

BRAHMS: music to a cyber-taxonomist's ears

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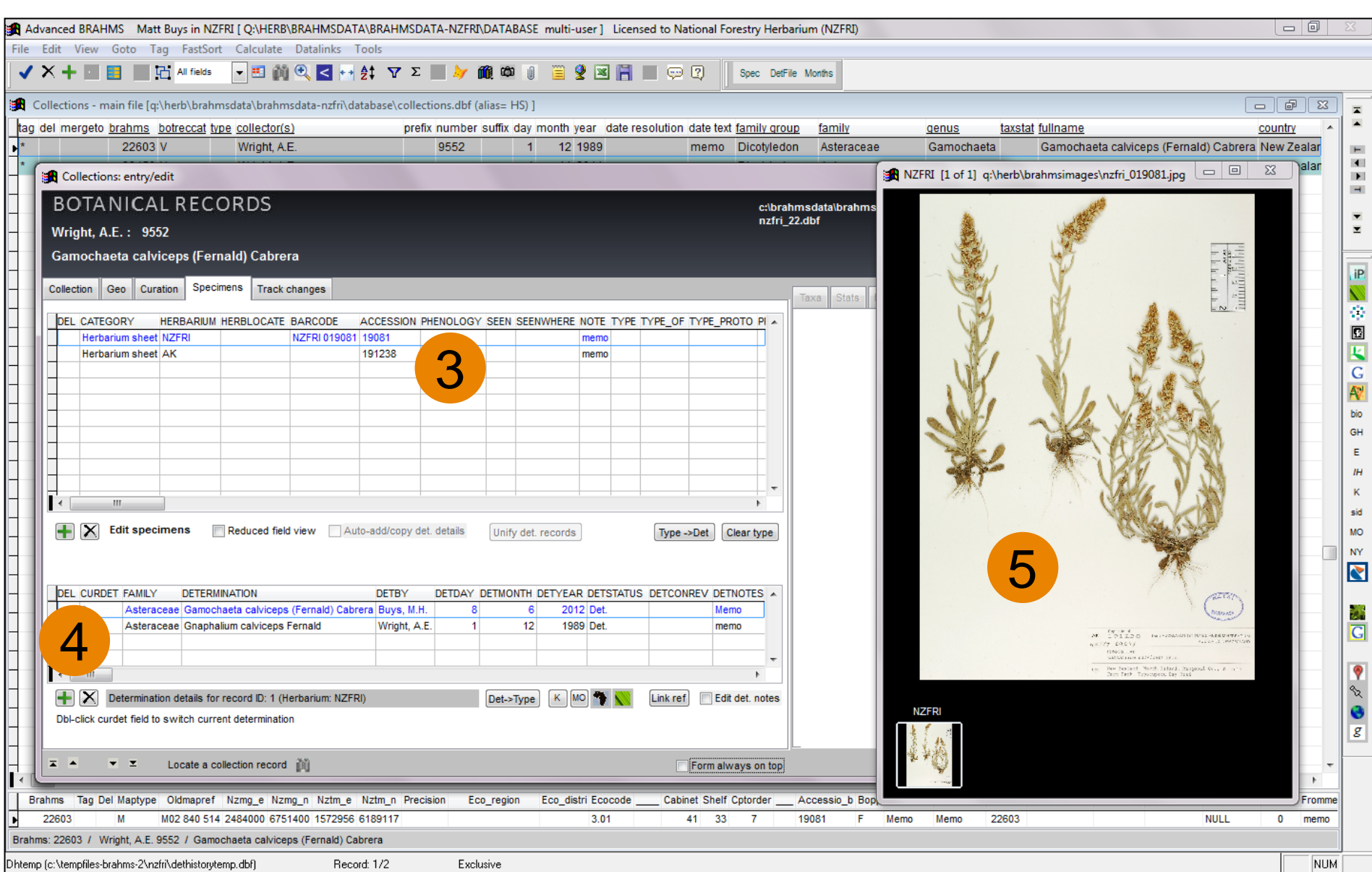
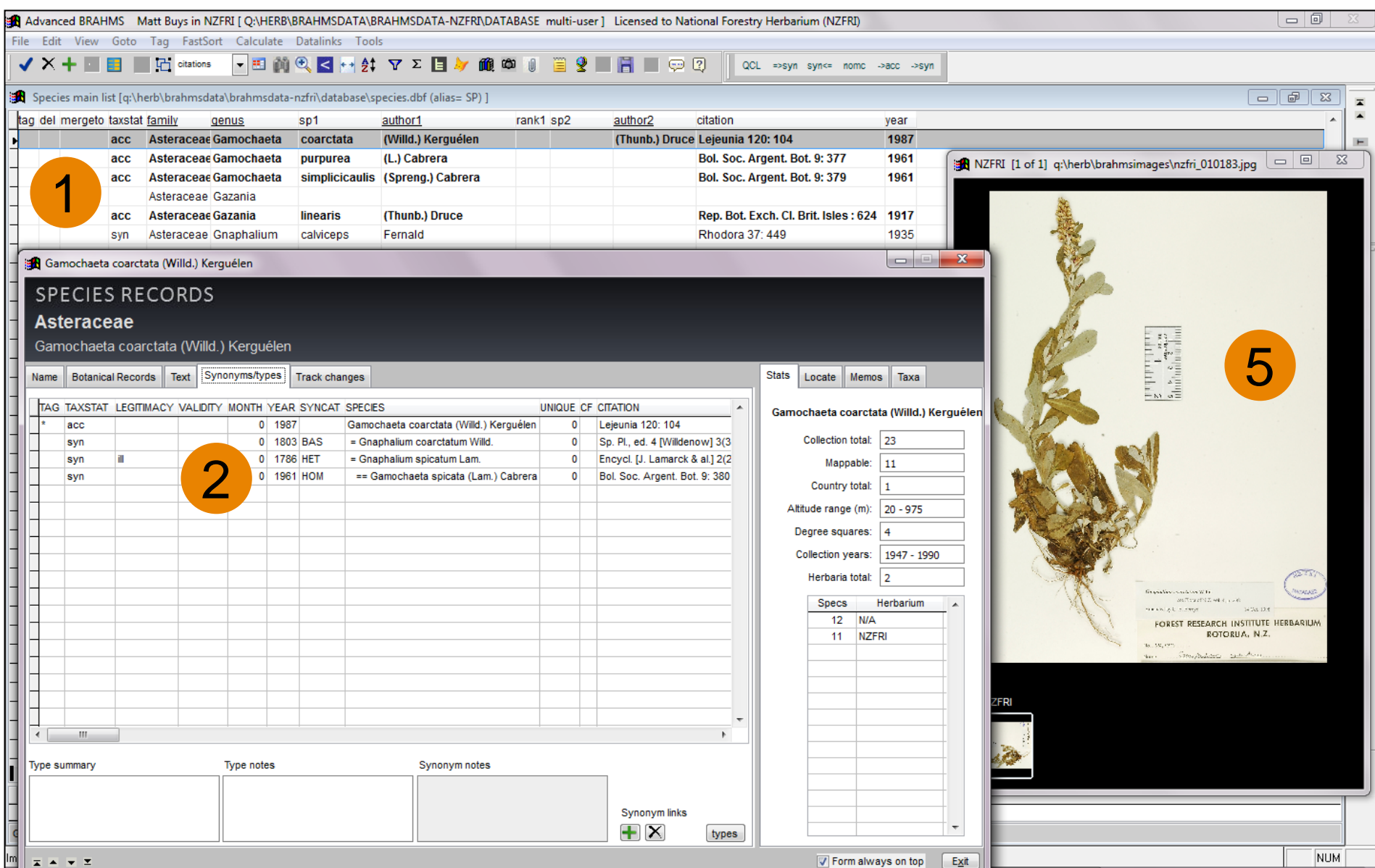
Introduction

