



# Biodiversity Heritage Library

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BHL Africa Launch  
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# What is BHL?

Access to literature is particularly important to taxonomic researchers

Source: Biodiversity Heritage Library for Europe  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJUMH9z91UQ>



**All we know for some organisms...**

**...is a brief description  
in a hard to find book...**

**... held in one of the great natural  
history or botanical libraries...**

**A library that is, all too often,  
far from the reader!**







# What is BHL?

The **Biodiversity Heritage Library** is a consortium of **natural history and botanical libraries** that cooperate to **digitize** and make accessible the **legacy literature of biodiversity** held in their collections and to make that literature available for **open access** and **responsible use** as a part of a **global “biodiversity commons.”**

# Extensive





BHL

Biodiversity Heritage Library



# Open



BHL

Wiki: Tips and Information for our Users

Visit the Biodiversity Heritage Library c



## ☆ Data Exports



[View the Privacy Policy and Terms Of Use.](#)

For information about harvesting our data via OAI, please see our [Developer Tools and API](#) page

### Data Licensing

edit

The BHL makes its metadata available for public use under the [CC0 1.0 Universal \(CC0 1.0\) Public Domain Dedication license](#). This Creative Commons license allows you to reuse, modify, repurpose, and distribute the metadata for all purposes including commercial and non-commercial, with no need to ask for permission.

Metadata in this case, refers to:

- Library catalog records, i.e. bibliographic data, used to describe the books and journals in the BHL collection (e.g. title and author data).
- Page level data such as page numbers and pages types (e.g. "Title page" and "Illustration").
- Scientific name data, e.g. "Zea mays". (For more information about how this data is generated, see the [Data Exports](#) page).

Go ahead, take our metadata and do something creative with it! If you do repurpose BHL metadata please [share your story with us](#). We often like to feature stories of reuse on our [BHL blog](#).

### Data Exports

A series of files is now available for download that will enable libraries and other data providers to identify digitized titles available within BHL. These files also include metadata about each volume scanned, as well as information about the millions of scientific names that have been identified throughout the BHL corpus and the pages on which those names occur. For more information, please refer to [our blog post regarding our data exports](#). Data exports were updated to include Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) in March of 2009 and creators, or authors, as of March 2011.

Download documentation: <http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/data/BHLExportSchema.pdf>

Data exports are updated at the beginning of every month in the following formats:

#### MODS

- [Download BHL Titles in MODS XML](#) (67MB+)
- [Download BHL Titles in MODS XML zipped](#) (7MB+)
- [Download BHL Items/Volumes in MODS XML](#) (143MB+)
- [Download BHL Items/Volumes in MODS XML zipped](#) (13MB+)

#### EndNote

- [Download BHL Titles in EndNote format](#) (3MB+)

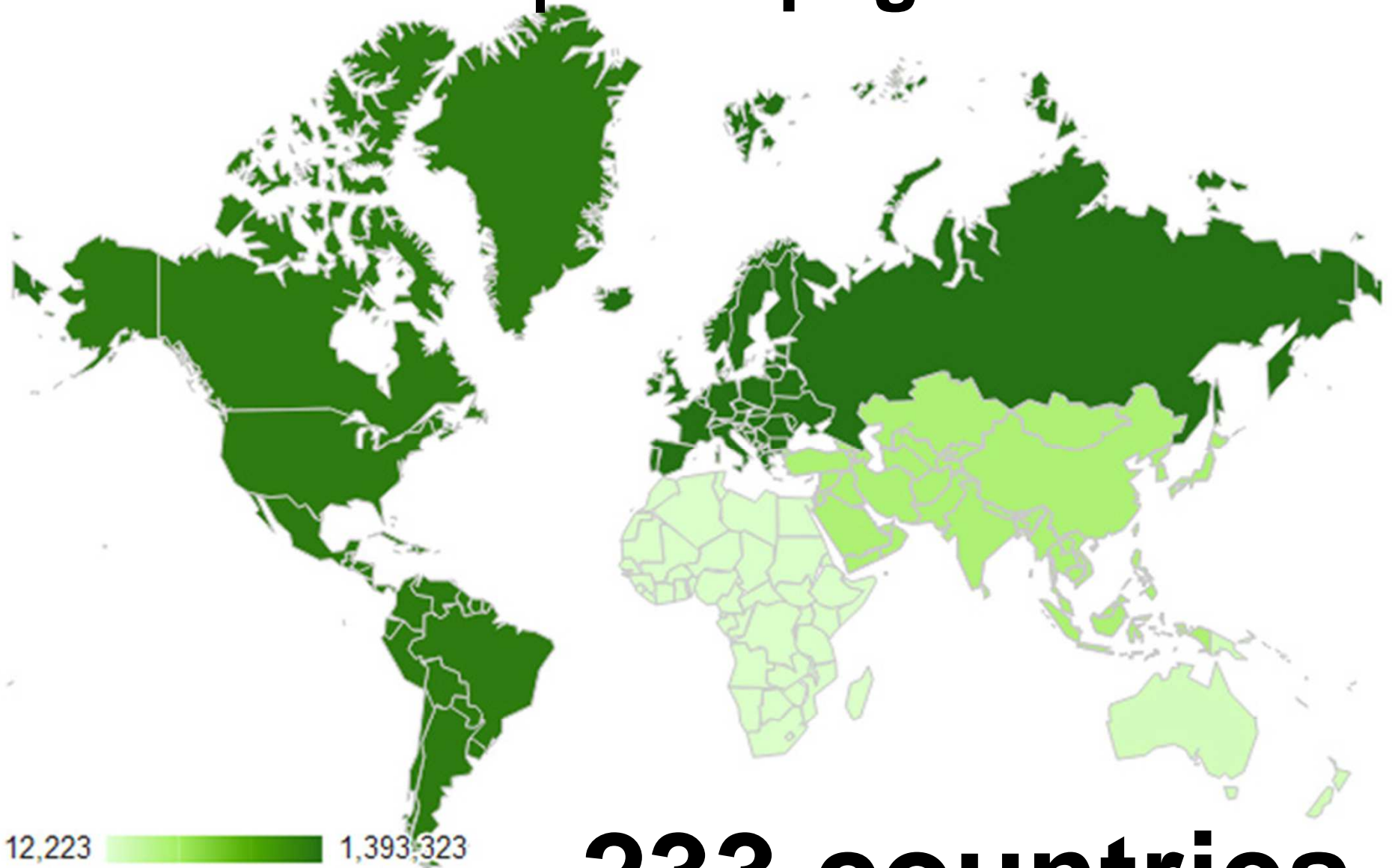
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# Thank you

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