

The diversity of biodiversity events! - The online event calendar BYSE for the International Year of Biodiversity

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The United Nations assigned 2010 to be the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB). The IYB has been celebrated world wide with many innovative events. The online event calendar "Biodiversity Year Schedule of Events", short BYSE, schedules many of these events.

BYSE was first planned to promote the European biodiversity events. However, soon we received information from all over the world! Now, BYSE schedules events from more than forty countries from various organisers such as natural history museums, botanic gardens, zoos, aquaria, science centres, universities, international organisations, associations, companies and private people.

Among the events are biodiversity festivals, new biodiversity galleries, workshops, lectures, environmental education programmes, film festivals, new biodiversity glass houses, travelling photo exhibitions, informative websites, engagement campaigns and many more activities.

The BYSE calendar has been created in collaboration between EDIT and the IUCN Countdown 2010 and is managed by the EDIT Public Awareness team. The International Year of Biodiversity has been a good opportunity to raise awareness of the core business of the taxonomic facilities: biodiversity research and awareness raising of biodiversity! Please take a look at BYSE on www.countdown2010.net/byse

EDIT-Public Awareness

EDIT Public Awareness has as goal to work towards the integration of PA officers in European taxonomic facilities (EDIT and allied institutions) and to enhance the exchange of best practices in communicating modern taxonomy/biodiversity. For this two workshops have been arranged: "How to communicate taxonomy?" in 2008 and "Debriefing the International Year of Biodiversity" in 2011. The first workshop has e.g. led to the BYSE

calendar and inspired partners to contribute with innovative events to the International Year of Biodiversity. The second workshop unites the PA officers of EDIT as well as international organisations (UNESCO, IUCN, CBD, BGCI) to debrief the organisation and communication during the International Year of Biodiversity.

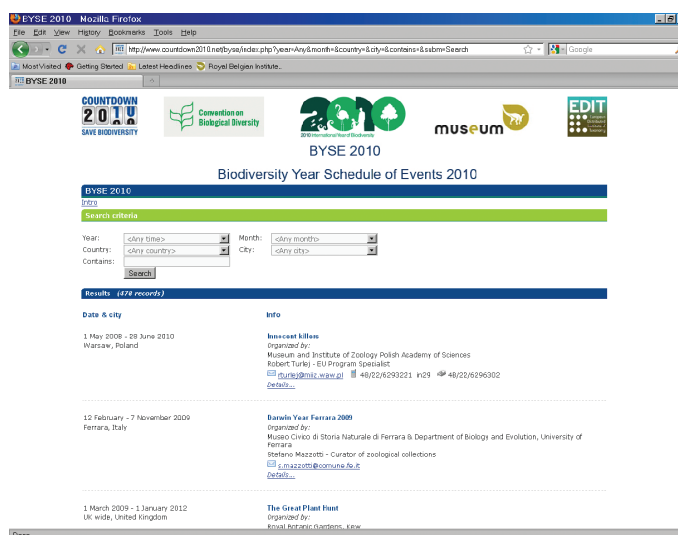


Fig. 1. BYSE: The Biodiversity Year Schedule of Events

Best practices in communicating taxonomy/biodiversity are presented within success stories in the EDIT newsletter and EDIT-PA promotes the outreach activities of taxonomic facilities in reports as well as in the online event calendar BYSE.

Furthermore, the professional taxonomist is promoted within researcher portraits. They are directed towards biology students and are presented on the Taxonomy Training Website of EDIT.

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Web Information :
EDIT-PA reports and success stories on the EDIT website: www.e-taxonomy.eu/node/895
EDIT Taxonomist Portraits:
www.taxonomytraining.eu/content/edit-taxonomist-portraits
The Biodiversity Year Schedule of Events :
www.countdown2010.net/byse