BRAHMS is a powerful database management system empowering botanical researchers and herbaria. It provides wide-ranging and innovative functionality to gather, edit, analyse and publish botanical data, optimizing its use for the widest possible range of curation services and research outputs. The National Forestry Herbarium (NZFRI) has recently transferred its database to BRAHMS and data therein can now be managed, analysed and presented in novel ways.

Some BRAHMS features

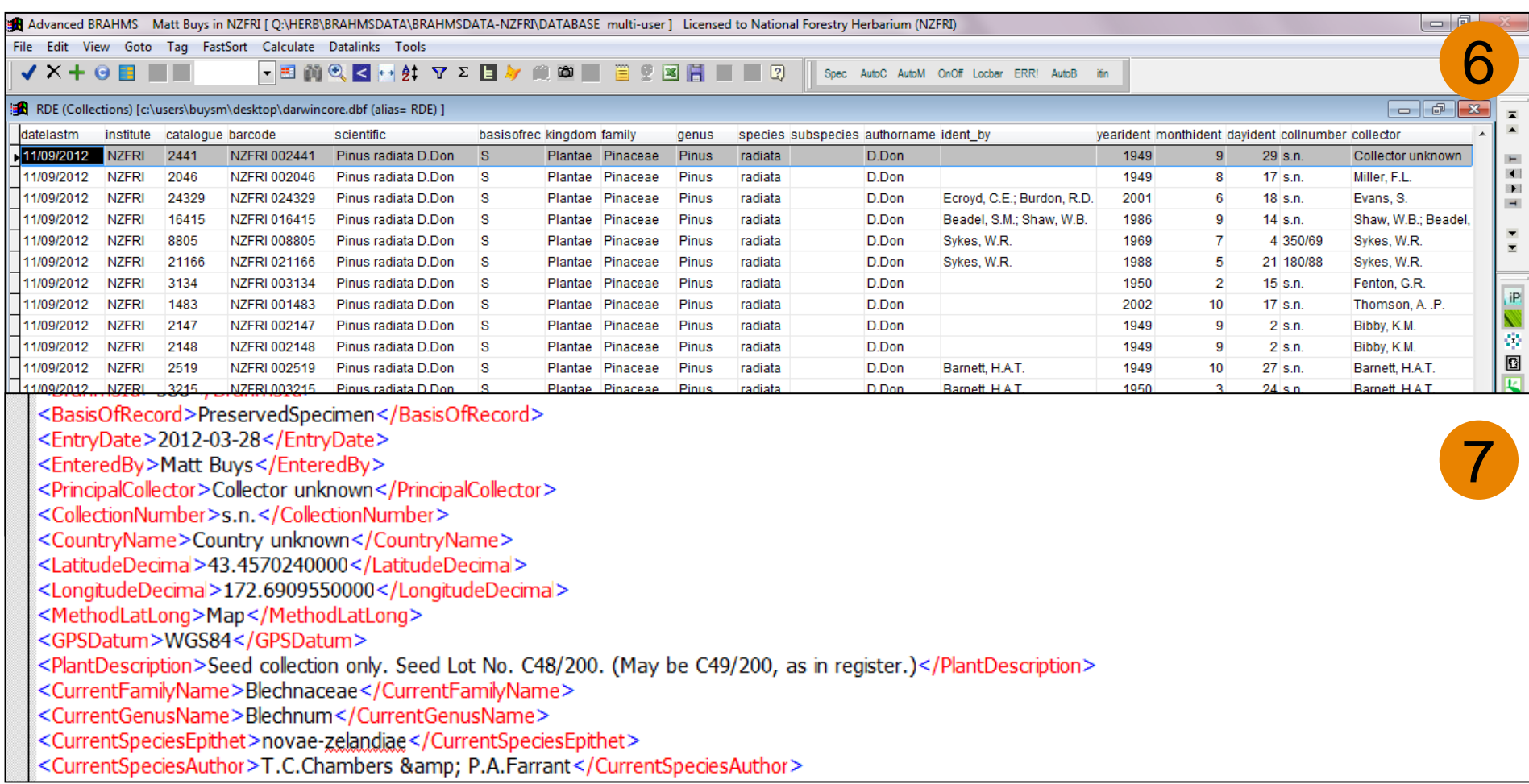
Taxonomic Information System

Dictionaries of species (1), people and place names; the ability to link synonyms to accepted names (2); to record duplicates (3) and determination histories for specimens (4); to link images (5) and documents to any record.



