasets and only available to department staff and approved clients.

DISTRIBNDESC

Description of the DISTRIBNCODE. This reflects the distribution rules assigned to the records when they were submitted to BDBSA.

The options are:

- Code 1 & 2 = Public
- Code 3 = Sensitive Dataset: Data supplied to approved clients via DEWBioDataRequests@sa.gov.au
- Code 4 = Sensitive Dataset: Written permission required from Information Authority.

PLANTEDRELEASED

This code indicates whether an animal or plant has been artificially released or artificially planted at the location. If there is evidence that individuals have been released or planted then the record should be flagged as Y (Yes) otherwise it is flagged as N (No). Progeny of the planted/released individual should be flagged as N.

WEEDSADECLARED (Flora only)

Weed SA Declared are plant species declared under Section 188 of the Landscape South Australia Act 2019 as Not for Sale within South Australia.

WEEDWONS (Flora only)

WEEDWONS are plant species identified as Weeds of National Significance by Australian governments.

CENSUSGROUP (Flora only)

This code classifies species according to a major plant group:

- V = Vascular Plants
- B = Bryophytes (mosses, liverworts and hornworts)
- A = Algae
- F = Fungi
- L = Lichens

Preferred way to cite this information sheet

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https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/science/information-and-data/biological-databases-of-south-australia/information-sharing (insert date web page accessed)

For more information

Department for Environment and Water

Website: www.environment.sa.gov.au/Science/Information_data/Biological_databases_of_South_Australia

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