

Belgium (VLIZ) Report

**ASFA Advisory Board Meeting
FAO - Rome, Italy 4-8 October 2005**

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3. Input statistics

Input by	Year 2004	Year 2005
VLIZ	281	347 ready for submittal
IBW	100 submitted to VLIZ	100 (2004) + 163 ready for submittal

No records have been sent to CSA for entry in the database yet in 2005. The VLIZ-centre has gone through some major changes with regards to staff (downsizing from 3 FT to 2 FT), and information management policies. However, the ASFA-input responsibilities are now officially included in the business plan of the library, and the number of records/year submitted to CSA is now a mandatory indicator, to be included in our annual report to the Flemish Government.

The fact that our centre works with a centralized metadatabase IMIS (where literature is included: see our previous ASFA-reports), still causes problems with regards to ASFA-input – see under section Problems & ideas for improvement.

4. Distribution list for complimentary ASFA entitlements

ASFA IDS service: access through one (1) IP-address

ASFA CD-ROM: 1 complete set with regular updates

5. Usefulness of ASFA products to users

The activities of VLIZ (coordination of marine research, promotion of marine science, dissemination of information to a very broad audience from scientists to the public at large) need a firm basis of good reliable information. This is, amongst others, provided by the ASFA-database. Access to the database is situated in the library, where the librarian, the scientists of the institute and students who visit our library make regular use of this service. Amongst scientists, ASFA is considered a very high quality surplus to general databases (such as Web of Science). We are looking forward to usage statistics that will be provided by CSA, to evaluate the use of ASFA by Belgian researchers.

More and more, the Belgian researchers are demanding remote access (IDS-service) to the ASFA-database. This is logical, due to the fact that VLIZ members are working across the country at different universities and institutes. VLIZ still wants to negotiate with CSA for consortium-based or other forms of access to the ASFA-database throughout their membership community.

6. Changes to monitoring list information

There were no changes to the monitoring list (see attached list).

7. Problems & ideas for development of and improvements to ASFA

We would like to repeat the remarks given in our 2004 report:

“Due to the fact that input of ASFA-records is a time-consuming process, and that staff is a very limiting factor in all ASFA Input Centres, we believe that further automation of input procedures is desirable. Especially in view of current developments of web-based availability of reference-information, we believe that more tools for download and conversion of references from publishers sites should be developed, so that the input centres can fully concentrate on the indexing part of the input. This might involve some changes regarding the rules for input of references, and we ask the ASFA-Board to consider this.”

In the VLIZ-centre, an export tool from the IMIS-database has been developed to create ISO-2709 compatible records that could be sent directly to CSA. This has briefly been tested last year. Some problems arose from these tests, but due to time and staff constraints no further action has been taken here and VLIZ has decided then to export all of its ASFA-records from IMIS to the WWW-ISIS ASFA software. It is clear that this is a time-consuming process that should be avoided. We therefore request the ASFA-Board and CSA to assist us in solving this problem. Our suggestion would be to work closely together with CSA to solve the technical problems of our ISO 2709 output-tool from IMIS, making output directly to CSA possible, without passing everything through the WWW-ISIS ASFA software. We would like to do this immediately after the ASFA Board meeting, to enable us to submit our due records for 2005 and our Trust Fund Project records.

We further request the ASFA Board and CSA

- to put the maximum of attention and support to any initiatives leading to further automated input (harvesting references from open databases, direct input into CSA-databases for records that are already available in short format [mostly core-journal literature], etc.)
- to consider simplifying input procedures, with regards to certain metadata-fields, without touching the core fields of ASFA (abstracting and indexing)
- to consider simplifying the search-interface of the IDS-service, by grouping some of the search fields (e.g. the several indexing fields)
- to actually start the initiative of an ASFA-depository of grey literature, compatible with other depository and cataloguing activities (e.g. ODINPubAFRICA; IAMSLIC Z 39.50; Euraslic catalogues; OAI-standards; etc.) and to use this as the long-awaited ILL-tool for ASFA partners.

Monitoring List Belgium

Titles in bold are currently screened publications, other titles are screened for Belgian Trust Fund Project.

- Acta zoologica et pathologica antverpiensia
- Annales de la Société royale malacologique de Belgique
- Annales de la Société royale zoologique de Belgique/Annalen van de Koninklijke Belgische Vereniging voor Dierkunde
- **Aquaculture international**
- **Aquatic botany**
- **Aquatic ecology**
- **Aquatic toxicology**
- Archives de biologie
- **Atlantic seabirds**
- **Basteria**
- **Belgian journal of botany/Bulletin de la Société royale botanique Belge**
- **Belgian journal of zoology**
- Biologisch jaarboek Dodonaea
- **Bulletin de l'Institut royal des Sciences naturelles de Belgique. Biologie/Bulletin van het Koninklijk Belgisch Instituut voor Natuurwetenschappen. Biologie**
- Bulletin du Musée royal d'Histoire naturelle de Belgique/Mededelingen van het Koninklijk Natuurhistorisch Museum van België
- Bulletin. Institut royal des Sciences naturelles de Belgique/Mededelingen. Koninklijk Belgisch Instituut voor Natuurwetenschappen
- De Levende Natuur
- **De Strandvlo: driemaandelijks tijdschrift van De Strandwerkgroep België**
- **Dumortiera**
- **Ecological indicators**
- **Gloria Maris: Journal of the Belgian Society for Conchylology**
- **Het Zeepaard**
- IZWO Mededelingen en informatie
- **Journal of Marine Systems**
- **Journal of Sea Research**
- Mededelingen van de faculteit landbouwwetenschappen Rijksuniversiteit Gent
- Mededelingen van de Koninklijke Academie voor Wetenschappen, Letteren en Schone Kunsten van België. Klasse der Wetenschappen
- Mémoires de la Société royale des sciences de Liège
- Mémoires de la Société royale malacologique de Belgique
- Mémoires. Institut royal des sciences naturelles de Belgique (2^{ème} série)/Verhandelingen. Koninklijk Belgisch Instituut voor Natuurwetenschappen (tweede reeks)
- Mémoires. Institut royal des sciences naturelles de Belgique/Verhandelingen. Koninklijk Belgisch Instituut voor Natuurwetenschappen
- Natuurwetenschappelijk Tijdschrift
- Netherlands Journal of Sea Research
- **Netherlands Journal of Zoology**
- **NIOZ rapport**
- Progress report. Delta Institute for Hydrobiological Research
- Publication series. Netherlands Institute for Sea Research
- **Publication. Delft Hydraulics Laboratory**
- **Rapport Instituut voor Natuurbehoud**
- Studiedocumenten van het Koninklijk Belgisch Instituut voor Natuurwetenschappen/Documents de travail de l'Institut royal des Sciences naturelles de Belgique
- Sula
- Travaux de la Station de recherches relatives a la pêche maritime à Ostende
- Verhandeling. Zeewetenschappelijk Instituut Oostende/Memoire. Institut d'études maritimes Ostende
- **VLIZ Special Publication**
- Water (Antwerpen)
- Wetenschappelijke mededelingen van de Koninklijke Nederlandse Natuurhistorische Vereniging
- Zoologische mededeelingen
- **Zoologische verhandelingen**