Implementing the NAL Thesaurus in a Knowledge Repository (KR)

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Implementation of the NAL Thesaurus in the KR

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What is the Knowledge Repository?

- Knowledge domain structure
- Manage more than packaged information
- Interoperability with other repositories
  - Internal to MSU
  - External (LGUs, AgNIC, ADEC and others)
- Employ Web services for search
- Interact with MSUE portal or stand alone
What is the National Agricultural Library Thesaurus (NALT)?

- A thesaurus is more than keywords
- Produced by the National Ag. Library
- Official thesaurus of USDA
- Over 70,000 terms
- Updated annually
- Currently being translated to Spanish
How do they work together?

- Thesaurus provides consistent resource descriptions
- Search services vet terms against NALT
  - Provides more consistent search results
- NALT provides schema for KR
- NALT provides foundation for interoperability with other repositories
Who is involved in this KR?

- Michigan State University Extension
- National Agricultural Library
- Michigan State University Main Library
How is the information organized for inclusion in the KR?

- What are the sources and types?
- What policies need to be in place to manage the information: new and current
- Who needs to be on board to make it work?
How do you use the KR?

- Knowledge Repository (direct)
  - www.msue.msu.edu/kr
- Portal Module
  - Can be added to any MSUE portal page
Office Integration

- Microsoft Office Research Services, one of the features of Microsoft Office 2003 Editions, allows you to search public, corporate, subscription databases, intranet sites, reference materials, and selected Internet services without leaving your Office application or Microsoft Internet Explorer.

- [http://kr.msue.msu.edu/WSKR/WSKSRegistration.asmx](http://kr.msue.msu.edu/WSKR/WSKSRegistration.asmx)
Web Services

• MSUE’s Web Service URL is:
  ▪ WSDL:
    http://msue.msu.edu/kr_services.cfc?WSDL

• Basic Search Function takes a “Search Term” parameter and returns search results
How can it be expanded?

- Partners
  - Web services
  - Other repositories
  - Interoperability
AgNIC Implementation of the NALT
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