PP-591 [Pollination and Bee Flora]
PMS: The data standard of the pollinator community

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and accessibility across scientific, conservation, and policy-making communities. Pollinators, essential for ecosystem health and agricultural productivity, face increasing threats from habitat loss, climate change, and pesticide use. Comprehensive and harmonised data collection and sharing are imperative to address these challenges. The Pollinator Metadata Standard (PMS), developed under the auspices of Apimondia Working Group 12 on Standardization of data on bees and beekeeping, provides a robust framework for standardising pollinator and beekeeping-related terms, ensuring consistency and clarity in data representation.

PMS evolved from the BeeXML standard (https://beexml.org/). It is designed to facilitate the integration of diverse datasets by defining a taxonomy of classes, descriptors, and units essential for accurate data comparison and analysis. The standard operates through a collaborative, software-based process, allowing registered users to propose, discuss, and approve terms traceably and counts 473 Metadata Standard Elements, built on a Controlled Vocabulary of about 8.000 terms. This process ensures that data elements are linguistically precise, scientifically accurate, and universally applicable across different languages and regions. Implementing PMS within platforms such as the EU Pollinator Hub (https://pollinatorhub.eu) exemplifies its practical application, enabling the management of datasets through a structured and transparent workflow.

PMS ensures that pollinator data are consistently defined, translated, and updated, fostering global collaboration and data sharing. By adhering to PMS, researchers, policymakers, and conservationists can more effectively monitor pollinator populations, assess threats, and implement targeted conservation strategies by bringing together data from different sources. This standardisation effort represents a significant achievement of Apimondia WG 12, advancing pollinator research and contributing to preserving biodiversity and ecosystem services.