

Land, Crop and Food Sciences Collection Development Policy

Last updated: 1st July, 2009

1. Purpose of the collection

The Gatton and Biological Sciences Library collections in this area are intended to support the teaching and research activities of the School of Land, Crop and Food Sciences.

2. Primary user groups served

The School offers courses in the following areas:

- Agricultural Science
- Food Science and Nutrition
- Nutrition – Animal, Human and Plant
- Plants
- Soil Science

Postgraduate fields of study include:

- Crop Production Technology
- Food Science and Technology
- Horticulture
- Integrated Pest Management
- Plant Improvement
- Rangeland and Animal Science Research
- Soils and Land Resources Research

Remote students: Some courses are offered in flexible and external mode.

Cross-campus considerations: In 2007, the Schools of Agronomy and Horticulture (Gatton) and Land and Food Sciences (St Lucia) merged to create the new School of Land, Crops and Food Sciences. There are a number of implications for duplication of resources as students in this School are located at Gatton (internal and external) whilst others are located at St Lucia.

Centres associated with the School:

- Centre for Native Floriculture
- Centre for Nutrition and Food Sciences
- Centre for Spray Technology Application, Research and Training
- UHT Centre (Australian Dairy Industry Centre for UHT Processing)
- Analytical Services Unit
- Tropical and Sub-Tropical Weeds Research Unit
- Honey Research Unit
- Central Glasshouse Services Unit

3. Description of the collection

In 1990 the Queensland Agricultural College (QAC) was amalgamated with the University of Queensland. The library formed the basis of the Gatton Library. The Gatton Library collection is at the undergraduate and certificate level and reflects the applied science nature of the courses. The collection also supports postgraduate and research activities. The Biological Sciences Library collection is adequate to support both undergraduate, postgraduate and research activities of the School. Some of the notably strong areas at the Biological Sciences Library are plant improvement, plant breeding, plant biotechnology, soils and soil sciences, agroforestry and sustainable agriculture, agriculture extension, soil conservation, conservation of natural resources, and food science and technology. Tropical agriculture and field crops are also well represented.

In early 2000 the University Librarian prepared a submission requesting additional funding to enhance the collection to support the new programs to be offered at the Gatton Campus. As a result of this submission 1 million dollars over five years was allocated to the Gatton Library to upgrade the collection.

The Library has many electronic databases that are accessible in all branch libraries and from home or office. These include:

- CAB Abstracts;
- Biosis Previews;
- Agriculture and Natural Resources Index;
- Web of Science.

The Library also has electronic access to collections of full text journals including:

- Cambridge Journals Online, ;
- Oxford University Press;
- Blackwell Science Journals;
- CSIRO Online Journals;
- Springer
- Elsevier ScienceDirect.

4. Interdisciplinary relationships

The School of Land, Crop and Food Sciences shares common areas of interest with other Schools within the Faculty e.g. the School of Integrative Systems, the School of Animal Studies, the School of Life Sciences, as well as with areas such as botany, microbiology, biometrics, parasitology, microbiology, and plant pathology.

Many courses are offered at both Gatton and St Lucia campuses, and also offered externally.

Duplication of printed book titles is necessary when subjects are offered simultaneously at Gatton, St Lucia, externally and remotely.

5. Scope of current collection

- a. **Languages collected:** Principally English language.
- b. **Types (formats) of material collected:** Material is collected in all forms, both physical and electronic.
- c. **Publication dates:** Current material is collected. Older material is purchased when academic staff specially requests it.
- d. **Special considerations:** The Gatton Library supports a large number of external and remote students as many courses are offered both on campus, externally and remotely.