



# Classification of Vegetation Formations



## Forests

Open tree canopy dominated by eucalypt species (typically >10m in height) with crowns that touch or overlap. Canopy allows most sunlight to penetrate supporting growth of a prominent understorey layer varying between hard-leaved shrubs to luxuriant soft leaved shrubs, ferns and herbs.



## Woodlands

Dominated by an open to sparse layer of eucalypts with the crowns rarely touching. Typically 15-35m high (may be shorter at sub-alpine altitudes). Diverse ground cover of grasses and herbs. Shrubs are sparsely distributed. Usually found on flat to undulating ground.



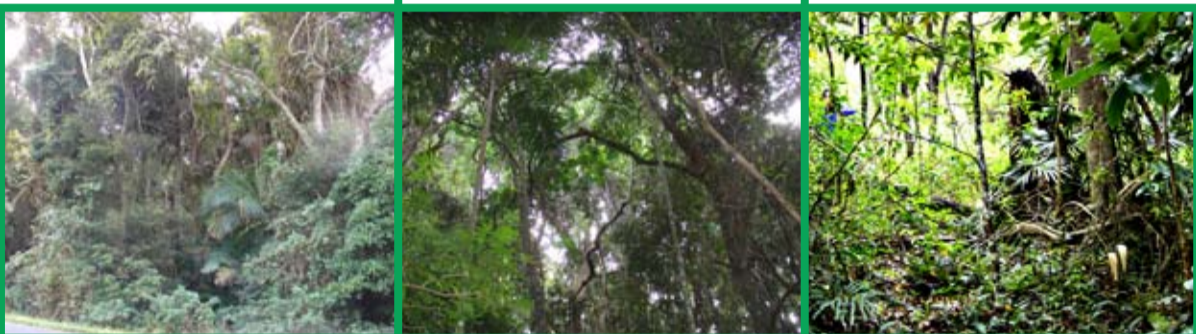
## Tall Heaths (Scrub)

Shrubby vegetation greater than 2 metres tall. Principal plant species include banksias, spider flowers, wattles, legumes, eucalypts, tea-trees, paper barks, she oaks, grass trees, cord rushes and sedges. Grasses are scarce. Not found in arid and semi arid locations. Includes Hawkesbury Sandstone vegetation with scattered overstorey trees and predominantly healthy understorey and coastal heath. May include some mallee eucalypts in coastal locations.



## Short Heath (Open Shrub)

Shrubby vegetation less than 2 metres in height. Often more open in canopy. Principal plant species include banksias, spider flowers, wattles, legumes, eucalypts, tea-trees, paper barks, she oaks, grass trees, cord rushes and sedges. Grasses are scarce. Not found in arid and semi arid locations.



## Rainforests

Closed and continuous complex tree canopy composed of relatively soft, horizontally-held leaves. Generally lacking in eucalypts. Understorey typically includes ferns and herbs. Vines often present in canopy or understorey. Occur mainly in areas that are reliably moist, mostly free of fire and have soils of moderate to high fertility. Typically coastal and escarpment locations.



## Grasslands

Dominated by perennial grasses and the presence of broad-leaved herbs on flat topography. Lack of woody plants. Plants include grasses, daisies, legumes, geraniums, saltbushes and copperburrs.



## Managed Land

Non-vegetated or reduced vegetation areas such as: actively grazed pastures, maintained urban yards, maintained lawns, crops, orchards, vineyards, commercial nurseries, playing fields, golf course fairways, cleared parks, non-vegetated areas, formed roads and footpaths including cleared verges, waterways, etc.