

The **bionet*** bulletin is published by **BioNET-INTERNATIONAL's** Secretariat. It is available in English, Spanish and French and online @ www.bionet-intl.org.

BioNET is a not-for-profit initiative that promotes taxonomy via capacity building, advocacy and its affiliated local partnerships (LOOPs) so that all countries can know and identify their biodiversity and thereby address sustainable development and conservation priorities. BioNET is donor funded; this publication and other international work is currently supported by a grant from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

New Developments

BioNET-ASEANET: First Asia regional DNA barcode meeting

Report from Banpot Napompath, Thailand's BioNET-ASEANET Coordinating Committee Member: The Regional Barcode Meeting for South, East and Southeast Asia was organized by the Consortium for the Barcode of Life (CBOL) in partnership with BioNET and the Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan on 21 September 2007. The meeting of leading biodiversity researchers and policy makers was devoted to discussing potential applications of barcoding to meet the highest priorities of the region. It was organized in conjunction with the 2nd International Barcode of Life Conference and a Short Course on Lab and Data Protocols for Barcoding. Altogether, 371 participants from 47 countries attended events over 5 days. [More...](#)

BioNET in Focus - European Distributed Institute of Taxonomy

The fifth and latest edition of the EDIT newsletter has an extended feature on BioNET; click [here](#) and see the "Focus" section. EDIT is currently supported by the EC as a Network of Excellence, incorporating 27 major taxonomic institutions from across the EU and beyond.

BioNET: How taxonomy is helping African farmers protect their tomatoes from the spider mite

During the last two decades small-scale farmers in southern Africa faced increasing problems with spider mites (*Acar*) on tomatoes. The mites caused devastating losses of up to 90% of the yield. In case study 40 in the Why Taxonomy Matters series, scientists from ICIPE, Kenya, describe the vital role of taxonomy in solving the problem. [More...](#)

Dr Paul Kirk honoured with first European Mycological Association award for outstanding contributions to mycology

The Governing Committee of the European Mycological Association (EMA) has decided unanimously to grant its first award to Dr Paul Kirk of CABI. The award was made in recognition of Dr Kirk's substantial contribution to mycology in general and his outstanding contribution to fungal nomenclature in particular through his work to establish and maintain [IndexFungorum](#), the world database of fungal names which is already, de facto, the global standard. The award was made at the General Assembly of the EMA in St Petersburg on 21st September 2007. BioNET is delighted to see Dr Kirk's achievements recognised by the EMA and extends hearty congratulations. For more on the EMA, click [here](#).

Colombian invasive species database

The Alexander von Humboldt Institute invite you to explore the Colombian invasive species database, now available [online](#). The development of the content of this database was made possible in part by a content building grant from the Inter American Biodiversity

Information Network. The database will be an important tool to build national diagnostic ability and a national strategy on invasive species in Colombia.

Invasive weed strangles Zambian park

An invasive shrub is upsetting the ecological balance of national parks in Zambia's Kafue Flats and could drive away tourism. A study by the Environmental Council of Zambia (ECZ) shows that the weed *Mimosa pigra* has covered around 2,900 hectares of the Kafue Flats. [More...](#) Source: [SciDev.net](#)

Web2ForDev 2007

Web2ForDev 2007 is the first conference devoted to exploring ways in which international development stakeholders can take advantage of the technical and organisational opportunities provided by Web 2.0 methods, approaches and applications. Initiated by CTA, the event was organised in Rome, Italy by CTA, FAO, IICD, GTZ and CGIAR. Everyone is invited to follow the [results](#) and to share their experience in the area on the [blog](#).

