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Digital Technologies in LSP Studies: the New Information Management System in the Field of Biology

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One of the best options for special lexis research is the use of corpora. However, it should be acknowledged that in practice special corpora are not always available for specific domains, as is the case, for example, with the names of organisms and special lexis of botany or zoology.

Therefore, for the study of this LSP, researchers often create their own Excel spreadsheets with the material to be studied and use already existing terminology resources: for example, the Latvian National Terminology Portal (<https://termini.gov.lv/>), the encyclopedia “Latvian Nature” (www.latvijasdaba.lv), materials offered by the Latvian National Digital Library, as well as various monolingual or multilingual dictionaries. Often the material collected by researchers remains in their own archives and is not accessible to others. Although this would be very useful in ensuring continuity in future research.

In view of this, researchers at Ventspils University of Applied Sciences and the Institute of Horticulture are developing a special information system for the research of the names of organisms and terminology of the field of biology. It will be a special open-access interactive multi-functional information system with data storage and a wide range of statistical search options especially for language research purposes and comparative multilingual studies in linguistics and terminology.

This study offers an outline of the advantages of this information system compared to existing terminology and domain research resources. Authors will present the structure of the information system, its database layer, used technologies set in the development of the system front-end and back-end parts. Modules of developed information system for collecting, storing and researching different types of LSP data will be described in detail.

The study will present the first results on the possibilities of collecting, storing and analysing data provided by the information system, as well as analyse the difficulties in developing the information system and the solutions found.

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Dr. agr. Arturs Stalažs (Institute of Horticulture). His research topics are biology and agronomy, terminology of organism naming.

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Recommendation (for student section)

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