

Developing Biodiversity Informatics Infrastructure For Conservation Of Plant In Ghana

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Outline of Presentation

- Conservation of plant diversity in Ghana.
- Building of a national biodiversity information network.
- Digitization of herbarium records.
- Publishing of biodiversity data.
- Challenges and opportunities for TDWG data standards.

Conservation of Plant Diversity in Ghana



- ❑ 2974 indigenous plant species.
- ❑ 253 introduced species
- ❑ At least 19 endemics.

Several factors including land-use change, agriculture, mining and wild fires continue to pose significant threats to plant biodiversity in Ghana.

The National Biodiversity Strategy document for Ghana has identified lack of accurate information, up-to-data and information gaps about the status of biodiversity as a major hindrance to plant and widely biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in Ghana.

Building of a National Biodiversity Information Network

- Stakeholders workshop on biodiversity information needs in Ghana was organized.
- Building of consensus on a national biodiversity information coordinating unit including development of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
- Formal establishment of Ghana Node of GBIF (GhaBIF) on 20th May, 2009 hosted at the Dept of Botany, Uni. of Ghana.
- Signing of MOU by 14 participants including research institutions, universities and NGOs.

Digitization of Herbarium Specimens

- Capacity building and training in digitization of specimens using BRAHMS.
- Herbarium specimens records from 4 major herbaria in Ghana has been digitized.



- A total of 131,860 specimens (85,279 records consisting of 10,229 species) were digitized using BRAHMS software.
- Imaging of specimens was achieved using Herbscan.



Publishing of Biodiversity Data

- A total of 85,185 botanical records have so far been published in GBIF (<http://data.gbif.org/datasets/provider/454>).
- Second largest contributor of data to GBIF in Africa after South Africa.
- 85,090 of the records has occurrence data.
- Geo-referencing problems and need for data cleaning.
- Darwin Core Standards for data transfer.

Ghana Biodiversity Information Facility (GhaBIF) - GBIF Portal - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

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file:///C:/Documents and Settings/Alex/Desktop/454.htm

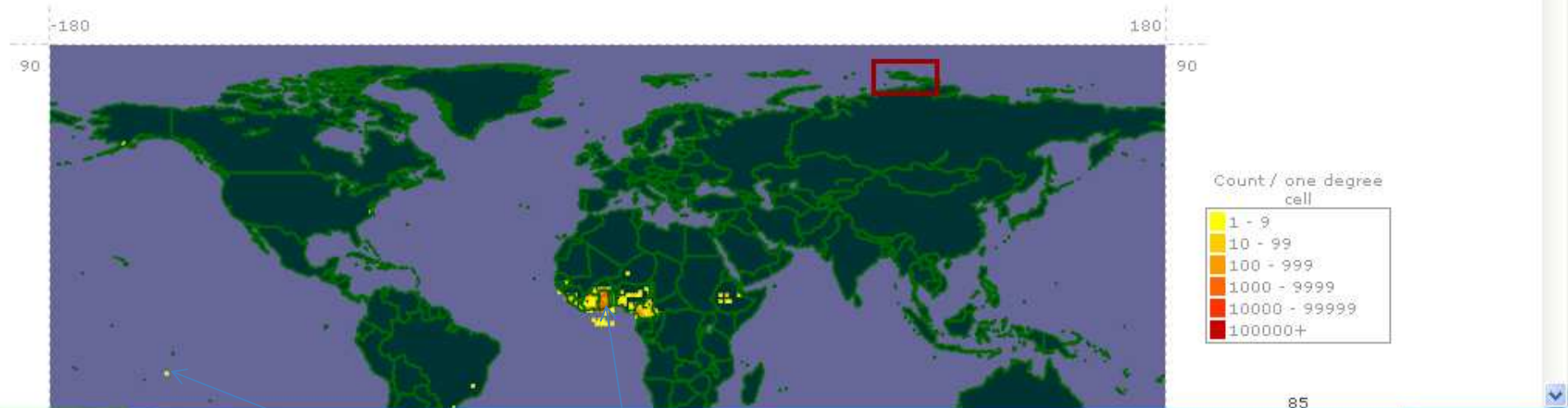
AVG Search... Search Safe Weather Facebook Speedtest

Actions for Ghana Biodiversity Information Facility (GhaBIF)

Explore: [Occurrences](#)

Download: [Darwin Core records](#) [One-degree cell density overlay for Google Earth](#) [Placemarks for Google Earth \(limit 10,000\)](#)

Occurrence overview



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Geo-referencing problems

Challenges and Opportunities

Applications
of TDWG
standards



- Linking image data
- Linking maps and climatic data
- Digitization and linking of bibliographic data
- Genomic data

Hope to find solutions and / or ideas and partners from this conference

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