

## **Cybertaxonomic Literature Markup of the journal African Invertebrates**

**Mr B. Muller, KwaZulu-Natal Museum  
IBSG13060618594**

South Africa has an immensely rich natural heritage and distinct species biodiversity. This leads to several challenges with regards to conservation and sustainable use. Various factors such as global change but also the need for a functioning and efficient bio-economy has necessitated that we as a country know as much as possible of our natural history and heritage. One way of doing this is to convert static published academic texts into dynamic data. With this in mind, African Invertebrates (formerly Annals of the Natal Museum) has over 100 years of species' taxonomic and distribution data contained within approximately 1000 papers, consisting of over 3400 species descriptions and all of their associated data. The aim is to digitize through OCR and perform XML-Markup of the literature in order to enable the dissemination of South African and Afrotropical biodiversity information to relevant data aggregators and portals such as GBIF/SABIF and Encyclopedia of Life, ensuring that information is not only available to scientists, but also to various government bodies, stakeholders and the public.