

# Hdb2Win

## Programme Release 2.5.1 (May 2022)

Application PaleoTax Service Release 17

Application PalCol Service Release 8 (unchanged from version 2.5.0)

Application Oliva Service Release 3

### Introduction

This file describes the modifications compared to programme release 2.5.0 and changes of the published application libraries. Please compare also to the documentation files on older versions, and to the additional files on specific functions of the database.

### Hdb2Win

#### *Installation*

You will download only one file – hdb2517.exe – that contains the installation programme and all the files you need to work with Hdb2Win and its applications. This file includes the database programme, the structures of the applications PaleoTax SR17, PalCol SR8, and Oliva SR3, as well as new versions of the supporting programmes PaleoTax/Graph and PaleoTax/Map.

Application PaleoTax – Database structure and programmes to manage taxonomic, geographic, stratigraphic, specimen, and literature data in **palaeontology**. The structure is clearly **taxon based**. Specimens can be recorded but the function is rudimentary.

Application PalCol – Database structure and programmes to manage taxonomic, geographic, stratigraphic, and specimen data in the **palaeontology**. The structure is clearly **specimen based** and is used to record fossil collections.

Application Oliva – Database structure and programmes to manage taxonomic, geographic, specimen, and literature data in the **biology**. The structure is clearly **specimen based**. There is a strong emphasis on morphometric data and images, as well as data estimation (sediment and size data, geographic distribution). The taxonomy only covers the taxonomic levels between phylum and species but does not deal with citations in the literature, or types. Synonymy is rudimentary.

PaleoTax/Graph – Separate programme to create vector images from data analysis and estimation carried out by any application library. From Hdb2Win version 2.5.0 on, the functions of the programme can be called from the database interpreter. The new version 2.4 has experienced improvements of the export format, page settings, and various applications.

PaleoTax/Map – Separate map programme to plot occurrences or localities.

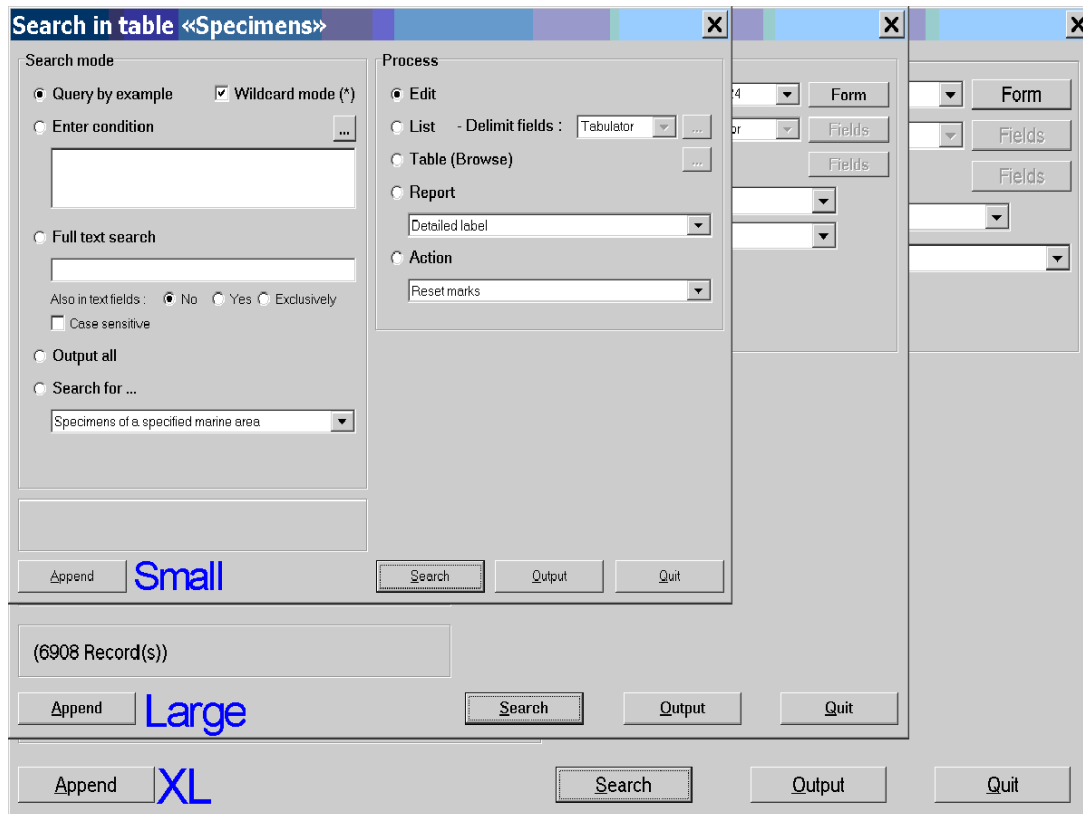
Start the installation programme – hdb2517.exe. You probably should have administrator rights to do so. You need to decide which application you want to use. Documentation files will not be installed; please download them separately from the manual page (<https://www.paleotax.de/pvn10.htm>) or from the database programme (Hdb2Win > Application library > Options > Help files PDF). A previously installed version does not require un-installation. If you want to do so, use the functionality of the operating system (Start / Control / Programs) un-installing former versions. Uninstall removes only the programme, but not configuration files stored in 'c:\Users\\AppData\Roaming\Hdb2Win'. Uninstall does not remove your databases. The installation of PaleoTax Service Releases 17 and Oliva Service Release 3 requires the installation of Hdb2Win 2.5.1 before.

