

Migration of the Catalogue of Afrotropical Bees into TaxonWorks

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Abstract

The Catalogue of Afrotropical Bees provides a comprehensive checklist of species of bees known from Sub-Saharan Africa and the western Indian Ocean islands, excluding the honey bee (*Apis mellifera* Linnaeus) (Eardley and Urban 2010). The checklist has a detailed bibliography of the group, distribution records, and biological associations (visited flowers, host plants, plants used as nests, as well as parasitoids). The database, which was originally built in [Microsoft Access](#), and later managed using [Specify Software](#), was recently migrated to TaxonWorks. [TaxonWorks](#) is an integrated, web-based platform designed specifically for the needs of practicing taxonomists and biodiversity scientists, and maintained by the [SpeciesFile Group](#). TaxonWorks has a variety of tools that were designed to help import, manage, validate, and package data for future exports (e.g., in the Darwin Core-Archives (DwC-A; GBIF 2021) or Catalogue of Life's [COL-DP](#) formats). Although TaxonWorks has batch upload functionality (e.g., in Darwin Core-Archive, [BibTeX](#) format), the complexity of the original dataset (Fig. 1) required special handling, and a custom migration was built to transfer the data from the original format. TaxonWorks could now be used to produce a paper-style catalogue or share the data via the TaxonWorks public interface, [TaxonPages](#).

Keywords

checklist, Hymenoptera, nomenclature, biological associations, TaxonPages

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Conflicts of interest

The authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

References

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Figure 1.

Data stats from the TaxonWorks representation of the Catalogue of Afrotropical Bees.