

**Subject:** Re: Query about Botanical Latin  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at 13:07:02 Eastern Daylight Time  
**From:** Crowley, Bianca  
**To:** Richard Zander  
**CC:** Bob Magill, Patricia Eckel, Doug Holland, Kalfatovic, Martin

Dear Richard,

Thank you for your patience as the BHL Collections Committee weighed in on the inclusion of the Grammatical Dictionary. The decision at this time is that BHL will not be able to accommodate the Dictionary's inclusion. Our model is based around the digitization of physical volumes and while we are starting to add born-digital content, such as PDFs, we have not yet added website resources to our collection. We are concerned that if we employ a work-around to bring in the Dictionary that we are not providing the optimal display and indexing of this resources to our users.

However, your request has prompted BHL to consider a systematic approach to incorporating web resources and other datasets that complement our collection. As we discuss priorities for future collection and technical development the Grammatical Dictionary use case will be a prominent factor. I regret that we could not move forward at this time but I will do my best to keep you posted as we make progress toward integrating web resources down the road.

Regards,  
Bianca

---

**From:** Richard Zander <[Richard.Zander@mobot.org](mailto:Richard.Zander@mobot.org)>  
**Date:** Monday, April 6, 2015 at 18:35  
**To:** "Crowley, Bianca" <[crowleyb@si.edu](mailto:crowleyb@si.edu)>  
**Cc:** Bob Magill <[Bob.magill@mobot.org](mailto:Bob.magill@mobot.org)>, Patricia Eckel <[Patricia.Eckel@mobot.org](mailto:Patricia.Eckel@mobot.org)>, Doug Holland <[doug.holland@mobot.org](mailto:doug.holland@mobot.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: Query about Botanical Latin

Bianca:

The Grammatical Dictionary is not intended to be downloaded or consulted as a reference as are other publications in BHL. Instead it is intended as a handy tool to help understand those books that are written in Latin.

The Dictionary is presented simply as a link in Tropicos  
<http://www.tropicos.org/> click "Tools"  
and in Botanicus  
<http://www.botanicus.org/browse/titles> see the upper left of the screen for the link.

It is indeed a searchable database, and is being added to constantly by Patricia Eckel. The unpublished draft is a Word file of over 500 pages and items are added to the online database from this draft as they are vetted and fully documented with quotations and their translations from the literature.

One of the excellent features of the several active online repositories of older literature is a revival of the relevance of that literature to the biodiversity concerns of today. Latin is germane as a past lingua franca.

Best,  
Richard

-----  
Richard H. Zander  
Missouri Botanical Garden – 4344 Shaw Blvd. – St. Louis – Missouri – 63110 – USA  
[richard.zander@mobot.org](mailto:richard.zander@mobot.org)  
Web sites: <http://www.mobot.org/plantscience/bfna/bfnamenu.htm> and  
<http://www.mobot.org/plantscience/resbot/>

---

**From:** Crowley, Bianca [<mailto:CrowleyB@si.edu>]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 06, 2015 3:29 PM  
**To:** Richard Zander  
**Cc:** Bob Magill; Patricia Eckel; Doug Holland  
**Subject:** Re: Query about Botanical Latin

Dear Richard,

I apologize for the delay. The BHL would most certainly be interested in including Patricia M. Eckel's Grammatical Dictionary of Botanical Latin. However, I see a potential issue with the Dictionary's format. BHL focuses on the digitization of physical books. Is Eckel's Dictionary published in hard copy? If not we may be able to work with a PDF. According to my reading of the about page (<http://www.mobot.org/mobot/LatinDict/introduction.aspx>), my understanding is that the dictionary is itself a website. Can you tell me more about the publication format of the dictionary? Is there a bibliographic record for the dictionary cataloged in MOBOT's library? We may be able to find a work-around.

I will be on vacation for the rest of the week but look forward to trying to find a way to incorporate the Dictionary upon my return.

Regards,  
Bianca

---

Bianca Crowley  
Digital Collections Manager  
Biodiversity Heritage Library | Smithsonian Libraries  
[crowleyb@si.edu](mailto:crowleyb@si.edu) | 202-633-2239 | skype: bianca.lipscomb

---

**From:** Richard Zander <[Richard.Zander@mobot.org](mailto:Richard.Zander@mobot.org)>  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at 11:22  
**To:** "Crowley, Bianca" <[crowleyb@si.edu](mailto:crowleyb@si.edu)>  
**Cc:** Bob Magill <[Bob.magill@mobot.org](mailto:Bob.magill@mobot.org)>, Patricia Eckel <[Patricia.Eckel@mobot.org](mailto:Patricia.Eckel@mobot.org)>  
**Subject:** Query about Botanical Latin

B. Crowley:

The Missouri Botanical Garden has now added a link to Patricia M. Eckel's Grammatical Dictionary of Botanical Latin.

In Tropicos <http://www.tropicos.org/#>  
And in Botanicus <http://www.botanicus.org/> (upper left).

Bob Magill suggested I contact you about the possibility of including a link to the Dictionary

<http://www.mobot.org/mobot/LatinDict/search.aspx> somewhere in the Botanical Heritage Library search facility.

The point is to make the older botanical literature in Latin more easily available to researchers. Mechanical translators commonly miss technical words and special applications.

Eckel's Dictionary is presently being expanded (under construction) but is now large enough to be of use. Each entry contains grammatical help, definition, and examples from the older literature with their translations.

Let me know if this is of interest.

Richard Zander

-----

Richard H. Zander

Missouri Botanical Garden – 4344 Shaw Blvd. – St. Louis – Missouri – 63110 – USA

[richard.zander@mobot.org](mailto:richard.zander@mobot.org)

Web sites: <http://www.mobot.org/plantscience/bfna/bfnamenu.htm> and

<http://www.mobot.org/plantscience/resbot/>