## Database kernel

### Screen resolution

In this version, Hdb2Win still supports very small screens down to a size of 600x800 pixels. I feel that this will not be longer possible because screens with at least the double size are the standard. So for various forms there exist meanwhile three versions – old (small), new (large) and 2.5.1 (XL). So take this information as an announcement that from the next programme release on your screen must have at least 768x1024 pixels. You may still work with the present version (but this version will probably not work well with newer programmes of Application Libraries).

In the present release, three general forms of the application library are provided with larger versions; the database selection menu, the main menu, and the principal search menu. With the next release, more and larger forms will be available. See the different format of the principal search menu compared.



### How to handle problems related to display scaling under W10/11

On screens with a comparably high resolution, Hdb2Win offers only very low screen resolutions for the data acquisition forms. This is because the operating system "pretends" a small screen to be compatible with all programmes. The same applies to the supporting programmes such as PaleoTax/Graph and PaleoTax/Map. You can fix this with a right-click on the programme (on the Windows Desktop); selecting "Properties > Compatibility > Change high DPI settings". Mark the box " Disable Display Scaling on High DPI Settings".

After having done this, the windows of Hdb2Win are very tiny, moreover the text on buttons may be very small. First, important forms come already with larger versions as explained above, Second, you can increase the font size for all system buttons. To do so, choose "Application library > Options > Display". Increase stepwise the value for "Font size of all system buttons" (left column, last item).

## Options

There are two new options.

[138] Text size (pt) for system buttons. – This is a global value for the text size of the buttons. You may change this value in "Application library > Options > Display" as explained above.

[139] Available main memory for the album function (in MB). – This value (default value 512 MB) defines how much memory is available for the Album function. This function is up to know only used by the application Oliva. In the manual on Oliva Service Release 3 more information is given.

## RTF Text Conversion

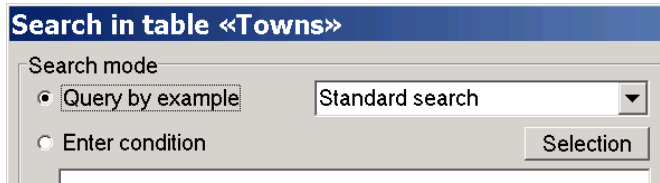
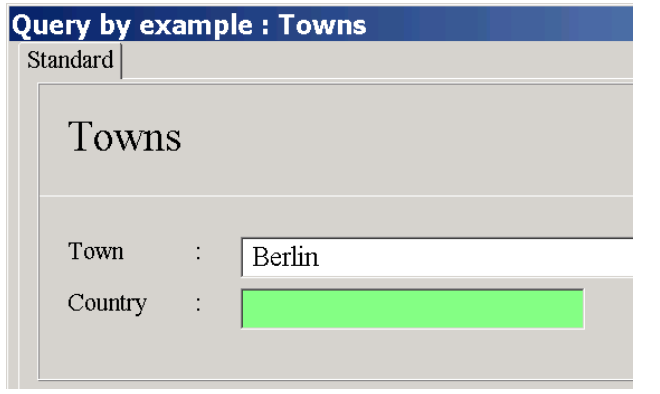
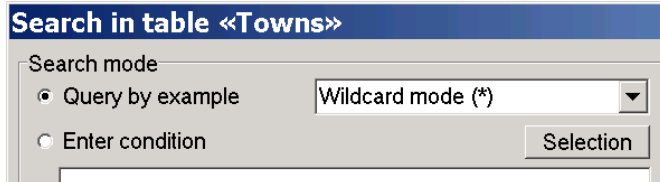
The programme to edit the templates for the RTF file conversion was improved. There is a new short manual about the Rich Text Format, the editor of the templates and how the apply the templates in the Interpreter.

