

# PHOTOGRAPHING plants

## Getting started

There are several things you can do when photographing a plant that can make a big difference in helping identify the species you have observed and shared.

- If the plant you're trying to observe is hard to get close to, consider taking a photograph from further away using your camera's zoom function and cropping it down so just the plant is visible.
- Take multiple photos; an observation of one plant can include multiple angles and perspectives.
- Take close-up photos of the leaves, including both the back and front, as well as a shot showing how the leaves are arranged along the stem.
- Take a photograph of the whole plant.
- Photograph the plant's berries or flowers.
- When observing trees, take a close-up shot of the bark.
- Make sure the images you upload are in focus. Blurry plants are difficult to identify.



## Plants bring our world so many benefits, including:

- producing the oxygen we breathe;
- cleaning the air by removing pollutants;
- providing homes for countless species;
- providing essential food sources;
- helping regulate healthy water systems, which are essential to life on Earth.
- slowing the pace of climate change by absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and storing it;
- providing ingredients for many medicines;
- providing ingredients for many household products, from cosmetics to books, to toilet paper to clothing; and fostering good mental health.

Spending time outdoors, having access to a greenspace, even if it's just through a window, has a positive impact on mental health.

Photos (clockwise from top right):  
common wood sorrel by NCC;  
black ash by NCC.