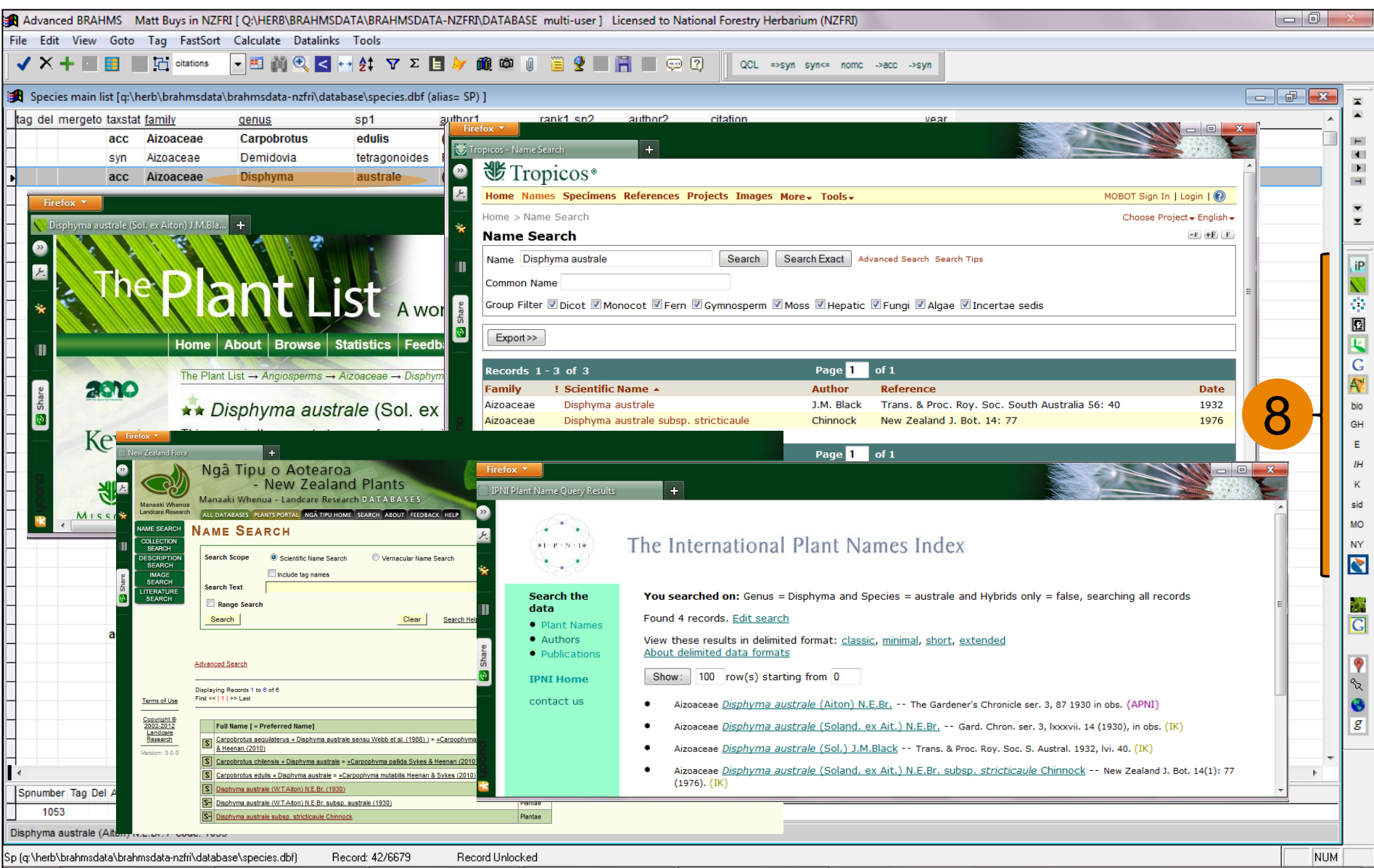
Export in specialized formats

Extensive data transfer options allowing for DBF files in Darwin Core (6) or HISPID format as well as XML (7) output for botanical records with all link file data, specimen and determination history details included.



