

SPECIES  2000

Catalogue of Life

Indexing The World's Known Species

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Vision



Frank A. Bisby 1945 - 2011

“Let’s bring together the knowledge of the global taxonomic community in a single shared authoritative system on species concepts that can be used by all”.

1996

What is the Catalogue of Life?

- **A Resource ...**
- an electronic synonymic species checklist,
- a tightly integrated taxonomic hierarchy,
- intended for all 1.9 M extant known species
- **.... constructed through international collaboration**
- checklist and hierarchy constructed from sectors from many networked taxonomic databases around the world
- and integrated via scrutiny by international editorial panel

Catalogue of Life: 2015 Annual Checklist



contains contributions from **151 databases**

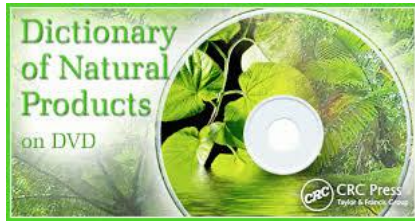
with information on **1,606,554 species** and **150,118 infraspecific taxa** which belong to **143,327 genera**, **8,276 families**, **1,035 orders**, **234 classes**, **81 phyla** and **7 kingdoms** plus viruses;

it also includes **1,322,911 synonyms** and **329,997 common names**

CoL Editions & Services

- Regular monthly editions online
- CoL monthly releases can be followed via twitter and www.catalogueoflife.org/col
- Latest CoL edition (May 2015) covers ALL families of flowering plants with global checklists
- Webservices
- Darwin Core Archive Download Service

Users



EMBL-EBI



European Environment Agency



GBIF



Priorities

- Completing the remaining 15%
- Improving synonym coverage
- Supporting the GSD provider network
- Including Fossil names
- Upgrading the CoL e-Infrastructure
- Collaborations to improve interoperability with other biodiversity initiatives

Thank you!

www.catalogueoflife.org

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