

# Package ‘APCalign’

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**Title** Resolving Plant Taxon Names Using the Australian Plant Census

**Version** 1.1.2

**Description** The process of resolving taxon names is necessary when working with biodiversity data. 'APCalign' uses the Australian Plant Census (APC) and the Australian Plant Name Index (APNI) to align and update plant taxon names to current, accepted standards. 'APCalign' also supplies information about the established status of plant taxa across different states/territories.

**License** MIT + file LICENSE

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---

align\_taxa

*Align Australian plant scientific names to the APC or APNI*

---

## Description

For a list of Australian plant names, find taxonomic or scientific name alignments to the APC or APNI through standardizing formatting and fixing spelling errors.

Usage case: Users will run this function if they wish to see the details of the matching algorithms, the many output columns that the matching function compares to as it seeks the best alignment. They may also select this function if they want to adjust the “fuzziness” level for fuzzy matches, options not allowed in create\_taxonomic\_update\_lookup. This function is the first half of create\_taxonomic\_update\_lookup.

## Usage

```
align_taxa(
  original_name,
  output = NULL,
  full = FALSE,
  resources = load_taxonomic_resources(),
  quiet = FALSE,
  fuzzy_abs_dist = 3,
  fuzzy_rel_dist = 0.2,
```

```

    fuzzy_matches = TRUE,
    imprecise_fuzzy_matches = FALSE,
    APNI_matches = TRUE,
    identifier = NA_character_
)

```

### Arguments

original_name	A list of names to query for taxonomic alignments.
output	(optional) The name of the file to save the results to.
full	Parameter to determine how many columns are output
resources	the taxonomic resources used to align the taxa names. Loading this can be slow, so call <a href="#">load_taxonomic_resources</a> separately to greatly speed this function up and pass the resources in.
quiet	Logical to indicate whether to display messages while aligning taxa.
fuzzy_abs_dist	The number of characters allowed to be different for a fuzzy match.
fuzzy_rel_dist	The proportion of characters allowed to be different for a fuzzy match.
fuzzy_matches	Fuzzy matches are turned on as a default. The relative and absolute distances allowed for fuzzy matches to species and infraspecific taxon names are defined by the parameters <code>fuzzy_abs_dist</code> and <code>fuzzy_rel_dist</code>
imprecise_fuzzy_matches	Imprecise fuzzy matches uses the fuzzy matching function with lenient levels set (absolute distance of 5 characters; relative distance = 0.25). It offers a way to get a wider range of possible names, possibly corresponding to very distant spelling mistakes. This is FALSE as default and all outputs should be checked as it often makes erroneous matches.
APNI_matches	Name matches to the APNI (Australian Plant Names Index) are turned on as a default.
identifier	A dataset, location or other identifier, which defaults to NA.

### Details

- This function finds taxonomic alignments in APC or scientific name alignments in APNI.
- It uses the internal function `match_taxa` to attempt to match input strings to taxon names in the APC/APNI.
- It sequentially searches for matches against more than 20 different string patterns, prioritising exact matches (to accepted names as well as synonyms, orthographic variants) over fuzzy matches.
- It prioritises matches to taxa in the APC over names in the APNI.
- It identifies string patterns in input names that suggest a name can only be aligned to a genus (hybrids that are not in the APC/APNI; graded species; taxa not identified to species), and indicates these names only have a genus-rank match.

Notes:

- If you will be running the function `APCalign::create_taxonomic_update_lookup` many times, it is best to load the taxonomic resources separately using `resources <- load_taxonomic_resources()`, then add the argument `resources = resources`
- The name *Banksia cerrata* does not align as the fuzzy matching algorithm does not allow the first letter of the genus and species epithet to change.
- With this function you have the option of changing the fuzzy matching parameters. The defaults, with fuzzy matches only allowing changes of 3 (or fewer) characters AND 20% (or less) of characters has been carefully calibrated to catch just about all typos, but very, very rarely mis-align a name. If you wish to introduce less conservative fuzzy matching it is recommended you manually check the aligned names.
- It is recommended that you begin with `imprecise_fuzzy_matches = FALSE` (the default), as quite a few of the less precise fuzzy matches are likely to be erroneous. This argument should be turned on only if you plan to check all alignments manually.
- The argument `identifier` allows you to add a fix text string to all genus- and family- level names, such as `identifier = "Royal NP"` would return "*Acacia* sp. [Royal NP]".

### Value

A tibble with columns that include `original_name`, `aligned_name`, `taxonomic_dataset`, `taxon_rank`, `aligned_reason`, `alignment_code`.

