

ArboDat 2016 English Version

Standardised archaeobotanical data archiving and evaluation

Modern archaeobotanical investigations are aimed to answer important biological and historical questions beyond political borders. As a consequence, a supraregional data exchange might be required, comparing in detail and with high resolution standardised data from different research areas and from different archaeobotanical laboratories.

In most European countries ambitious political efforts are made to establish data inventories for different purposes. The archaeobotanical database program *ArboDat* Update 2016 offers an infrastructure well suited for data storage, providing an obligatory minimal entry standard and a facultative maximum standard. The basics and conditions concerned have been discussed in detail and agreed with by the Central European user group during the twenty years of its development. Compared with centralised projects *ArboDat* combines both, the flexible data management within each single working group and - in addition - the possibility to integrate and exchange the data within a centralised system as well.

ArboDat 2016 represents a unique package comprising a core program for data archiving as well as additional useful and time economising tools for the handling and evaluation of archaeobotanical data. The development of *ArboDat* reaches back almost twenty years, when the first version of the archaeobotanical data base program was conceptualised by Angela Kreuz in the context of the priority research program SPP 190 "Romanisierung" funded by the German Research Foundation DFG. Since then, a number of functional upgrades have been edited by the State Office for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Hesse, Wiesbaden, and the program is distributed now in more than 40 archaeobotanical working groups in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Belgium, France, Great Britain, Egypt and beyond.

ArboDat 2016 and the additional tools *TaxaTransfer* and *TaxaMerge* are available as German and as English versions. The program and detailed German and English manuals are given free of charge to researchers based upon the agreement on e.g. the sharing of the same plant codes and other structural terms in order to facilitate an easy exchange and joint evaluation of data collected by different working groups in future. For the distribution of copies and manuals please contact in future the Niedersächsisches Institut für historische Küstenforschung NIhK Wilhelmshaven. <http://www.nihk.de/home-nihk.html>