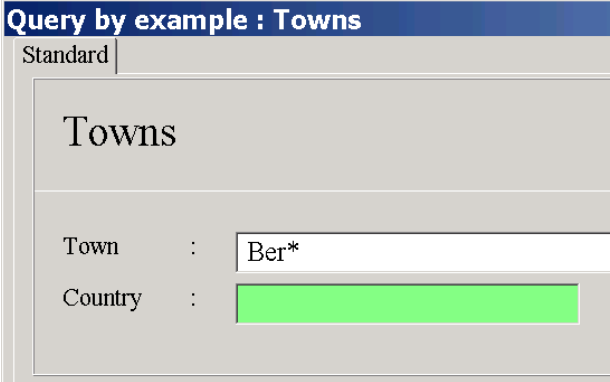
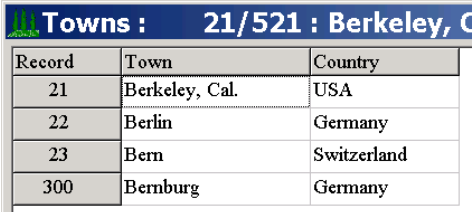
## Application library

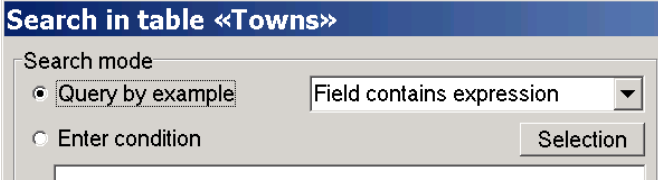
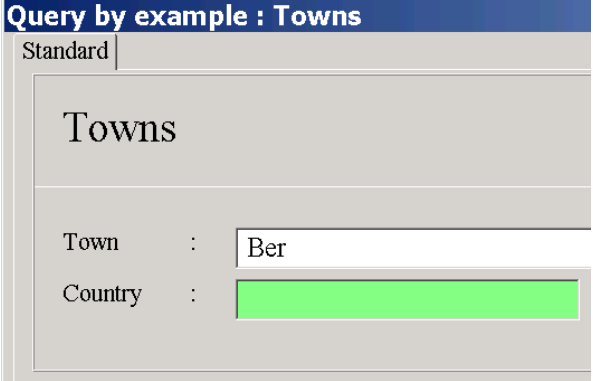
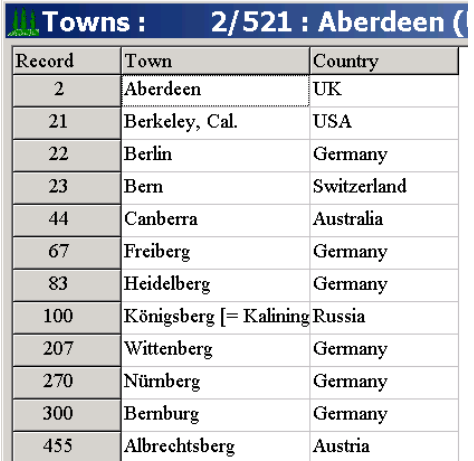
### Search in data acquisition forms improved

Most easy search mode is the query by example. Fill in the fields according what you look for and search. This is only easy for interconnected tables (because you may select a specific item from another table) or very short fields (as for instance, the year in the publication table). The search becomes complicated when you are not exactly sure what you are looking for. In this case, most users select the full text search. The full text search is efficient but slow, even more when your table has many items. For this reason, the options for searching are now a little bit more flexible. This works only in the application library and Command line, not in the Interpreter, and it works only with the function of "Query by example".