- `original_name`: the original plant name input.
- `aligned_name`: the original plant name after the function `standardise_names` has standardised the syntax of infraspecific taxon designations.
- `taxonomic_dataset`: the source of the aligned names (APC or APNI).
- `taxon_rank`: the taxonomic rank of the aligned name.
- `aligned_reason`: the explanation of a specific taxon name alignment (from an original name to an aligned name).
- `alignment_code`: a code that accompanies the `aligned_reason`, indicating the relative sequence of the match during the alignment process.
- `cleaned_name`: original name with punctuation and infraspecific taxon designation terms standardised by the function `standardise_names`; streamlines exact matches.
- `stripped_name`: cleaned name with punctuation and infraspecific taxon designation terms removed by the function `strip_names`; improves fuzzy matches.
- `stripped_name2`: cleaned name with punctuation, infraspecific taxon designation terms, and other filler words removed by the function `strip_names_extra`; required for matches to first two word and first three words.
- `trinomial`: the first three words in `stripped_name2`, required for matches that ignore all other text in the `original_name`; improves phrase name matches.
- `binomial`: the first two words in `stripped_name2`, required for matches that ignore all other text in the `original_name`; improves phrase name matches.
- `genus`: the first two words in `cleaned_name`; required for genus-rank matches and reprocessing of genus-rank names.
- `fuzzy_match_genus`: fuzzy match of genus column to best match among APC-accepted names; required for fuzzy matches of genus-rank names.

- `fuzzy_match_genus_synonym`: fuzzy match of genus column to best match among APC-synonymous names, only considering different matches to those documented under APC-accepted genera; required for fuzzy matches of genus-rank names.
- `fuzzy_match_genus_APNI`: fuzzy match of genus column to best match among APNI names, only considering different matches to those documented under APC-accepted and APC-known genera; required for fuzzy matches of genus-rank names.
- `fuzzy_match_family`: fuzzy match of genus column to best match among APC-accepted family names; required for fuzzy matches of family-rank names.
- `fuzzy_match_family_synonym`: fuzzy match of genus column to best match among APC-synonymous family names; required for fuzzy matches of family-rank names.
- `fuzzy_match_cleaned_APC`: fuzzy match of `stripped_name` to APC-accepted names; created for yet-to-be-aligned names at the match step 05a in the function `match_taxa`.
- `fuzzy_match_cleaned_APC_synonym`: fuzzy match of `stripped_name` to APC-synonymous names; created for yet-to-be-aligned names at the match step 05b in the function `match_taxa`.
- `fuzzy_match_cleaned_APC_imprecise`: imprecise fuzzy match of `stripped_name` to APC-accepted names; created for yet-to-be-aligned names at the match step 07a in the function `match_taxa`.
- `fuzzy_match_cleaned_APC_synonym_imprecise`: imprecise fuzzy match of `stripped_name` to APC-accepted names; created for yet-to-be-aligned names at the match step 07b in the function `match_taxa`.
- `fuzzy_match_binomial`: fuzzy match of binomial column to best match among APC-accepted names; created for yet-to-be-aligned names at match step 10c in the function `match_taxa`.
- `fuzzy_match_binomial_APC_synonym`: fuzzy match of binomial column to best match among APC-synonymous names; created for yet-to-be-aligned names at match step 10d in the function `match_taxa`.
- `fuzzy_match_trinomial`: fuzzy match of trinomial column to best match among APC-accepted names; created for yet-to-be-aligned names at match step 09c in the function `match_taxa`.
- `fuzzy_match_trinomial_synonym`: fuzzy match of trinomial column to best match among APC-synonymous names; created for yet-to-be-aligned names at match step 09d in the function `match_taxa`.
- `fuzzy_match_cleaned_APNI`: fuzzy match of `stripped_name` to APNI names; created for yet-to-be-aligned names at the match step 11a in the function `match_taxa`.
- `fuzzy_match_cleaned_APNI_imprecise`: imprecise fuzzy match of `stripped_name` to APNI names; created for yet-to-be-aligned names at the match step 11b in the function `match_taxa`.

### See Also

[load\\_taxonomic\\_resources](#)

Other taxonomic alignment functions: [create\\_taxonomic\\_update\\_lookup\(\)](#), [update\\_taxonomy\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
resources <- load_taxonomic_resources()
```

```
# example 1
align_taxa(c("Poa annua", "Abies alba"), resources=resources)

# example 2
input <- c("Banksia serrata", "Banksia serrate", "Banksia cerrata",
"Banksia serrrrata", "Dryandra sp.", "Banksia big red flowers")

aligned_taxa <-
  APCalign::align_taxa(
    original_name = input,
    identifier = "APCalign test",
    full = TRUE,
    resources=resources
  )
```

---

