

Table 13.1 Ireland's Biodiversity – Estimated Number of Species
(Botanic Gardens, 2008; Birdwatch Ireland, 2008; DAHGI, 1998)

Taxonomic Group	Approximate Number of Species
Vascular plants	812 native flowering plants; 3 native conifers; 1,108 alien seed plants; 78 native ferns
Bryophytes	584 mosses; 228 liverworts; 3 hornworts
Algae	700-1,000 desmids (freshwater microalgae); 579 marine
Lichens	957
Lichenicolous fungi	150
Fungi	>3,500
Mammals	~35 terrestrial; 24 whale and dolphin species observed
Birds	~450 observed; ~200 regularly occurring
Reptiles	3
Amphibians	3
Freshwater fish	28
Invertebrates	~16,000
Microbes	Unknown