

# National Biodiversity Data Centre

*Documenting Ireland's Wildlife*



## Irish Standard for Biological Datasets

A standard approach to the creation and management of biological records is necessary to ensure consistency of approach and interoperability of datasets. This document sets out the standard used for biological records collected in Ireland.

Data item	Irish standard
<b>Dataset title</b>	Taxonomic group, geographic coverage & organisation (e.g. Atlas of Mammals in Ireland – National Biodiversity Data Centre)
<b>Contact details</b>	Postal address, email, telephone number
<b>Observer(s)</b>	First name, Family name (e.g. Joan Murphy or Joan F. Murphy) (or Joan Murphy, Mark Walsh & John O'Brien – for two or more observers)
<b>Determiner name</b>	First name initial (e.g. Smith, Joan A.)(or Smith, Joan A., Doe, Liam C. for two or more observers)
<b>Location name</b>	location of observation (townland, county)
<b>Grid reference</b>	All records should provide grid reference coordinates for the sighting (Irish grid)
<b>Date</b>	dd/mm/yyyy
<b>Species name</b>	Latin name, e.g. <i>Delphinus delphis</i>

Biological records may also include many other fields. These have not been included for the Irish standard and can vary according to survey, organisation, etc. They may include fields such as comments (sample comment, specimen comment, survey event comment, taxon determination comment, taxon occurrence comment), abundance data, sampling method, altitude, associated species, biotope, publication reference, record type, substrate.