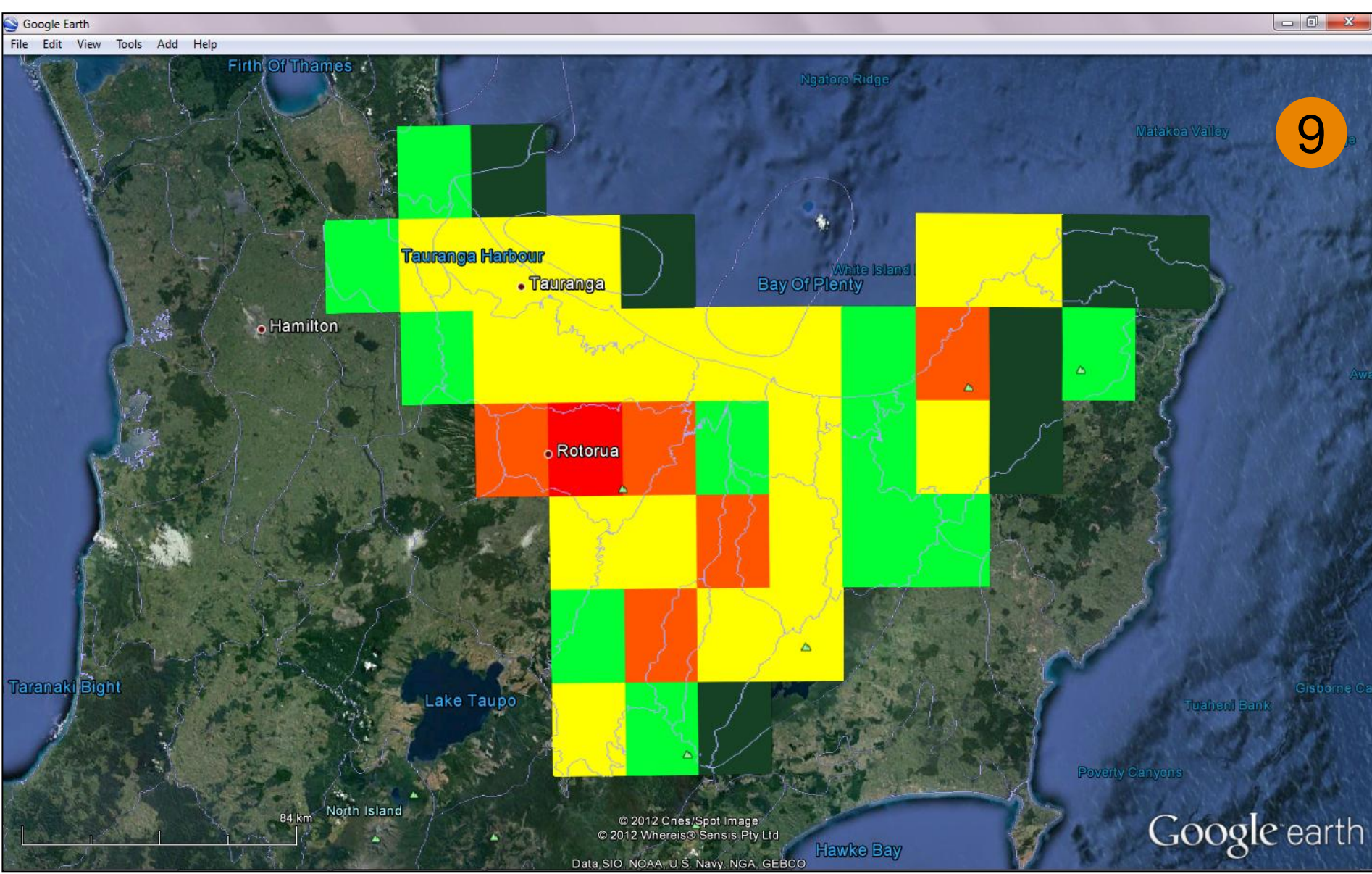
Internet toolbar links

A host of online services, e.g. IPNI, The Plant List, Taxonomic Name Resolution Service, TROPICOS, New Zealand Plants, ePIC, and more, are all a click away (8) and automatically reference to a selected name in the database.



