

POLAND (SFI) REPORT

July 2004-September 2005

ASFA ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

FAO, ROME, 4 - 8 October 2005

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3. Input statistics:

During the inter-session period, a total of 258 records were prepared (99 in 2004 and 159 in 2005; mainly in the AS, ASFA-1 format). An additional 14 records are in the processing stage.

4. Distribution List for complimentary ASFA entitlements:

ASFA print journals – received regularly;

ASFA CD ROMs – last CD ROM received contains data up to March 2005

ASFA IDS access – used widely in the two sub-centers.

5. Usefulness of ASFA products to Polish users:

The ASFA database is used widely especially by scientists from the participating institutes and students. ASFA IDS and CD ROM were accessed most frequently.

According to the CSA Usage Report and library statistics from July 2004 to August 2005, the ASFA database was accessed by 557 users (2992 searches and 6640 queries).

We believe that use of the database will continue to grow because the ASFA inputer from the University of Gdańsk has changed her place of work through official channels and will now be working directly with the students of the UG Biology, Geography and Oceanology Department.

Additionally, two Polish institutions, the Agriculture Academy in Szczecin and the Institute of Animal Systematics and Evolution in Cracow, have expressed interest in cooperating with the ASFA Polish National Center. Details of this are currently being planned.

6. Changes to monitoring list information:

No changes have been implemented.

7. Problems:

To date, all of the sub-centers have been preparing records regularly.

8. Ideas for development of and improvement to ASFA:

A new application for ASFA financial support is being prepared to the State Committee for Research. If funding is granted, the following will be undertaken:

- cooperation with two new sub-centers:

- the Agriculture Academy in Szczecin

- the Institute of Animal Systematics and Evolution in Cracow.

Details of cooperation will be determined by the end of 2005.

Three new journals will be monitored by the ASFA database as a result of these plans.

- cooperation between existing sub-centers in the National ASFA Network online;
- more workshops will be held at sub-centers and will focus on how to improve input quality (decreasing time, correct descriptors, indexing);
- training course for students on how to search the ASFA database.