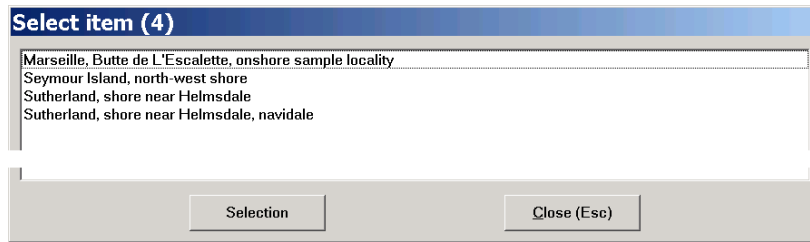
In the new programme version, in the search menu in the application library you will note that the box "Wild card mode (\*)" is replaced by a short list. It offers three options, a Standard search, a Wildcard mode and a mode called Field contains expression.

<p><b>Standard search</b></p> <p>The Standard search finds only items when the search expression and the content of the data field are identical.</p>	
<p>If searching for Berlin in the search form, you will get only one record.</p>	
<p><b>Wild card mode</b></p>	

<p>In the Wild card mode the search string can end with an asterisk.</p>																
<p>This search will deliver more items, but all start with the search expression.</p>	 <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Record</th> <th>Town</th> <th>Country</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>21</td> <td>Berkeley, Cal.</td> <td>USA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22</td> <td>Berlin</td> <td>Germany</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td> <td>Bern</td> <td>Switzerland</td> </tr> <tr> <td>300</td> <td>Bernburg</td> <td>Germany</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Record	Town	Country	21	Berkeley, Cal.	USA	22	Berlin	Germany	23	Bern	Switzerland	300	Bernburg	Germany
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22	Berlin	Germany														
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<p><b>Extended mode</b></p>																																								
<p>In the Extended mode the search brings all records that contain the search string. Lower and upper case are ignored and the search text can be in any part of the data field.</p>																																								
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If you feel that the last options yields too many items, you may select a specific items from a list based on your search. This is most easily explained by an example. Let's assume you have selected the table of the LOCALITIES and you want to search for a specific location, but you remember only that 'shore' was part of the outcrop name. So go to the field of the *outcrop*, type 'shore' and press F3:



If you select an item it will be copied into the field and you may search by clicking on **Done!**. The search text must have at least five letters. Otherwise the list would be very long.

### *Right click in the main menu*

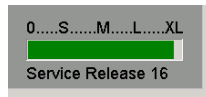
In the main menu of the application exists now the opportunity to handle a right click at a table. The handling of a right click es entirely external; the database programme looks for a programme of the interpreter with the name of the table plus *\_R.PRF*. As for instance in SR3 of Oliva such a programme is available named *RCFAMS\_R.PRF* for the table of Families (RCFAMS). This programme handles the right click. So far only for Oliva and only for this table such a function exists.

### *Function keys in data acquisition forms*

When pressing F1 in the data acquisition form, a help line is shown at the bottom of the form.

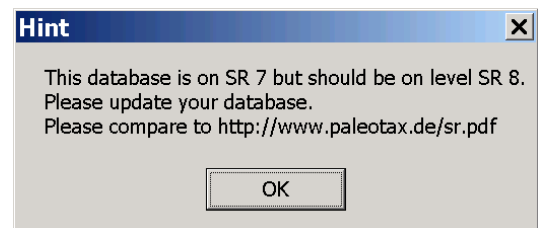
### *Reorganisation status*

Reorganisation is important in the application libraries Oliva and PaleoTax. For this reason the progress bar now changes colour depending on the reorganisation state, from green to purple.

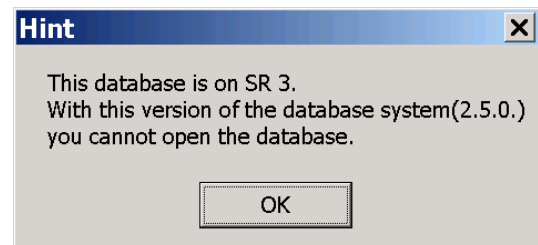


### *More strict control on Service Releases*

Any new version of Hdb2Win comes with a set of pre-designed database structures (that are described above). Each structure is on a specific Service Release level (PaleoTax SR17, PalCol SR8, and Oliva SR3). After having installed the new programme version with the (new versions of) pre-designed database structures, you need to update your databases. If not, you will a message when opening a non updated structure:



The database will be opened anyway but on the one hand you will not be able to use new implemented functions and on the other, errors (in programmes or forms) are not removed. If you brought your database to the current Service Release but try to open the database with an older version of Hdb2Win, you probably may get an error message as well:



## Interpreter

The interpreter always receive some minor changes, some modified parameters, some new commands. All these is explained in the updated manual on the interpreter.