Publications

GBits. No. 1 - October 2007

The new Newsletter from the Global Biodiversity Information Facility. [Read...](#)
Contributions welcome, Email: anmnielsen@gbif.org

Handbook of Small Grain Insects

This comprehensive colour guide examines the biology and management of arthropod pests and beneficial species of small grain crops. 58 entomologists with expertise on specific pest groups have provided the most up-to-date information available. The crops covered are wheat, barley, oats, rye, and triticale. If you are interested in reviewing this book, please send your request with details of your publication to Richard Levine, Tel: 301-731-4535, ext. 3009, Email: rlevine@entsoc.org Price: USD\$59.00 plus S&H

e-Agriculture.org: New Website

[e-Agriculture](#) is a global initiative to enhance sustainable agricultural development and food security by improving the use of information, communication, and associated technologies in the sector. The overall aim is to enable members to exchange opinions, experiences, good practices and resources related to e-agriculture, and to ensure that the knowledge created is effectively shared and used worldwide.

CTA Brussels Newsletter

The Newsletter shares information on key ACP-EU programmes and events from Brussels relevant to agriculture and rural development in ACP countries. Available in English and French. [Read...](#)

New publications from CABI

- * Organic Farming: An international history
- * Forestry and climate change
- * Impact of science on African agriculture and food security

Email: orders@cabi.org

Grants

The Royal Museum for Central Africa (RMCA): New call for Scholarships

RMCA, Belgium, announces a new call for scholarships for scientific study visits on biodiversity in African Zoology and Wood Biology. The programme targets African scientists and doctoral students. Scholarships are awarded for research projects that fit development cooperation obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity, involving RMCA collections and/or staff experience and contributing to identification, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. **Closing date:** 17 December 2007. **Tel:** +32-2-7695342, **Fax:** +32-2-7670242, **Email:** muriel.van.nuffel@africamuseum.be [More...](#)

Five training scholarships: African fishes

The Ichthyology section of the Royal Museum for Central Africa (RMCA), Tervuren, Belgium, is organizing a training session on FISHBASE and fish taxonomy. Five scholarships are available. The target group is for African scientists with an interest and expertise in African fishes, preferably freshwater fishes, and their biology. Training period: 7th April to 27th June 2008. **Closing date:** 17 December 2007. [More...](#)

Systematics Research Fund 2007

The Councils of the Linnean Society and the Systematics Association jointly administer the SRF fund. Applications of all nationalities are welcome, and need not be members of either the Systematics Association or the Linnean Society of London. Click [here](#) to apply. **Closing date:** 31 December 2007. **Email:** systresfund2007@googlemail.com

Enhancing the value of crop diversity - call for proposals

The Global Crop Diversity Trust is initiating a competitive grants scheme to support the evaluation of genetic resources. The Trust will provide approximately 20–25 grants annually, to enable breeders and others to screen germplasm collections for important characteristics and to make the information generated publicly available. [Announcement](#). [Proposal Template](#). [Terms and Conditions](#). *Source:* [Plant Genetic Resources News from the Pacific](#).

Call for proposals — Accessing patented knowledge for innovation

A Call for Proposals on how developing countries can access technologies and information contained in existing patents to enhance innovative research at the national level. This call for proposals is limited to developing country institutions. **Closing date:** 30 November 2007. [More...](#)

Vacancies

Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF): Head of Informatics

The [GBIF](#) Secretariat seeks a highly experienced Informatics/IT Programme Manager to lead their Informatics team in the ongoing development of our informatics services and internal IT systems. The Secretariat is located in Copenhagen, Denmark. **Email:** HOIpost@gbif.org [More...](#)

Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA): Capacity Development Coordinator

WIOMSA is a regional, professional and non-governmental organization based in Zanzibar, Tanzania. It is dedicated to promoting the educational, scientific and technological development of all aspects of coastal and marine sciences throughout the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region. Email: secretary@wiomsa.org [Details](#).

BioNET LOOP contacts

Established LOOPS

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WAFRINET [profile](#)

<http://www.iita.org/wafrinet/>

Regional Coordinator:

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SACNET – South Asia

<http://www.biodiversityasia.org/sacnet>

Interim Regional Coordinating Institute: IUCN-

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LOOPS under development

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Southern Cone - [profile](#)

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