Electronic resources

Meiobenthic groups within the World Register of Marine Species

The aim of a World Register of Marine Species (WoRMS) is to provide an authoritative and comprehensive list of names of marine organisms, including information on synonymy. While the highest priority goes to valid names, other names in use are included so that this register can serve as a guide to interpret taxonomic literature. Next to taxonomy, the system can also store distribution information, literature, attributes or traits, specimen information including type localities and images.

The World Register of Marine Species (WoRMS) is available www.marinespecies.org. The text on the WoRMS pages is open-access under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (CC-BY), which permits unrestricted use as long as the provided citation is used. Upon request by the editors-in-charge, a dedicated portal can be created for a taxonomic group - referred to as a Global Species Database – giving more visibility to their group and recognition to the involved editors. It also allows editors to elaborate more on their group and - in some cases -adedicated news feed and twitter messages. An overview of the available registers for

Total number of species names (accepted & unaccepted) available in each group (including all environments, excluding fossil species)		
Таха	# species	Portal
Cnidaria	22 560	through WoRMS
Platyhelminthes	24 602	http://www.marinespecies.org/turbellarians/
Nemertea	2 725	http://www.marinespecies.org/nemertea/
Gnathostomulida	113	through WoRMS
Kinorhyncha	363	through WoRMS
Loricifera	28	through WoRMS
Nematoda	10 855	http://nemys.ugent.be/
Rotifera	317	through WoRMS
Gastrotricha	1 069	through WoRMS
Priapulida	21	through WoRMS
Sipuncula	1 294	through WoRMS
Annelida	25 439	through WoRMS (in part: http://www.marinespecies.org/polychaeta)
Arthropoda - Copepoda	23 071	http://www.marinespecies.org/copepoda/
Arthropoda - Halacaroidea	1462	through WoRMS
Arthropoda - Ostracoda	14 521	http://www.marinespecies.org/ostracoda/
Arthropoda - Mystacocarida	14	through WoRMS
Arthropoda - Tantulocarida	42	through WoRMS
Tardigrada	1588	http://www.marinespecies.org/tardigrada/
Mollusca	113 831	http://www.molluscabase.org/
Bryozoa	8 169	through WoRMS
Brachiopoda	679	through WoRMS
Echinodermata	21 176	through WoRMS (in part: http://www.marinespecies.org/echinoidea & http://www.marinespecies.org/asteroidea)
Chordata	59 753	through WoRMS
Sarcomastigota	435	through WoRMS
Ciliophora	4 188	through WoRMS

phyla containing meiobenthic representatives is given in the table. Next to the marine representatives, editors can also document the non-marine taxa in their group, thereby creating a single entry-point for their cross-environment group.

Within the attributes section of WoRMS, it is the goal to document the size class to which each species belongs, so a general filter can be applied to group e.g. all meiofaunal species across taxa. This is still a work in progress. In addition, it will be documented whether species belong to the benthos or the pelagos, taking into account the life stage.

Keeping WoRMS and its Global Species Databases up-to-date is a continuous process. New information is entered daily by the taxonomic editors and by the members of our data management team. No database of this size is without errors and omissions. Although we cannot promise to make no errors, but we do promise to follow up and give feedback on any communications pointing out errors. All feedback is very welcome through info@marinespecies.org.

Leen Vandepitte

Recent Literature

Marine and general

Annapurna, C., et al. "Lorcifera, an under known phyla: first record of higgins larva of *Armorloricus* (Loricifera: Nanaloricidae) from Indian waters." 46.02 (2017): 317-321.

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Veras, Tatiane Barbosa, et al. "Interação rioaquífero e a meiofauna do ambiente hiporreico." *Águas Subterrâneas* 31.1 (2017): 20-35.

Wiackowski K, Kocerba-Soroka W (2017) Selective predation by a harpacticoid copepod on ciliates in phytotelmata: a laboratory experiment. Hydrobiologia 790 (1):13-22

Forthcoming.

As a rule, the list of publications contains printed papers only, not "on-line first". As an exception, we put here the reference to important review, which will open the paper collection on a topic of great importance:

Zeppilli, D., Leduc, D., Fontanier, C. et al. "Characteristics of meiofauna in extreme marine ecosystems: a review" Marine Biodiversity (2017).

https://doi.org/10.1007/s12526-017-0815-z