■ A NEW AND IMPROVED ONLINE CATALOGUE OF ALL EXTANT VASCULAR PLANT NAMES AVAILABLE

A new taxonomic reference list for all known extant vascular plants, the Leipzig Catalogue of Vascular Plants (LCVP - Freiberg & al., 2020), is now available for download (https://idata.idiv.de/ ddm/Data/ShowData/1806; https://doi.org/10.25829/idiv.1806-40-3009, Fig. 1). The LCVP has significantly increased the knowledge about vascular plant names globally. The catalogue consists of a simple text list of 1,315,562 records of all published names of vascular plants, including 351,180 accepted species names, 48,257 infraspecific taxon names, and 846,279 synonyms. More than 4500 published papers, most dating from 2000 to April 2020, as well as several large-scale online databases, were consulted to guarantee the consideration of the most recent phylogenetic and evolutionary evidence for the position of the genera in families and orders, and for providing sound arguments for acceptance or rejection of a species or genus name. All references used in compiling the list are cited in the catalogue and are linked to the respective taxon names. The LCVP has reduced the number of unresolved species names from ~181,000 to ~63,000 and increased the number of accepted species (incl. infraspecific taxa) names by >70,000, compared to The Plant List (http://www.theplantlist.org/), which is generally recognized as outdated, but still widely used (e.g., in macroecology), partly because of its implementation in several software tools for taxonomic harmonization. The LCVP is implemented in a user-friendly R-package (https://github.com/idiv-biodiversity/lcvplants) to facilitate accessibility to the data and its application.

The LCVP constitutes a useful reference taxonomic backbone for systematists, biogeographers, macroecologists, and plant conservationists.

Acknowledegments

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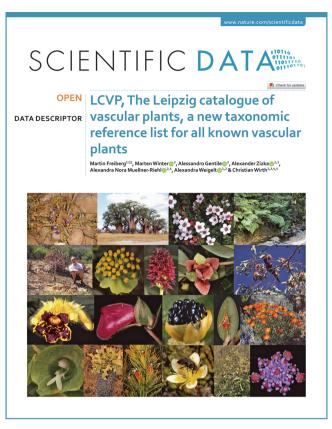


Fig. 1. The Leipzig Catalogue of Vascular Plants is now available for download.

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