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SciName Finder™

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Abstract

Scientific names are necessary in food composition databases and scientific publications, to precisely identify plants and animals. A new internet site - SciName FinderTM (http://www.sciname.info/) - has recently been created as a tool to search scientific and vernacular/common names of plants and animals in authoritative sources. The database links into authoritative sources and currently contains 1,075,981 scientific and common/vernacular names. Danish Food Information has decided to provide access free of charge to other users.

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Keywords: Scientific names, Botanical names, Authoritative sources, Food description

1. Authoritative sources of food names

Scientific names are necessary in food composition databases and scientific publications, to precisely identify plants and animals. Food names should always be taken from authoritative sources, as secondary sources often contain errors. A new internet site - SciName FinderTM [1] - has been created by Danish Food Information as a tool to search scientific and vernacular/common names of plants and animals from authoritative sources, and the tool plays an integrated role concerning the update of the LanguaLTM thesaurus [2].

2. Description of website

2.1. SciName FinderTM search interface

The SciName Finder[™] search interface is very simple, and searches are successful when only a few parameters - scientific or common name - can be chosen. In addition, there is a choice to search on only valid taxons (only preferred/stabilized names will be shown in the search result) or all taxons (all records - both valid taxons and invalid taxons/synonyms/misspellings will be shown).

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The SciName FinderTM search is based on online databases, and the search result is a list of all records in the connected database(s) that contain the search term in either scientific name or common name. For example, a search on "gadus" in scientific name will generate a list of all records containing "gadus" in the scientific name (Figure 1). The search results can be sorted by scientific name, kingdom (animalia, plantae, etc.) and originating resource/database.

The search results are always listed with the scientific name as entry. The scientific name is given with the record number in the originating database (e.g. ITIS TSN [3], FAO AFSIS 3-alpha-code [4]) and its status (Valid, Invalid, or Accepted). If the scientific name is preferred/stabilized (i.e., the scientific name

Search for scientifi	c and commor	n names of plants and anima	S		
SciName Finder™ is a search tool for scientific/common names of plants and animals written by Anders Møller, Danish Food Information - current databases connected: Australian Fish Names Standard® AS SA 5300-2009, CEC 1993, Danish Plant Name List 2003, eBASIS/EuroFIR Nettox Plan List 2007, FAO AFSIS, FishBase 2004, 2010 FDA Seafood List, FDA Regulatory Fish Encyclopedia, ITIS, Mammal Species of the World (3rd Ed.), USI ARS GRIN, USDA PLANTS. The SciName Finder™ database currently contains 1075981 scientific and common/vernacular names.					
in 💿 scientific name or	C common name			Show only valid taxons	• or all taxons
		Sort by	Scientific Name	Kingdom Database	188 records four
Arctogadus borisovi					
2010 FDA Seafood List	Website				
Status:	Valid				
Vernacular name(s)	Common Name:	Toothed Cod			
	Market Name:	Cod			
	Other Name(s):	East Siberian Cod			
Arctogadus borisovi Di FAO ASFIS 3-alpha-code					
Status:	Valid				
Vernacular name(s)	English:	East Siberian cod			
Arctogadus borisovi D	ryagin, 1932				
FishBase ID:	1871				
Status:	Valid				
Vernacular name(s)	Danish:	Borisovs istorsk, Borisovs torsk			
	English:	East Siberian cod, Toothed cod			
	French:	Saïda barbu			
	Mandarin Chinese:	鲍氏極館			
	Polish:	Dorsz wschodniosyberyjski			
	Russian:	треска восточносибирская			

Fig.1.SciName Finder[™] search

is currently in force), the record number will link back to the originating databases for all possible records with further information.

If the status of the term is non-preferred (i.e. invalid, not accepted), this means that the corresponding scientific name is a synonym of a preferred scientific name or a spelling mistake by original author(s). All comments, e.g. on the status of the scientific name, are given with the terminology used in the originating database. Therefore, explanations and further information should be traced to the originating database using the link situated after the comment.

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