

"The past experience of the authors ensures a very high pedigree for the book. It will stand alongside Stearn's work as an essential tool for many botanists for years to come."

R. K. BRUMMITT, ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW

EMMA SHORT worked for 5 years at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK, on the *Index Kewensis* database and with R. K. Brummitt on *Authors of Plant Names*. She checked Latin for *Australian Systematic Botany* for 18 years, worked as a freelance translator, and has taught courses in Botanical Latin.

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Latin is one of two acceptable languages for describing new plants, and taxonomists must be able to translate earlier texts in Latin. Providing a simple explanation of Latin grammar, along with an in-depth vocabulary, this is an indispensable guide for systematic botanists worldwide.

All relevant parts of speech are discussed, with accompanying examples as well as worked exercises for translating diagnoses and descriptions to and from Latin. Guidelines for forming specific epithets are also included. The authors cross-reference their grammar to Stearn's *Botanical Latin* and to articles in the *International Code of Nomenclature for Algae, Fungi and Plants*. The comprehensive vocabulary is enhanced with terms from recent glossaries for non-flowering plants – lichens, mosses, algae, fungi and ferns – making this an ideal resource for anyone looking to hone their understanding of Latin grammar and to translate botanical texts from the past 300 years.



COVER ILLUSTRATION: *Eucalyptus caesia* (Myrtaceae), a rare shrubby species from Western Australia, now widely cultivated as an ornamental. Of Greek derivation, *Eucalyptus* means 'well covered', in reference to the bud cap.

COVER DESIGN: Charmaine Cave, Cave Design
(www.cavedesign.com.au).

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