## Applications

User, who have installed Hdb2Win version 2.5.1 for the first time **do not need to do anything** since their structure is already on the level of PaleoTax SR17 / PalCol SR8 / Oliva SR3. For users of former versions it is necessary to bring your database to the new Service Release (in this version only PaleoTax and Oliva). It is, as always, recommended to make backup copies of your database before applying a Service Release, even if there is only a small amount of changes in the database sensu stricto. See also the separate file sr.pdf (in both English and German).

### *PaleoTax*

You will find the programme SR17.PRF in the folder 'c:\Documents and Settings\\Documents\Hdb2Win\PTX\_SR17' (Windows XP) or 'c:\Users\\Documents\Hdb2Win\PTX\_SR17' (more recent versions). Load the file with the interpreter, start it, read carefully the instructions and answer properly the questions.

Modifications compared to SR16

The update of the application includes again the programmes for data estimation that were not available in SR16. There is a detailed manual available (ptx-de-sr17.pdf). Some forms were modified.

### *Oliva*

For the application Oliva a substantial update is presented. You will find the programme SR3.PRF in the folder 'c:\Documents and Settings\\Documents\Hdb2Win\OLI\_SR3' (Windows XP) or 'c:\Users\\Documents\Hdb2Win\OLI\_SR3' (more recent versions). Load the file with the interpreter, start it, read carefully the instructions and answer properly the questions.

Modifications compared to SR2

There are again more programmes for data analysis. There is also a new manual, one version with changes marked in a different colour (oliva-3m.pdf) and a 'clean' version (oliva-3.pdf).

Right click on the FAMILY table brings up a short-list of families (that are marked in the new field 'Include in selection list'. Selecting one or more then edits the records. The idea is that when images are marked as principal image in the table PICTURES TO SPECIMENS, these images are shown when clicking in the FAMILY table on the button Images.

### *PalCol*

No modifications were made; the current Service Release is SR8.

## Additional programmes

Some applications of PaleoTax/Graph were overhauled and improved. Please compare to the detailed and expanded manual PGraph-24.pdf. PaleoTax/Map was slightly modified and improved. There is also an updated manual PMap-222.pdf.

## Manuals

- The manual for Hdb2Win version 2.1 is still valid for PaleoTax versions 2.2 up to 2.5. There are not too many changes since then, and practical everything new is documented in the PDFs on following programme versions. Read the manual (available online for free). Check the F.A.Q. Both answer most questions.
- The following documents were published after the printed manual:
  - info220.pdf
  - info221.pdf
  - info222.pdf
  - info23.pdf
  - info231.pdf
  - info232.pdf
  - info24.pdf
  - info241.pdf
  - info242.pdf
  - info25.pdf
  - info251.pdf (this file)
- An extensive description of the Interpreter is provided in ip-22.df.
- An instruction how to create new applications is available since version 2.4 (cb-11.pdf).
- The options of the database are altogether documented in options-1.pdf (bilingual; version Hdb2Win 2.5).
- The editor of the forms is documented in forms-1b.pdf (updated version)
- Data analysis in the Application library PaleoTax is back with better functions to graph the results and an improved manual ptx-de-sr17.pdf.
- The updated manual (oliva-3.pdf) on the Oliva application comes also with a short introduction on the database system itself.
- Additional programmes such as PaleoTax/Graph and PaleoTax/Map come along with new manuals (PGraph-24.pdf; PMap-222.pdf).
- A short manual on the Rich Text Format, the template editor and how to apply formatting is published (TCV-1.pdf).
- Please look at Hdb2Win > Application Library > Options > Help files (PDF) for the links.

Be aware that from 2022 on, the server paleotax.de is certified and the correct address is now

<https://www.paleotax.de>

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Advice, wishes and comments are always welcome, also if I cannot realise them on the spot. They are not forgotten, but sometimes they demand structural or conceptual changes. Some are impossible to realise. A reminder could be helpful.

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