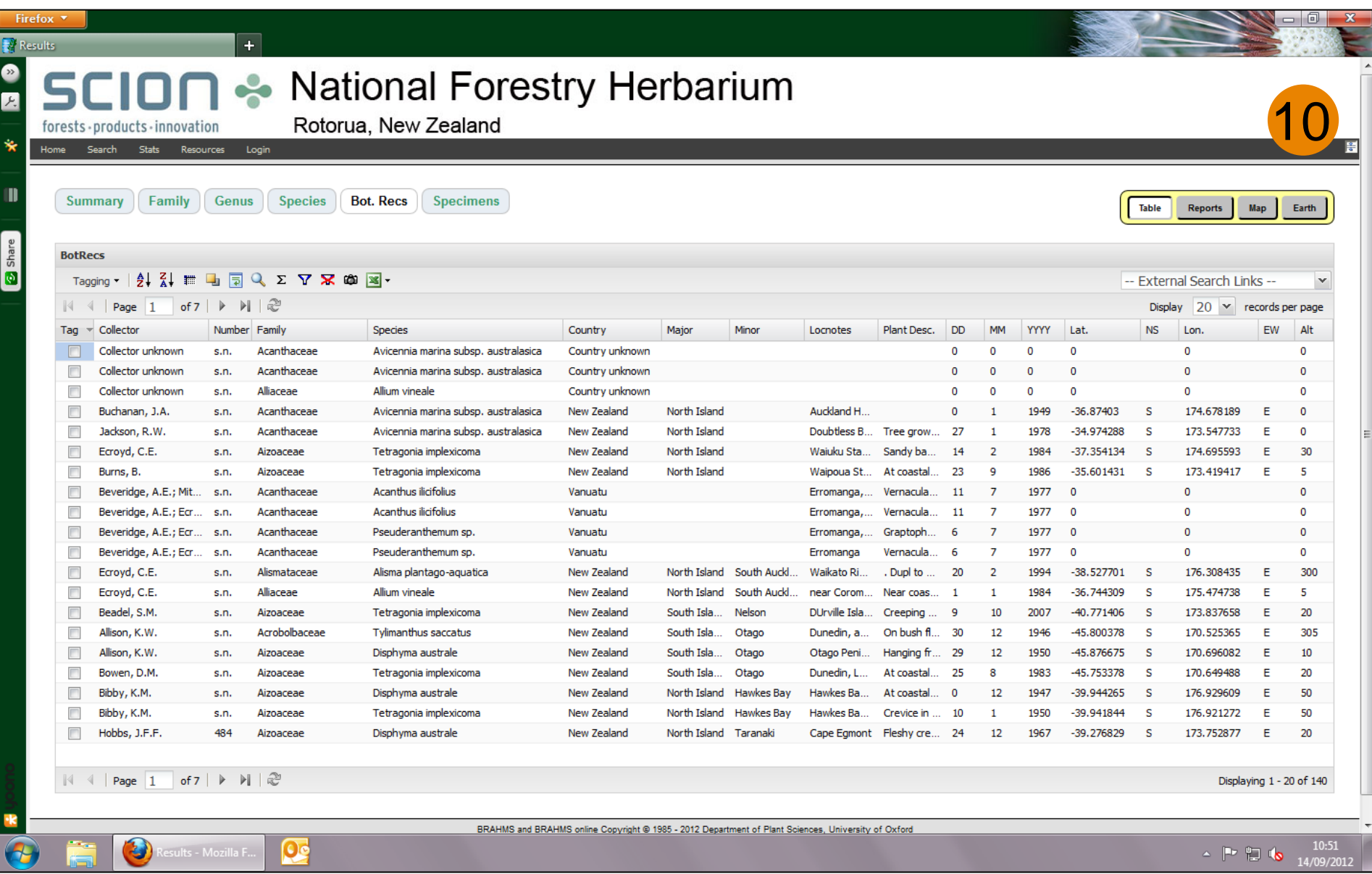
Diversity calculations

Calculate and display distribution data, summarise diversity indicators (Species Richness, Chao2, Rarity Weighted Diversity, etc.) per defined area. Data can be style-set and mapped directly from BRAHMS to Google Earth (9) and other GIS software.



