

caves, such as Nematoda (41 species) or Platyhelminthes (31 species). The potential taxonomic and geographical biases of our dataset are discussed, along with the different number of cave exclusive species recorded in each group. Our database confirms that further research about cave meiofauna is crucial to an accurate assessment of the biodiversity patterns of cave assemblages, providing support for evidence-based conservation.

### **An introductory guide to NeMys – the World Database of free-living marine nematodes**

P03

Katja Guilini<sup>1</sup>, Tania Nara Bezerra<sup>1</sup>, Gustavo Fonseca<sup>2</sup>, Oleksandr Holovachov<sup>3</sup>, Daniel Leduc<sup>4</sup>, Dmitry Miljutin<sup>5</sup>, Jyotsna Sharma<sup>6</sup>, Nicole Smol<sup>7</sup>, Alexei V. Tchesunov<sup>8</sup>, Vadim O. Mokievsky<sup>9</sup>, Ann Vanreusel<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Ghent University, Biology Department, Marine Biology Research Group, Ghent, Belgium

<sup>2</sup>Federal University of São Paulo, Institute of the Sea, São Paulo, Brazil

<sup>3</sup>Swedish Museum of Natural History, Stockholm, Sweden

<sup>4</sup>National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research, Auckland, New Zealand

<sup>5</sup>Senckenberg am Meer, German Centre for Marine Biodiversity Research, Wilhelmshaven, Germany

<sup>6</sup>Department of Biology, University of Texas at San Antonio, United States

<sup>7</sup>Ghent University, Faculty of Sciences, Biology Department, Nematology, Ghent, Belgium

<sup>8</sup>Department of Invertebrate Zoology, Faculty of Biology, Lomonosov's Moscow State University, Russia

<sup>9</sup>P. P. Shirshov Institute of Oceanology, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia

NeMys, the online nematode biodiversity information system erected from the filing cabinet at Ghent University (Belgium) in 1998, is now integrated into the World Register of Marine Species (WoRMS) hosted at the Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ). This transfer was accompanied by the appointment of an international editor community consisting of expert taxonomists who engaged in the online management of the database. NeMys aims at providing the most authoritative list of names of all marine and estuarine free-living nematode species ever published. Furthermore, in its current format, the website provides the up-to-date classification of species according to the classification of De Ley & Blaxter (2002), with further amendments by Schmidt-Rhaesa (2014), and offers 11 identification keys to genus or species level, ecological information and distribution records in a user-friendly interface. As such, NeMys has become an indispensable tool for ecological and taxonomical research and for educational purposes (e.g. university training in identification of marine nematodes, international workshops in the framework of European research programmes). Registered users have full access to the available taxonomical literature, either through PDFs of entire papers, or as snippets of the relevant information from the literature. This easy access to literature is a major advantage, as the original species descriptions are needed to correctly identify nematodes to species level. The poster aims for the attention of both inexperienced and NeMys-acquainted researchers since it demonstrates both a basic introductory guide to NeMys and some of the most recently added or updated features and tools.