The global database of plant traits: TRY version 5.0 - more data, publicly available

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Plant traits extend the range of earth observations to the level of individual organisms, providing a link from biodiversity to ecosystem function and modeling in the context of rapid global changes. However, overcoming the differences in temporal and spatial scales between plant trait data and biogeochemical cycles remains a challenge.

Here we present the current version of the global database of plant traits, TRY version 5.0 (www.try-db.org), which will have been released at the time of the conference. Even after 10 years of development the data coverage of the TRY database is constantly improving: compared to the preceding version, TRY version 5.0 contains about 50% more data: 11 million trait records accompanied by 33 million meta data providing information on plant growth and trait measurement conditions.

Apart from few data, which are under a temporary limited embargo, all trait data in TRY version 5.0 are available under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International license (CC BY 4.0). From TRY version 5.0 onward, trait data via TRY can therefore be used, adapted and shared under the only condition of appropriate citation of contributing datasets and TRY.