

Newsletter no.1 - January 2021

Dear national age/maturity coordinator

The SmartDots YouTube channel has been updated [here](#). Tutorials outlining the features of the 2020 release and for maturity staging have been added.

The WGBIOP proposed list of biological sample type and methods are being incorporated into SmartDots. We are working with the ICES Data Centre on streamlining vocabularies used in SmartDots in connection with other governance and expert groups.

Training events should be published when readers from more than one country are involved and results are interesting for the stock assessors.

Development of the egg and larvae module for SmartDots is continuing. This is planned to be available by the end of the year.

We are working on incorporating more details on readers expertise into SmartDots events. An excel sheet needs to be completed and the event coordinator will insert the resulting reader rank into SmartDots.

Plans are underway to improve training tools for event coordinators via online training sessions.

We would also like to use this opportunity to remind you all about your responsibility as a national age/maturity coordinator;

- Please make sure your readers/stagers are updated in SmartDots.
- If a WGBIOP exchange or workshop is to be run by someone else at your institute, it is your responsibility as coordinator to propose and delegate the event in SmartDots.
- All exchanges, workshops and stock assessment relevant training events need to be reported on and published in SmartDots.

Best regards
WGSMART