

Intellectual Property Guidelines for the Global Ants Database

The following guidelines were modified from the TRY initiative guidelines (http://www.try-db.org/TryWeb/TRY_Intellectual_Property_Guidelines.pdf) and apply to the Global Ants Database.

The following guidelines apply to issues of data ownership and intellectual property within the Global Ants Database Collaboration. GLAD is a network of ant biologists originally founded by Nathan Sanders (The University of Copenhagen, Denmark) and Rob Dunn (North Carolina State University, USA) and expanded by Heloise Gibb (La Trobe University, Australia) and Catherine Parr (The University of Liverpool, UK). The purpose of the GLAD is to develop a global archive of ant assemblage composition and traits to make these data available for the scientific community.

These guidelines will be revised periodically and all data contributors will be informed of modifications and will have the right to ratify or withdraw their participation.

1) Status of data contributed to the GLAD initiative

An individual who directly contributes data to GLAD is called a contributor. A contributor may be a person who: 1) owns the original data; 2) has provided data extracted from publicly available works by other authors; or 3) acts as a representative of all individual contributors in a collective dataset. GLAD will only deal with the contributor or deputy contributor. If the owners of a collective dataset already contributed to GLAD decide to change the contributor, it will be their responsibility to inform GLAD of the new situation.

Intellectual property rights in the data remain with the data contributor. Contributors retain the right to withdraw their data at any time.

Contributors choose one of the following three conditions under which their data will be made available via the GLAD initiative:

Permission in each case: The contributor will be contacted each time a data request has the potential to involve these data. Explicit permission is necessary in each case before the data can be made available.

Permission by default: These data are available without the need for specific permission in case of each individual data request. The GLAD database management will inform the contributor. If no objection is raised within two weeks, it will be assumed that the contributor has given permission to make these data available for the request in question.

Publicly available: These data are publicly available with open access. The contributor will be informed each time the data are requested and released unless she/he decides not to be informed.

The contributor may, at any time, change the availability status of her/his data.

The steering group encourages data owners to make their data publicly available.

In the case of collective datasets that contain data that originally belonged to several other people, it will be the contributor's responsibility to solve intellectual property rights and authorship rules within the group of contributors. GLAD will not take responsibility for data mishandling on the part of the contributors.

2) Data Requests

Individuals or groups of individuals who would like to use ant trait data via the GLAD database must submit a request to GLAD, containing: (1) title and short information about the project; (2) name and email of the head (PI) of the request and of Co-PIs; (3) list of requested traits and selected species (optional); (4) explicit statement that all listed members of the request know and accept these intellectual property guidelines.

Title of projects and names of the PI and Co-PIs will be made public at the GLAD website.

Requesting publicly available data: In case of requests that include only data in the category 'publicly available' the requested data will be made available as soon as possible after the request has been submitted. The contributors will be informed.

Requesting restricted data: If restricted data ('permission in each case' or 'permission by default') are requested, the respective contributors will be informed based on the information about the project. Contributors will have two weeks to provide or withdraw permission. During this time contributors will have the opportunity to indicate if they require being

involved in publications of the given project, and potentially become co-author, in case their data will be used in subsequent analyses.

3) Requirements in the context of publications

If data received via GLAD are used for publications, the following requirements apply:

Citation of data sources

The standard reference of the GLAD should be cited in the methods section of any product that involves the datasets.

The standard reference of the GLAD is currently: The GLObal Ants trait Database (GLAD): a new database on the geography of ant traits (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) (in review) Parr, C.L., Dunn, R.R., Sanders, N.J., Weiser, M.D., Photakis, M., Fitzpatrick, M.C., Arnan, X., Baccaro, F., Bishop, T.R., Brandão, C.R.F., Chick, L., Donoso, D.A., Fayle, T.M., Gómez, C., Grossman, B., Munyai, T.C., Pacheco, R., Retana, J., Sagata, K., Silva, R.R., Tista, M., Vasconcelos, H., Yates, M., & Gibb, H.

Involvement in manuscripts and authorship

Contributors of data and the GLAD managers (H. Gibb, C. Parr, N. Sanders and R. Dunn) should be invited to contribute to the development of manuscript/s, if they had indicated this requirement at the time of data request and if their data have been used in subsequent analyses. The PI of the request is expected to send the invitations at an early stage of manuscript preparation, so that valid suggestions by co-authors can still be accommodated. Co-authorship will be offered to those who respond to this invitation and to subsequent updates within a timely fashion (three weeks) with a significant contribution.

Acknowledgement

The required acknowledgement of the GLAD collaboration is: “The study has been supported by the GLAD collaboration on ant traits (<http://globalants.org>). The GLAD is hosted and maintained by H. Gibb (La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia). GLAD is currently supported by the Australian Research Council and La Trobe University.

4) Redistribution of trait data received via GLAD

Redistribution of trait data received via GLAD is not allowed, unless expressly permitted by the respective data contributor(s).

5) General comments

The PI of a request will be responsible that all use of data made available via GLAD is in the context of the given request. Use of the data will be in accordance with the GLAD Intellectual Property Guidelines. Additional agreements between the PI of the request and individual data contributors need to be respected.

In case of misconduct, the database management will inform the PI and the respective contributors and ask the PI to correct his/her fault. If this does not happen to full consent, or if the misconduct is repeated, the GLAD Steering Group will make the misconduct public, e.g., inform involved journals and/or data repositories and eventually the home institution of the PI. If misconduct is repeated, the PI will be denied access to GLAD data via new proposals, and authorization to use data received in the context of on-going proposals will be withdrawn.

Any issues not contemplated in these guidelines will be considered by the GLAD steering group.