

Pladias Database Management and Access Rules

Approved on 27 July 2016

1) Status and purpose of the Pladias Database

The Pladias Database contains critically revised data on the Czech flora and vegetation managed by the Department of Botany and Zoology, Faculty of Science, Masaryk University (MU) and the Institute of Botany, The Czech Academy of Sciences (IBOT), including data files provided by other institutions or individuals (hereafter "providers"). Its aim is to promote the use of data on plant diversity in the Czech Republic for the purposes of scientific research, education, nature conservation and environmental assessment. The decisions about the concept of the database, inclusion of specific data files and data provision are made by the Management Board of the Pladias Database (hereafter "Governing Board", Appendix 1), which follows these Rules and respects the interests and rights of the individual providers.

2) Storing data in the Pladias Database

The decisions about including particular data files in the database are taken by the Governing Board. The provider is responsible for obtaining permission to transmit data to the Pladias Database from any other parties that may have property or intellectual rights to these data or their subsets. The provider of each data set specifies to what extent and under what conditions the data may be used or provided to third parties. The Governing Board favours the widest possible public availability of data, while respecting the rights of providers to restrict public access to their data and complying with the conditions of use set by the providers.

3) Providing data from the Pladias Database

The Pladias Database contains

- a) public data that are freely available and can be viewed or downloaded from the Pladias website without registration;
- b) public data that are freely available but can only be viewed or downloaded from the Pladias website after registration and login;
- c) non-public data.

Public data (both freely available and available after registration) can be used for basic and applied scientific research, teaching, nature conservation and environmental assessment. Their potential use for commercial purposes is subject to approval by the Governing Board or the provider of particular data subsets. The use of data for the purposes of funded projects or expert reports by governmental, educational and research institutions, and NGOs is not considered commerce.

Non-public data can be provided upon request sent by e-mail to members of the Management Board (Appendix 1). The application must contain a delimitation of the extent of the data required, description of the purpose of their use and specification of the final product (e.g. publication, research report or educational presentation). If the expected use of the data assumes cooperation of several people, a nominal list is added to the application. The decision about the provision of data on species traits and conditions for their use for a given purpose is

made by their provider or, in the case of trait data owned by MU or IBOT, or species distribution data, by the Governing Board.

4) Responsibilities of Pladias Database users

When using data from the Pladias Database (including distribution maps) in publications, research reports or for teaching and public presentations, the user specifies the data source "Pladias – A Database of Czech Flora and Vegetation, www.pladias.org", or (especially in the scientific literature) cites the article with a basic description of the database (after it is published). When using species distribution data, the user also cites the article about the species distribution database (after it is published). When using specific plant trait data or species lists the user also cites the original sources referred to in the Pladias Database. When using texts or images that the Pladias Database has taken from published sources (especially Flora of the Czech Republic, Vegetation of the Czech Republic, Phytocartographic Syntheses of the Czech Republic and articles with species distribution maps published in the journal *Preslia*), the user cites only the published sources. When using images of plants or vegetation types from the Pladias Database website the user quotes the author of the image and the source "www.pladias.org".

Public or non-public data obtained from the Pladias Database must not to be transferred to other institutions or persons, or posted on the Internet. The exception is sharing them with colleagues working on a project that uses specific data (in the case of non-public data after prior approval by the provider or by the Governing Board).

The user of data obtained from the Pladias Database helps to improve the quality of the database by reporting any detected errors in the data to the Governing Board or the provider of the particular data file.

Appendix 1 to the Pladias Database Management and Access Rules

The Governing Board of the Pladias Database, established 1 January 2016, has the following composition:

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