

A Tool for Collaborative Ontology Maintenance

TOWARDS AN AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY

The AGROVOC CS has been designed to be maintained by a distributed network of maintainers and editors. It will serve as one of the core services within the AOS initiative, where the current AGROVOC maintainers and future partners will be able to express more information and manage it directly in a real-time, collaborative environment.

The AGROVOC Concept Server is a response to the new approach for managing vocabularies online and will function as a resource to help structure and standardize agricultural terminology in multiple languages for use by any number of different users and systems around the world.

THE WORKBENCH

WHAT IS IT?

The Workbench is a web-based working environment for managing the AGROVOC Concept Server. It provides tools and functionalities that facilitate the collaborative editing of multilingual terminology and semantic concept information. It further includes administration and group management features as well as built in workflows for maintenance, validation and quality assurance of the data pool.

HOW IS IT USED?

Accessible online, it is used to transfer the management of AGROVOC from a few individuals in FAO to a wider community of international AGROVOC experts worldwide. This group of experts will in the future share the collaborative maintenance and extension of the AGROVOC Concept Server.

The screenshot displays the AGROVOC CS Workbench interface. On the left is a 'Concept Tree' with categories like 'infectious diseases(en)', 'information systems(en)', 'legislation(en)', 'natural resources(en)', 'newc(en)', 'organisms(en)', 'plants(en)', 'spermat', 'myrtace', 'cycadae', 'maize(e)', 'plant product:', 'proci', and 'ni hli'. The main area shows 'Detail of: トウモロコシ (ja)'. Below this is a 'Relationship' table:

Relationship	Destination Term
has translation	maize(en)
	Mais(fr)
has synonym	コーン(ja)

At the top right, there is a 'Term' table with columns: Term, Definition, has scope note, has change history, Relationship, Image, Information. It lists terms in English, French, and Japanese.

At the bottom right, there is an 'Image' table with columns: No., Image, Create, Update, Source, Name, Description. It shows an image of corn with the following details:

No.	Image	Create	Update	Source	Name	Description
1		2007-09-18 16:43:48	2007-09-18 16:43:48	Wikipedia	Maize	Maize (<i>Zea mays</i> L. ssp. <i>mays</i> ; principally known as corn) (en)

At the bottom left, there is a 'Users List' and 'List groups of:' section.

References

<http://www.fao.org/aims/>