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AN ANALYTICAL STUDY OF OPEN ACCESS BOOKS IN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SCIENCES AVAILABLE IN THE DIRECTORY OF OPEN ACCESS BOOKS (DOAB)

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Abstract: *The Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) is a platform to increase the discoverability of open access peer - reviewed books. It provides access to 7565 academic peer-reviewed books and chapters from 196 publishers. The present study aims to assess the availability of open access books in the subject of Agriculture and Food Sciences listed in the directory.*

Keywords: *DOAB, Open access books, Open access, Agriculture and Food Sciences*

I INTRODUCTION

The Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) was officially launched in 2013 at Open Access Monographs in the Humanities and Social Sciences Conference in the British Library to enhance the visibility, dissemination and impact of open access books [1]. DOAB is a discovery service for peer-reviewed books which are published under an open access license [2]. It is a service of Open Access Publishing in European Networks (OAPEN) foundation, which is an international initiative dedicated to open access monograph publishing. All the academic publishers can upload the metadata of their open access books to DOAB [3, 4, and 5].

The directory provide access to only those books which are available under Creative Commons or a comparable license and books with more restrictive license are excluded to increase the download of books. All the books listed in the directory are freely accessible to readers, which enables them to freely read and share these books for non-commercial purposes [6].

II OBJECTIVES

The aim of this study is to determine language-wise, year-wise, publisher-wise, license-wise and author-wise availability of open access books in the discipline of

Agriculture and Food Sciences available in the Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB).

III METHODOLOGY

The Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) was accessed on 15.02.2017 to download the metadata of 72 books in the subject of Agriculture and Food Sciences listed in the directory. Data have been presented in tabular form and percentage calculations have been applied for data interpretation.

IV RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 Language-wise distribution

Language	No. of books	Percentage
English	48	66.67
German	16	22.22
Italian	2	2.78
Portuguese	6	8.33

It is clear from this table that books in the subject of Agriculture & Food Sciences are published in different languages. It is clear that nearly 2/3rd books are in English,

followed by 22.22% in German language. About 8.33% books are in Portuguese and 2.78% in Italian.

Table 2 Year-wise distribution

Year	No. of books	Percentage
1995-2005	6	8.33
2006	2	2.78
2007	4	5.55
2008	2	2.78
2009	4	5.55
2010	7	9.73
2011	2	2.78
2012	2	2.78
2013	5	6.95
2014	4	5.55
2015	16	22.22
2016	18	25.00

Table 2 shows that 72 open access books in the subject of Agriculture and Food Sciences listed in DOAB were published during 1995-2016. About 1/4th books were published in the year 2016, 22.22% books in 2015 and 9.73% in 2010. 2 (2.78%) books per year were published in 2008, 2011 and 2012.

Table 3 Pagination Pattern

Pages	No. of books	Percentage
Less than 100	9	12.50
101-200	17	23.60
201-300	24	33.33
301-400	12	16.67
401-500	3	4.17
501-600	2	2.78
601-700	3	4.17
More than 700	2	2.78

It is clear from above table that out of 72 books, nearly 1/3rd have 201 to 300 pages, followed by 23.60%

books having 101-200 pages. About 16.67% and 12.50% books have 301-400 and less than 100 pages, respectively. Only 2 (2.78%) books have more than 700 pages.

Table 4 Publisher-Wise Distribution

Publisher	No. of books	Percentage
ANU	11	15.27
Bohalu	3	4.17
De Gruyter	2	2.78
Universtatverlag Gottingen	10	13.88
Frontier Media SA	5	6.95
Springer	11	15.27
SciELO Books - Editora FIOCRUZ	5	6.95
Firenze University Press	3	4.17
Open Book Publishers	2	2.78
Athabasca University Press	2	2.78
Amsterdam University Press	2	2.78
Others	16	22.22

Table 4 shows publisher-wise distribution of books. About 15.27% books are from ANU and Springer publishers each. 10 (13.88%) books are from Universtatverlag Gottingen. 5 (6.95%) books each are from Frontier Media SA and SciELO Books - Editora FIOCRUZ. About 2.78% books are contributed by De Gruyter, Open Book Publishers, Athabasca University Press and Amsterdam University Press publishers each.

Table 5 License-wise distribution

License	No. of books	Percentage
CC-BY	12	16.67
CC-BY-NC	14	19.45
CC-BY-ND	8	11.11
CC-BY-NC-ND	18	25.00

CC-BY-NC-SA	7	9.72
CC-BY-SA	2	2.78
ANU Press	11	15.27

Table 5 makes it clear that 1/4th books have CC-BY-NC-ND license. About 19.45% books have CC-BY-NC, followed by 16.67% books with CC-BY licenses. 8 (11.11%) books have CC-BY-ND and 7 (9.72%) have CC-BY-NC-SA licenses.

Table 6 Author-wise distribution

Authors	No. of books	Percentage
Single Author	29	40.27
Two Authors	13	18.05
Three Authors	5	6.94
Four Authors	7	9.72
More than Four Authors	11	15.27
Editors	No. of books	Percentage
Single Editor	2	2.78
Two Editors	1	1.39
Three Editors	3	4.17
Four Editors	1	1.39

It is clear from above table that 40.27% books are authored by single authors, followed by two authors (18.05%) and more than four authors (15.27%). 7 (9.72%) books are authored by four authors and 5 (6.94%) by two authors. Among the edited books, 3 (4.17%) are edited by three editors, 2 (2.78%) by single editor.

V CONCLUSION

This study depicts that total 72 books in the subject of Agriculture and Food Sciences are accessible through DOAB. About 66.67% books are in English, 22.22% books in followed by German language. The no. of pages in books varies from <100 to >700. About 1/4th books have CC-BY-NC-ND license. Nearly 2/5th books have been contributed by single authors. Study concludes that integration of DOAB to the online catalogues of the libraries would help researchers and students to find and use open access books.

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