From: Gilmour, Cindy
To: Miller, Denise; Axelrad, Don
Subject: Next version of the ACME DB
Date: Friday, May 08, 2009 4:47:32 PM
Attachments: ACME DB 050809.accdb

Denise, Don –
Attached is the next version of the ACME DB. It's just under 7M in size.

This version has a little more comprehensive "switchboard" which is an easier way to get into the data.
It has more data than the last version, although still not nearly all of it.
It has a new tables, to describe parameter, and more descriptive tables are coming.
We have added a descriptor for each field (column) in the DB; you can access this by looking at the design view of the main data table.

Some comments in response to your questions are inserted below.

We will keep pumping in data and adding info on the experimental data from 2000 on… next version due May 22!

Have a great weekend – Cindy and Fritz

From: Miller, Denise [mailto:Denise.Miller@dep.state.fl.us]
Sent: Monday, May 04, 2009 11:25 AM
To: Axelrad, Don; Gilmour, Cindy
Subject: A few comments on draft ACME database

Hi Cindy and Don - here are my notes regarding the initial draft ACME database. Per our discussion with Cindy last Thursday, many of these already may be addressed. Some of the comments/questions below may no longer be relevant, since development of the database has proceeded from the version we have for review. What we have contains <8,000 records, Cindy noted she currently has some 12,000 records and anticipates ~18,000 before all is said and done.

* Some database keys are needed- at least one to describe each of the fields in the database tables, and then others to describe the contents of the individual fields, some of them needing more particular detail. Cindy noted they are working on a front end to the database already, towards that end.

We are developing tables to provide specific info on a number of fields. In this version, we've added a parameter table to describe analytical methods.

* Is Lab sample ID actually from the analytical lab conducting the analysis (i.e., is this a link back to lab records), or is it a construct of Cindy's for this database. Looks like the former, but I just wanted to clarify. I note that there is not a Lab Sample ID for every row of data, but looks like there should be.

Lab ID is a field used to denote a unique identifier originally used by each lab. They generally identify a unique sample. Therefore there may be multiple entries for each Lab ID, for different analytes.

The index column in the DB is an auto-generated number, which is unique for each entry.

* What is the Source File field?

Source file is the name and location of the processed Excel data file used in the creation of the data base. This field is useful in the process of proofing the data base, but, since it is of no value to the end users, will probably be eliminated in the final version.

* What is the Analytical File field? It is not populated for each row of data. * A key with descriptors is needed for each unique entry of the Experiment field (e.g., FEMesos2005; Field data, etc.).

Same as source file field – for our own tracking, and probably won't stay in the final version of the DB.

* There are 146 unique site names in the Main New Data table, but only 123 unique sites described in the Sites table. Is this just a matter of both being a work in progress?

We have update site and site table.

* A key is needed to describe unique entries in the Treatment field.

We will add a table for "Experiments" and "treatments" – but we're not there yet.

* What is the Sampling Method field? It doesn't seem to be populated with sampling methods (e.g., entries of Cattail, D, F, Peat/Marl). At a minimum, a key is needed to describe the intent and contents of this field. From discussion last Thursday, though, sounds like this may no longer be a field in the database?

We may add a table to describe these.

* Sample Depth, Sample Depth Top and Sample Depth Bottom fields either need accompanying units fields, or, if all the same within a field, just include units in the field name.

All unit are cm. Each field in the main data table now has a simple description.

* DL-Flag field is the only field with QA information. Are there no other analytical flags on any of the data besides showing what was below the detection limit?

* Parameter field - a key is needed describing the parameter name, analytical method, whether a field or lab parameter. As I understand it, this is already in the newer version of the database.

* Detection limits field needs an accompanying units field.

Same units as the parameter itself.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Will it be possible to address these comments/questions for the updated draft that we were discussing for this coming Friday?

Denise

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