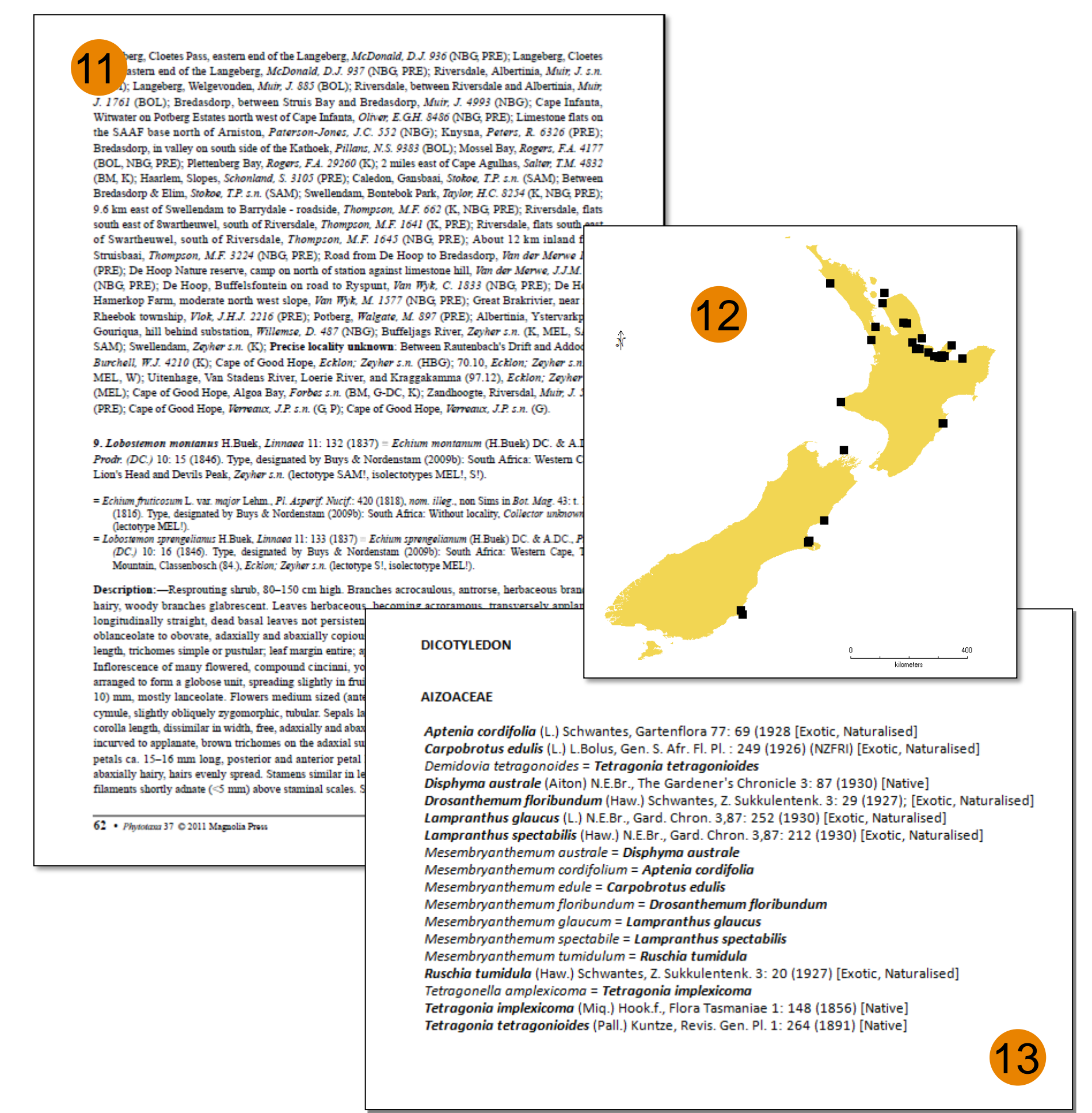
Online presence

Inbuilt functionality to create and develop web pages, including the ability to transfer online selected data plus associated images in a fully searchable database. Search results can be presented in a tabular fashion (10) or as reports and be mapped to Google Earth.



