

Short Note

**On the digitalization of the mollusc collection at the Biodiversity Center Linz
Status 2024**

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Abstract: The ongoing digitization of the mollusc collection at the Biodiversity Center of Upper Austria in Linz has made significant progress in recent years. With the end of 2024, a total of 160,700 specimen records and 7,728 photos are publicly accessible through the ZOBODAT (www.zobodat.at) and GBIF (www.GBIF.org) networks.

Key words: database, mollusc collection, Biodiversity Center of Upper Austria

Zusammenfassung: Zum Stand der Digitalisierung der Molluskensammlung am Biodiversitätszentrum Oberösterreich in Linz: Mit Ende des Jahres 2024 sind über 160.700 Belegdaten und 7.728 Fotos in den Datenbanken ZOBODAT (www.zobodat.at) und GBIF (www.GBIF.org) verfügbar.

Schlüsselwörter: Datenbank, Molluskensammlung, Biodiversitätszentrum Oberösterreich

The ongoing digitalization of the mollusc collection at the Biodiversity Center of Upper Austria in Linz has made significant progress in recent years, particularly through two projects in the years 2022–2024: “OSCA Pilot Project Mollusca” and “Kulturerbe Digital”.

In 2022, as part of the **Pilot Project Mollusca**, over 70,000 metadata records from the mollusc collection were reviewed and updated for the OSCA data platform. These metadata were linked to 500 selected photos of the specimens and made available at the OSCA and the GBIF network platforms via the ZOBODAT database. As a result, more than 110,000 metadata records have been made publicly accessible in addition to the approximately 40,000 records that were already available.

In 2024, during the project **Kulturerbe Digital** funded by the Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, the Civil Service and Sport (BMKÖES) digital reproductions of selected specimens from the Fritz Seidl collection were created. The Seidl collection includes an extraordinary variety of rare and magnificent marine molluscs (e.g., the original catalog contains remarks for a specimen of *Cymbium glans* (Gmelin, 1791) and a specimen of *Turbinella pyrum* (Linnaeus, 1767) regarding the world record in size in 1983 and 1993, respectively) (Fig 1, 2). For this project, a new digitalization station was acquired, including a photography table with a mobile tripod and lighting and a Nikon Z9 camera with two lenses (Nikkor Z 50 mm and Nikkor ZMC 105 mm) (Fig. 3).

Between August 2023 and July 2024 over 4,000 digital photos were created and uploaded to the ZOBODAT database. Each digital record consists of one or two high-



Fig. 1: *Cymbium glans* from Fritz Seidl collection. Photo: A. Bisenberger




Fig. 2: *Turbinella pyrum* from Fritz Seidl collection. Photo: A. Bisenberger



Fig. 3: Setup for photography. Photo: A. Bisenberger

resolution photos produced using focus stacking, showing both the dorsal and ventral side of the specimen along with a scale bar and the collection label showing the inventory number. All photos are publicly available for download and further use through the ZOBODAT (www.zobodat.at) and GBIF (www.GBIF.org) databases. The archived original images in TIFF format, with a resolution of $8,254 \times 5,502$ pixels (file size approx. 300 MB), can be provided upon request. For web presentation, the images were converted to JPG format at 80 % quality (file size approx. 6 MB) while maintaining the original resolution. With the end of 2024, a total of 160,700 specimen records and 7,728 photos are publicly accessible.

The project was funded by:

 **Bundesministerium**
Kunst, Kultur,
öffentlicher Dienst und Sport



**Funded by the
European Union**
NextGenerationEU

ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Arianta](#)

Jahr/Year: 2025

Band/Volume: [12](#)

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