

# Curriculum Vitae

James Hill

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Education: Bachelor of Science with Honours



## Environmental Management Skills and Experience

- Project management, specifically focusing on tropical plant ecology including research design and implementation, data collection, data analysis, final synthesis and publication
- Teaching and training groups in ecological and botanical processes
- Propagation of tropical plant species
- Determination of plant species with desiccation – sensitive seeds
- Identification of “die-back” associated with *Phytophthora cinnamomi* within tropical forests
- Vegetation surveys in both wet and dry tropical ecosystems
- Monitoring and assessing mine regeneration

## Education and Employment

### Education

- **Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)** 2010 - current
  - James Cook University, Cairns
  - “The effects of changing climates on seed production and viability on tropical plant species”
- **Bachelor of Science (Honours)** 2002- 2003
  - James Cook University, Cairns
  - “Pollination biology of the rainforest understorey trees *Pseuduvaria froggattii* and *P. mulgraveana* var. *glabrescens*.”
- **Bachelor of Science (Botany major)** 1998 – 2002
  - James Cook University, Cairns



## Employment

### ▪ Environmental Scientist

08/2010 - current

Biotropica Australia Pty Ltd

Tarzali, Atherton Tablelands, Queensland

- Extensive field surveys and production of 40 environmental management plans for Ergon Energy Australia throughout Queensland. Duties included- plant identification (especially declared weeds and rare and threatened species), identification of animal habitats, production of management plans under the code of practice, remote area field work, understanding of the local, state and federal acts regarding pest and rare and threatened plants and regional ecosystems
- Field surveying and environmental management plan production for Main Roads Queensland (through Environment North) throughout Queensland. Duties included- surveying for rare and threatened plants and animals and understanding their local, state and federal legislation, regional ecosystems identification and ground confirmation, identification of animal habitat sites and structural environmental features identification (watercourses, soil changes, topographical variations)
- Nursery management and training of environmental staff at Ok Tedi Mining Limited. Specific duties include the development of a training packages focused on extended seed storage as well as conducting flora and weed surveys
- Flora and weed surveys with Coffey Environments for the PNG-LNG project. Duties included identification of rare and threatened PNG plant species; the identification of weed species; the construction of reports.
- Undertaking field identification of flora species within mine rehabilitation areas in Cape York to monitor and assess seedling recruitment. Responsibilities included managing a small team of staff and client liaison.



- **Botanist** 05/2010 - 08/2010

RPS Consultants

Cairns, Queensland

- Conduct flora surveys to monitor land rehabilitation within mine sites within tropical Australia
- Monitor and assess seedling recruitment
- Weed surveys

- **PHD Research** 08/2004 - 06/2009

- **Laboratory Coordinator 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year Botany** 07/2009 – 05/2010

James Cook University

Cairns, Queensland

- Teach laboratory techniques to identify different form and function within the plant and fungi kingdoms
- Teach plant species identification using botanical keys
- Introduce methods for identifying and surveying different vegetation types

- **Research Assistant** 07/2003 – 07/2004

Canopy Crane Research Facility

Cape Tribulation, Far North Queensland

- Crane driver
- Implement ecological experiments within the rainforest canopy
- Maintain existing research by gathering and analysing samples and data
- Educate small groups on biological processes within the rainforest canopy
- Identify and locate specific tree species using the tower crane for visiting researchers



- **Research Assistant**

05/2002- 05/2003

James Cook University

- Identification of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* within dieback patches
- Sampling *P. cinnamomi* in remote locations, on a variety of soil types and at altitude within The Wet Tropics World Heritage Area
- Soil sampling in die-back affected areas
- Lupin baiting for *P. cinnamomi* and analysis
- Development and implementation of control measures to reduce the spread of *P. cinnamomi*
- Identification of tree species that are susceptible to *P. cinnamomi*

## Additional Competencies

- Queensland Drivers Licence Class C
- Tower Crane Licence
- Senior First Aid
- Applying Risk Management Processes (QLD TAFE)
- Queensland White card

## Awards and Scholarships

- Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) Scholarship 2004-2007
- Rainforest Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) funding grant (2005 and 2006)



## Professional Memberships and Affiliations

- Member of the Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation

## Publications

- Hill, J. P. & Edwards, W. "Dispersal of desiccation sensitive seeds is not coincident with high rainfall within a seasonal tropical forest in Australia", *Biotropica*, **42**: 271-275, 2010.
- Hill, J. P. & Franks, W. "How long does it take for different seeds to dry?", *Functional Plant Biology*, **37**: 575-583, 2010.

## Referees

- **Will Edwards**

Senior Lecturer

James Cook University

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