



## **Workshop: MolluscaBase**

This workshop will build on previous meetings and workshops in the framework of MolluscaBase. During the first days, editing rules and guidelines will be discussed in detail, coming to agreements and consensus for unclear or confusing cases.

One day within the workshop will focus on possible links and collaborations with other initiatives that have access to Mollusca-related information, either on taxonomy, ecology or images.

The last part of the workshop will build on previous efforts to add and consolidate attributes/traits for all molluscs in MolluscaBase. As the classification of the Mollusca is highly predictive for natural history traits, MolluscaBase can be enriched with such traits relatively easily, through the top-down implemented hierarchy of traits in the database.

The benefit of a workshop in terms of group dynamics cannot be underestimated. Some editors have not yet been part of such a workshop, and this workshop ideally brings together the majority of the MolluscaBase editors.

### ***Aims:***

The aims are directly linked with the above information:

- Learn the newly involved editors how to work with the online editing interface
- Explore links and collaborations with related initiatives
- Validate existing traits information and add new traits for Mollusca

### ***Venue:***

Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ) – Wandelaarkaai 7, 8400 Oostende

- 3-7 February 2020

### ***Participants:***

Full workshop: Philippe Bouchet, Serge Gofas, David Guy Herbert, Ulrich Wieneke, Rüdiger Bieler, Gary Rosenberg, Maxim Vinarski

Day 1-3: Jan Johan ter Poorten, Ira Richling, Thomas Neubauer, Barna Páll-Gergely, Simon Schneider, Eike Neubert, Ruud Bank, Chris Vos

Day 4 only: Ben Rowson, James Turner, Frans Sliecker, Philippe Poppe

DMT: Leen Vandepitte, Stefanie Dekeyzer, Wim Decock, Bart Vanhoorne

## Sunday 2 February (day 0)

Participants meet in hotel lobby/reception at around 7:45 pm to go and share dinner in the vicinity (optional).

## Monday 3 February (day 1)

### 9h:

- Welcome [Philippe Bouchet]
- Practical information [Leen Vandepitte - DMT]
- General introduction to WoRMS [Stefanie Dekeyzer - DMT]
- Round table [all]: comments on Workshop programme
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### 10h30: coffee / tea break (30')

### 11h:

- Where are we with MolluscaBase?
  - o Statistics [DMT]
    - General
    - Proportion accepted species/synonyms with original name
    - Proportion accepted species/synonyms with original description
    - Proportion of accepted species with images
  - o What is left to cover? [all]
  - o Where do we do well? [all]
  - o Where do we do poorly? [all]
  - o Feedback from users? [DMT]

### 12h30: sandwich lunch

### 13h30:

- Debriefing – 5 minutes per editor to present involvement with MolluscaBase, including perspectives and difficulties [all participants]
- Discussion: how do we fill the remaining gaps?
- Status of "dark taxa": difference between *taxon inquirendum*, *nomen dubium*, uncertain.
- Benefit of doubt: recently described species to be displayed as valid unless synonymized.

### 15h: coffee / tea break (30')

### 15h30:

Discussion:

- Editing rules of names with subgenus
  - o When the original name included a subgenus, should we systematically also create an entry without subgenus?

- If a genus-group name was originally described at the rank of subgenus but is now accepted at the rank of genus, should the type species be attached to the subgenus or to the genus?
- Should the original bibliographical source be displayed with the subgenus or with the genus ?
- Display of species originally described in an unjustified emendation of genus name?
- Wrong gender agreement of specific epithets
  - What to record & what not to record?
- Status of subspecies.
  - Shouldn't the synonyms of subspecies be displayed also under the species?

**17h: End of day 1**

<b>Tuesday 4 February 2020 (day 2)</b>
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**9h:**

- Sum-up of day 1
- Distribution & type locality issues [Serge Gofas]

**10h30: coffee / tea break (30')**

**11h:**

- TDWG terminology for land & freshwater taxa
  - How do we display complet habitats (e.g. hypersaline or amphibious species; Ellobiidae, Succineidae, Truncatellidae)

**12h30: sandwich lunch**

**13h30:**

- Bibliographic references
  - How to display references with different dates for electronic version and for print version ? Usage of " " e.g. 1864 ["1863"].
  - Verification of nomenclatural availability of electronic publications
  - When do we allow ourselves to create a comb. nov. in MolluscaBase, and should they be flagged ?
  - Can another database be a basis of record ?
  - Preference for published source: when a published source exists, delete database (e.g. CLEMAM, FaEu, Malacolog, InverteBase) as basis of record?

**15h: coffee / tea break (30')**

**15h30:**

- Taxonomical hierarchy above superfamily.

- How many ranks do we need/do we want?
- When do we use subfamilies and when not?
- Genus-group names.
  - Use of Rocroi Index as source of attributes (date, reference, gender, type species)
  - Errors/issues to be reported to Philippe Bouchet

**17h: End of day 2**

**19h: Dinner in Ostend, offered by LifeWatch Belgium (restaurant tbd)**

**Wednesday 5 February 2020 (day 3)**

**9h:**

- How to create a context?
  - How to use MB to create regional checklists?
    - Freshwater molluscs of North America?
    - Mediterranean marine molluscs?
- Hands-on: replacement of identified homonyms [Barna Páll-Gergely]

**10h30: coffee / tea break (30')**

**11h:**

- Hands-on: replacement of identified homonyms

**12h30: sandwich lunch**

**13h30:**

- Linking original names with images of types in museums of the world.  
This is currently done for images of types in MNHN, ANSP and NMNZ  
Need for streamlining and expanding

**15h: coffee / tea break (30')**

**15h30:**

- Continuation of discussions
- Continuation of hands-on data correction & entry

**17h: End of day 3**

<b>Thursday 6 February 2020 (day 4)</b>
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**9h:**

- Collaboration with other projects, institutes, initiatives: [Serge]
  - o network of British collections
  - o Conchology Inc
  - o Museum of Rotterdam
  - o Indo-Pacific Mollusca / Malacolog
  - o Worldwide Mollusc Species Database
  - o Gastropods.com
  - o ...

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**10h30: coffee / tea break (30')**

**11h:**

- Collaboration with other projects, institutes, initiatives (continued)

**12h30: sandwich lunch**

**13h30:**

- Collaboration with other projects, institutes, initiatives (continued)

**15h: coffee / tea break (30')**

**15h30:**

- Collaboration with other projects, institutes, initiatives (continued)

**17h: End of day 3**

<b>Friday 7 February 2020 (day 5)</b>
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**9h:**

- Hands-on: addition of life history traits

**10h30: coffee / tea break (30')**

**11h:**

- Hands-on: addition of life history traits (continued)

**12h30: sandwich lunch**

**13h30:**

- Hands-on: addition of life history traits (continued)

**15h: coffee / tea break (30')**

**15h30:**

- Hands-on: addition of life history traits (continued)

**17h: End of day 5**

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