



Archaeobotanical Database of Eastern Mediterranean and Near Eastern sites

How to use the database – a short tutorial

Introduction

For the free use of the archaeological database of the Eastern Mediterranean and the Near East for searching information on the distribution of specific plant species in different periods and areas you need to register on the login page.

Structure and content

This relational database was created using Microsoft Access and modified for an appropriate use in the internet (migration to MySQL Server). Inquiries on numerical data and the online production of distribution maps are limited at the moment, and will be available after the second part of the project focussing on statistical analysis of the data is finished. Users may reference many relevant data on archaeological sites, dates, composition of samples, abundance of taxa, and references. The database can provide distribution maps of crop plants.

Registration and login process

The database is a public service and free of registration fees. To register you need a valid email address. After registration you will automatically receive your password by email. You may then login with your login-ID and your password. After logging in you will arrive at the query page.

Altering the user account data

For changing your password, please login. Next go to the "data base start page: registration & login" and follow the instructions for "changing user data". You may also delete your user account, if you no longer need it.

Querying the database using the online search form

The web formular allows you to request lists of sites and taxa (options A and B), and parameter directed queries (options C and D). Choose a search option (A to D) and click the submit button below to get the results of the database query on the next page. With options C and D you can narrow down the results by selecting different search criteria. Keep in mind the

selecting different criteria at the same time may have the consequence that no data will match these criteria. In case of A, B, and C the results are shown in a table. D offers the possibility of creating an online distribution map for a selections of archaeobotanical taxa.

(A) If you want to know which archaeological sites are included in the database, option A provides a complete list of sites. The site names are connected via hyperlinks that lead to the archaeobotanical bibliography of each site.

(B) If you want to know which taxa are included in the database, by using option B you may obtain the complete taxa list with additional information about botanical affiliation and preferred natural location.

(C) For more concrete queries you may want to select option C. If you want to know the proportions of taxa found in a specific site or region, you need the data for a specific period from a multi-period site only, or you want to know where a specific taxon, genus or family is recorded, choose the criteria from the drop down menus and submit your query.

(D) If you want to see the spatial distribution of archaeobotanical data for a specific period or taxon, select the criteria in the drop down menus and a distribution map is created. At the moment this service is possible for a selection of domestic taxa only.

Saving the search results to a local drive

To save your search results for requests conducted under A to C go to link "create a downloadable text file (format .csv) with the current search results" below the result list, and follow the instructions. You can directly open your downloaded file with Excel or another spreadsheet application. To save your distribution map you may either press the right mouse button or use the hyperlink below the map. References may be marked and copied into your text processing application.

Problems and questions

In case of technical problems or subject related questions, please contact *christoph.kuemmel@uni-tuebingen.de* or *simone.riehl@uni-tuebingen.de*.