Bibliography of Life: a freely accessible bibliography of every taxonomic paper ever published

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Bibliography of Life
a freely accessible bibliography of every taxonomic paper ever published†

The vision
To assist the taxonomist locate and manage accurate bibliographic references‡.

The solution
The Bibliography of Life platform is developed within the EU FP7 project ViBRANT and consists of two components - RefBank and ReFinder.

Both are to be closely integrated into Scratchpads and Pensoft Writing Tool, so that access to accurate bibliographic information is seamlessly incorporated into a researcher’s workflow encouraging contributions.

RefBank is a network of servers to store, deduplicate and parse bibliographic references. Users can load, edit and delete references. Provenance data is recorded, see top right corner in the screenshot below. Hence, citizen scientists can contribute as well as professional researchers. RefBank provides a curated in depth view of bibliographic references.

ReFinder is designed to discover and download references from a wide range of open access online bibliographies, such as CrossRef, PubMed, Mendeley, Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL), BioStor, BioNames and others. ReFinder also searches RefBank, of course. ReFinder provides the breadth of coverage of bibliographic references to complete the bibliography of life.

The problem
Rich Pyle devised the metaphor of a dirty bucket, containing every reference of whatever quality, and a clean bucket, containing useful references only. The bibliography of life addresses the problem of getting references from the dirty one to clean one.

Demonstrations
See RefBank and ReFinder in action during the demonstration sessions on Thursday 5th September. ReFinder is D8. RefBank is D9.

The tools also feature in Friday morning’s workshop: Bibliographies in a changing landscape.

We look forward to meeting you.

References
‡ King D, Morse DR, Willis A, Dil A (2011) Towards the bibliography of life. In: Smith V, Penev L (Eds) e-Infrastructures for data publishing in biodiversity science. ZooKeys 150: 151–166. doi: 10.3897/zookeys.150.2167

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