

# Package ‘ncbit’

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**Type** Package

**Title** retrieve and build NCBI taxonomic data

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**Depends** R (>= 2.10)

**Description** making NCBI taxonomic data locally available and searchable as an R object

**License** GPL (>= 2)

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Repository** CRAN

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ncbit	<i>retrieve and build NCBI taxonomic data</i>
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### Description

making accessible the NCBI taxonomic data

### Usage

```
ncbit(update = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

update            whether to update database or to use the locally installed version  
 ...                additional arguments to be used if update=TRUE)

**Details**

This function will return a dataframe of the NCBI taxonomy, using either a freshly updated version (if update=TRUE) or a loaded version of the locally installed version. An internet connection must be functional and several utilities must be available and if updating the database: **curl**, **gunzip**, **tar**, **perl**, **mv**, and possibly **rm**. If any of the required utilities are unavailable, the function will issue an error. If updating the database, the database will be assembled in the data directory of the **ncbit** package and temporary files will be removed in the process. The removal of temporary files can be prevented with rm=FALSE in the call to ncbit.

**Value**

A dataframe of class 'taxdump' is returned with the following elements:

**id**                a unique integer associated with the node  
**node**             a string descriptor of the node  
**unique**           a string describing the node  
**type**             the type of datum (e.g., scientific name, common name, synonym, etc.)  
**parent\_id**        a unique integer associated with the parent node

**References**

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Taxonomy/taxonomyhome.html>

Sayers EW, T Barrett, DA Benson, SH Bryant, K Canese, V Chetvernin, DM Church, M DiCuccio, R Edgar, S Federhen, M Feolo, LY Geer, M Hlemborg, Y Kapustin, D Landsman, DJ Lipman, TL Madden, DR Maglott, V Miller, I Mizrachi, J Ostell, KD Pruitt, GD Schuler, E Sequeira, ST Sherry, M Shumway, K Sirotkin, A Souvorov, G Starchenko, TA Tatusova, L Wagner, E yaschenko, and J Ye. 2009. Database resources of the National Center for Biotechnology Information. *Nucleic Acids Research* 37:D5-15.

Benson DA, I Karsch-Mizrachi, DJ Lipman, J Ostell, and EW Sayers. 2009. GenBank. *Nucleic Acids Research* 37:D26-31.

**Examples**

```
ncbi=get(data(ncbi))
print(ncbi)
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