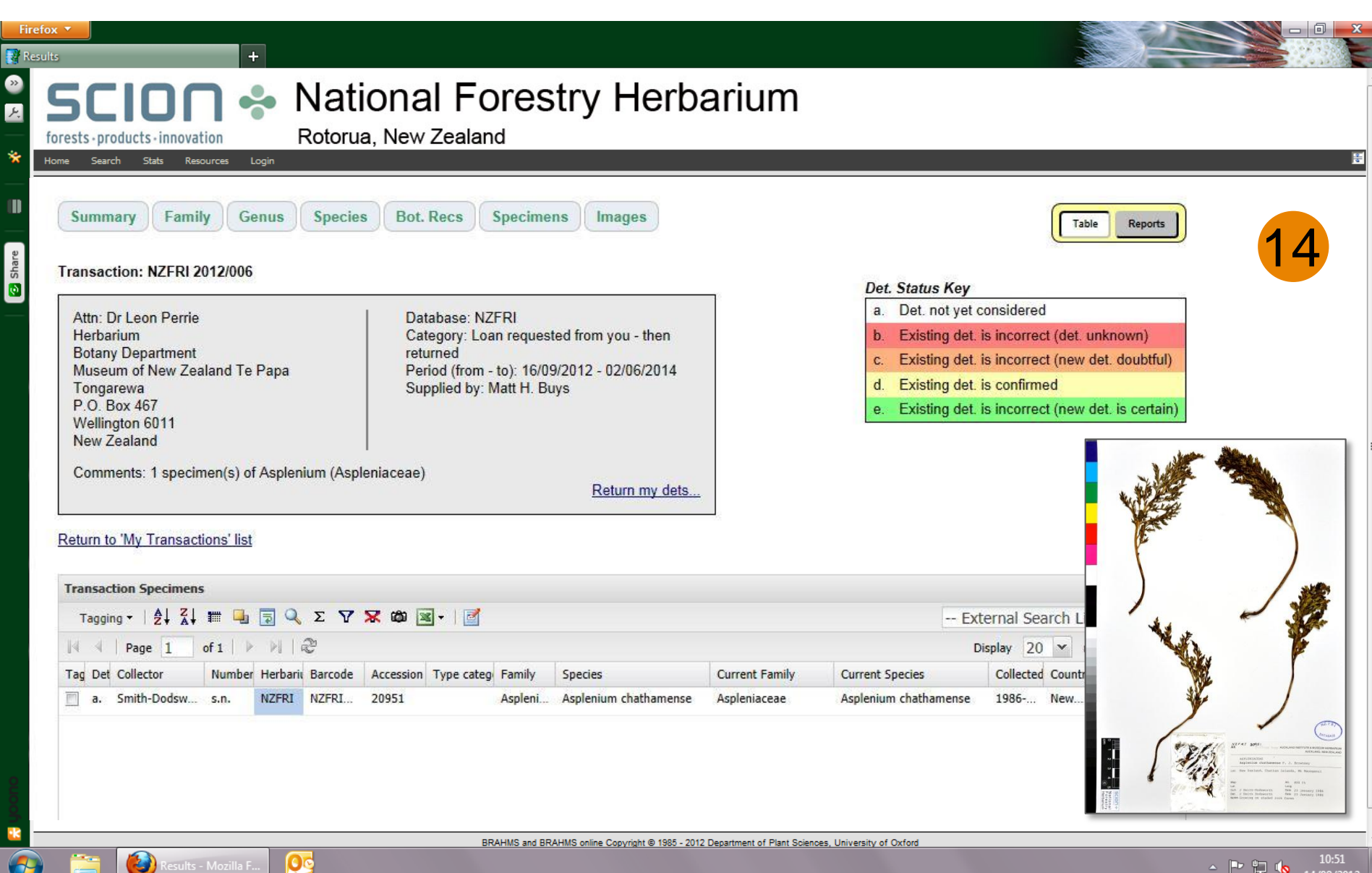
Taxonomic outputs

The ability to link synonyms, type specimens and any body of text, such as species descriptions, to accepted names. Report templates can be designed to format data for complex taxonomic outputs such as checklists (13), lists of exsiccatae, protologues, citations (11), etc.—all exported as MS Word documents—as well as transfer distribution data to GIS software (12).



Collection management

Creating and managing traditional loans and exchanges. The ability to create online image based loans coupled with editing and submitting determinations online (14). Borrower is notified that the loan is available by being sent a transaction URL and ID. Images presented via Zoomify.



BRAHMS modules

- Herbaria • Botanical Records • Taxa • Geo • People
- Biblio • Extracts • Images • Documents • Maps • Living Collections • Plot samples • Seedbank/Germplasm • DNA
- Distribution/Diversity calculations • Publishing online • Utilities • Admin

Download BRAHMS for free

<http://herbaria.plants.ox.ac.uk/bol/>