

## **Collection and Resources Development Policy**

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### **Agriculture**

Agriculture covers research and technologies in the production of plants and animals, and the resulting products. It also covers:

- farms and farming tools
- machinery and equipment
- soil science and cultivation
- crop and livestock management
- garden crops and horticulture
- forestry
- fishing
- animal husbandry and veterinary science
- environment and conservation
- insect culture.

#### **Collection overview**

The agricultural collection is developed to a basic information level, with concentration on Australian material and conditions, and Australia's role in the Asia-Pacific region. Australian garden history is maintained at a research level, and landscape architecture and design works specifically relating to Victorian parklands and conservation areas are collected comprehensively.

Standard reference works, particularly Australian business and trade directories, are emphasised for all areas of agriculture, including horticulture and viticulture.

Government reports are collected selectively, and are supplemented by Food and Agricultural Organisation publications. Early Australian farming journals, and bulletins published by the United States Department of Agriculture, are notable historical collection strengths.

New, traditional and alternative forms of agriculture, farming practices and horticulture practices are collected, including organic, small-scale farming, aquaculture, genetically modified crops, drought and salt tolerant plants, indigenous plants, forestry and hydroponics and conservation issues.

Environmental and conservation studies are selectively collected, with an emphasis on Victorian and major Australian environmental impact statements, important reference works and periodicals. Principal international scientific studies, conference proceedings and international agreements and protocols are selectively collected.

#### **Material not generally collected**

- specialist academic journals directed at agricultural researchers and the tertiary education sector
- textbooks covering narrow, specialised areas of agriculture, unless received through legal deposit.