

Glossary

anadromous – (of fish) migrating from salt water to fresh water to spawn

calcium oxalate – a combination of calcium ions and oxalic acid found in some plants that can produce sores and numbing if too much is ingested

catkins – slim, cylindrical flower clusters, which are usually drooping

coniferous – (of tree or shrub) producing cones or fruit and having leaves that do not fall off in winter; known as evergreen

deciduous – (of tree or shrub) shedding its leaves annually

dimorphic – having two distinct forms

endangered – seriously at risk of extinction

epiphyte – a plant that grows on another plant for physical support, but is not parasitic

indigenous – native; originating or occurring naturally in a particular place or environment

Indigenous people – first people

lichen – an organism that arises from algae living among fungi species in a mutually beneficial relationship

mollusk – an invertebrate that has a soft, unsegmented body and lives in damp habitats; most mollusks (like snails and mussels) have shells

nocturnal – active at night

omnivore – an animal that eats food of both plant and animal origin

oxalic acid – a toxic, organic compound that occurs naturally in many plants

rhizomes – a continuously growing horizontal underground stem which puts out lateral shoots and roots

sori – groups of sporangia, which contain spores and are usually found on the underside of the leaf blade.

symbiotic – involving interaction between two different organisms living in close physical relationship; a mutually beneficial association

threatened – at risk of being endangered