

Ecosystem Services

The concept that biodiversity supplies a multitude of resources and processes to humans and our society is known as ecosystem services. Ecosystem services are vital to the profitability and survival of all primary industry systems in Australia.

Ecosystem services can be broken down into three categories that support primary industries and landholders:
provisioning, regulating and supporting services.



Provisioning

Provisioning services include:

- food,
- fuel sources,
- fibre and other raw materials,
- freshwater resources,
- medicinal resources,
- genetic resources, and
- nutrients.



Regulating

Regulating services include:

- local climate regulation and maintaining good air quality,
- carbon storage,
- moderation of extreme events,
- wastewater treatment.
- erosion prevention,
- pollination, and
- biological control.



Supporting

Supporting services include:

- providing habitats for native and commercial animals,
- maintaining genetic diversity for adaptable native and commercial species,
- soil formation and retention, and
- water cycling.

