

Examples of how communities are using Scratchpads...

- Publishing new species descriptions: Taxonomists working on fungus gnats have automatically assembled a paper from data on their Scratchpad which was published in the journal ZooKeys. <http://sciaroidea.info/publication>
- Publishing species pages to Encyclopedia of Life (EOL): Taxon pages on freeloader flies are published from a Scratchpad and shown in EOL. <http://milichiidae.info>
- Managing communication for the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN): The ICZN uses a Scratchpad to publish opinions and rulings on nomenclatural issues made by the commission. <http://iczn.org>
- Preparing conservation assessments on threatened plants: A team based at Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew are using their Scratchpad to draft threat assessments for Red List indexing by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). <http://threatenedplants.myspecies.info>
- Publishing journal articles: The European Mosquito Control Association uses their Scratchpad to publish the journal European Mosquito Bulletin. <http://e-m-b.org>
- Digitisation projects: The Global Plants Initiative is compiling resources for the digitisation of herbarium specimens. <http://gpi.myspecies.info>

Explore these and other Scratchpads at <http://scratchpads.eu/thumbs>.

Getting your site

Scratchpads are free and available to anybody with natural history content of scientific interest. Visit <http://get.scratchpads.eu> to get a site.

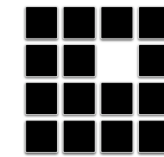
Getting help

Support to build your site is available from <http://scratchpads.eu/help>. You can:

- Try the Sandbox. A Scratchpad anyone can access for testing out functions.
- Use the help system. Help buttons are integrated into your site to provide assistance no matter what you are doing.
- Attend a training course: Events take place across Europe every year. Find an event near you at <http://scratchpads.eu/training> or try the courses online.
- Log an issue. A system connected to your site that logs support and feature requests as well as any bugs you find.
- Contact us. E-mail scratchpad@nhm.ac.uk with your questions.

Sustaining your data

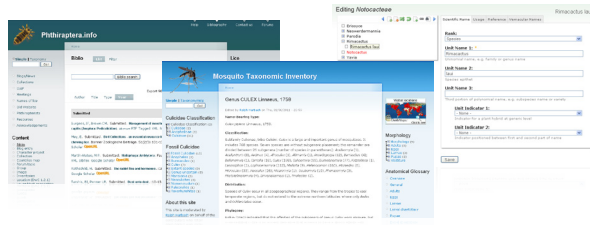
Scratchpads have been supported through the EDIT project from 2007 to 2011 (<http://e-taxonomy.eu/>) with additional funds from GBIF and the Natural History Museum, London. From late 2010 the Scratchpad technology is being further developed through the EU FP7 funded ViBRANT project (<http://vbrant.org>) and through the NERC funded e-monocot project (<http://e-monocot.org>). The NHM has guaranteed to maintain the server infrastructure hosting the Scratchpads until at least 2016.



Scratchpads
biodiversity online

A social networking tool to build, share and publish information on the diversity of life
<http://scratchpads.eu>





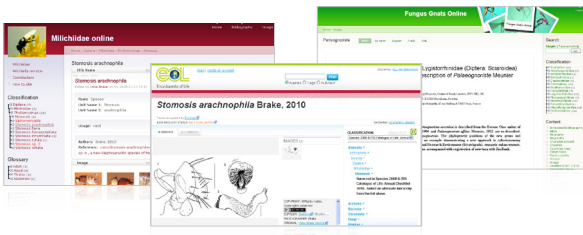
Taxonomy and Literature

Rapid upload and management of names, synonyms and bibliographic data, e.g. lice, mosquitos and notocactaeae.



Image Galleries

Rapid upload, annotation and display of images, e.g. polychaetes, fungi and nanno fossils.



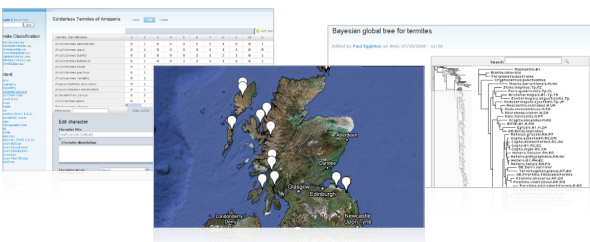
Taxon descriptions and Publications

Publication of Scratchpad data in the ZooKeys journal and export to Encyclopedia of Life, e.g. freeloader flies and fungus gnats.



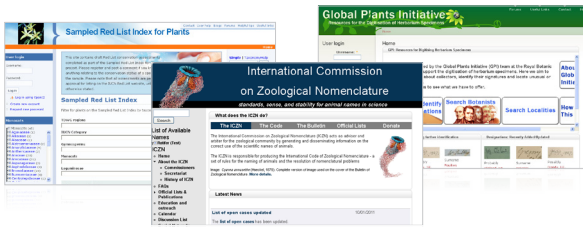
eJournals

Submission, review and dissemination of articles, e.g. European mosquito bulletin and Phasmid studies.



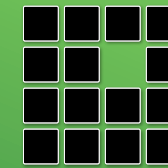
Characters, Phylogeny and Specimens

Character matrices exporting to SDD and Nexus format, phylogenies, specimen records and maps, e.g. termites and bryozoa.



Societies, Organisations and Projects

Space for data collection, services, discussion and organisation, e.g. ICZN, GBIF, Sampled Red List Index for Plants, Global Plants Initiative.



Scratchpads
biodiversity online

Scratchpads are an intuitive web-application enabling communities of taxonomists to build, share, manage and publish their data on the Web. The system allows groups of people to create their own networks supporting their research communities on the Web. The tool is flexible and scalable enough to support hundreds of networks each with their community's choice of features, visual design, and data.

In the first three years of operation the Scratchpad project has attracted over 2,000 registered contributors from more than 50 countries. Collectively these users have built 300,000 pages across 200 sites. Find out more at: <http://scratchpads.eu>.

Scratchpads are part of the EU funded ViBRANT project (<http://vibrant.eu>) and the NERC funded e-monocot project (<http://e-monocot.org>).



e-monocot
identify | classify | explore

Picture credits: <http://britishbryozoans.myspecies.info>, <http://e-m-b.org>, <http://eol.org>, <http://fungi.myspecies.info>, <http://gpi.myspecies.info>, <http://iczn.org>, <http://milichidae.info>, <http://mosquito-taxonomic-inventory.info>, <http://nannotax.org>, <http://notocactaeae.myspecies.info>, <http://phasmid-study-group.org>, <http://phtiraptera.info>, <http://polychaetes.info>, <http://sciaroidea.info>, <http://termites.myspecies.info>, <http://threatenedplants.myspecies.info>.