

***SICol-M* and *SICol-Net*: management and dynamic integration of microbial data**

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SICol-M, the management system for microbial collections is being developed to support the digital documentation of all the processes associated with day-to-day management of microbial collections, including methods and procedures for strain authentication, preservation techniques, stock control, quality management procedures, and distribution of strains and biological reagents. The collection management software is a multi-platform system, designed to be compatible with different data management systems. It is multi-user and multi-language and supports the installation of multiple collections and sub-collections. It is designed to document specific fields of importance to microbial collections based on WFCC and CABRI guidelines and the OECD Guidelines for Quality Management and is fully compatible with the DarwinCore extension for microbial strains. The database provides a specific view that allows the exchange of data using Tapir protocol in a simple and immediate way. The system is being continuously developed to accommodate new features and requirements, including reports of daily activities and indicators of the collection holdings (including taxonomic profile, geographic distribution of deposits, clients) and services.