```
create_species_state_origin_matrix
```

*State level native and introduced origin status*

---

## Description

This function uses the taxon distribution data from the APC to determine state level native and introduced origin status.

This function processes the geographic data available in the APC and returns state level native, introduced and more complicated origins status for all taxa.

## Usage

```
create_species_state_origin_matrix(resources = load_taxonomic_resources())
```

## Arguments

**resources** the taxonomic resources required to make the summary statistics. Loading this can be slow, so call `load_taxonomic_resources` separately to greatly speed this function up and pass the resources in.

## Value

A tibble with columns representing each state and rows representing each species. The values in each cell represent the origin of the species in that state.

## See Also

[load\\_taxonomic\\_resources](#)

Other diversity methods: [native\\_anywhere\\_in\\_australia\(\)](#), [state\\_diversity\\_counts\(\)](#)

## Examples

```
create_species_state_origin_matrix()
```

---

```
create_taxonomic_update_lookup
```

*Create a table with the best-possible scientific name match for Australian plant names*

---

## Description

This function takes a list of Australian plant names that need to be reconciled with current taxonomy and generates a lookup table of the best-possible scientific name match for each input name.

Usage case: This is APCalign's core function, merging together the alignment and updating of taxonomy.

## Usage

```
create_taxonomic_update_lookup(  
  taxa,  
  stable_or_current_data = "stable",  
  version = default_version(),  
  taxonomic_splits = "most_likely_species",  
  full = FALSE,  
  fuzzy_abs_dist = 3,  
  fuzzy_rel_dist = 0.2,  
  fuzzy_matches = TRUE,  
  APNI_matches = TRUE,  
  imprecise_fuzzy_matches = FALSE,  
  identifier = NA_character_,  
  resources = load_taxonomic_resources(quiet = quiet),  
  quiet = FALSE,  
  output = NULL  
)
```

## Arguments

taxa	A list of Australian plant species that needs to be reconciled with current taxonomy.
stable_or_current_data	either "stable" for a consistent version, or "current" for the leading edge version.
version	The version number of the dataset to use.

taxonomic_splits	How to handle one_to_many taxonomic matches. Default is "return_all". The other options are "collapse_to_higher_taxon" and "most_likely_species". most_likely_species defaults to the original_name if that name is accepted by the APC; this will be right for certain species subsets, but make errors in other cases, use with caution.
full	logical for whether the full lookup table is returned or just key columns
fuzzy_abs_dist	The number of characters allowed to be different for a fuzzy match.
fuzzy_rel_dist	The proportion of characters allowed to be different for a fuzzy match.
fuzzy_matches	Fuzzy matches are turned on as a default. The relative and absolute distances allowed for fuzzy matches to species and infraspecific taxon names are defined by the parameters fuzzy_abs_dist and fuzzy_rel_dist.
APNI_matches	Name matches to the APNI (Australian Plant Names Index) are turned off as a default.
imprecise_fuzzy_matches	Imprecise fuzzy matches uses the fuzzy matching function with lenient levels set (absolute distance of 5 characters; relative distance = 0.25). It offers a way to get a wider range of possible names, possibly corresponding to very distant spelling mistakes. This is FALSE as default and all outputs should be checked as it often makes erroneous matches.
identifier	A dataset, location or other identifier, which defaults to NA.
resources	These are the taxonomic resources used for cleaning, this will default to loading them from a local place on your computer. If this is to be called repeatedly, it's much faster to load the resources using <code>load_taxonomic_resources</code> separately and pass the data in.
quiet	Logical to indicate whether to display messages while loading data and aligning taxa.
output	file path to save the output. If this file already exists, this function will check if it's a subset of the species passed in and try to add to this file. This can be useful for large and growing projects.

## Details

- It uses first the function `align_taxa`, then the function `update_taxonomy` to achieve the output. The aligned name is plant name that has been aligned to a taxon name in the APC or APNI by the `align_taxa` function.

### Notes:

- If you will be running the function `APCalign::create_taxonomic_update_lookup` many times, it is best to load the taxonomic resources separately using `resources <- load_taxonomic_resources()`, then add the argument `resources = resources`
- The name *Banksia cerrata* does not align as the fuzzy matching algorithm does not allow the first letter of the genus and species epithet to change.
- The argument `taxonomic_splits` allows you to choose the outcome for updating the names of taxa with ambiguous taxonomic histories; this applies to scientific names that were once attached to a more broadly circumscribed taxon concept, that was then split into several more



narrowly circumscribed taxon concepts, one of which retains the original name. There are three options: `most_likely_species` returns the name that is retained, with alternative names documented in square brackets; `return_all` adds additional rows to the output, one for each possible taxon concept; `collapse_to_higher_taxon` returns the genus with possible names in square brackets.

- The argument `identifier` allows you to add a fix text string to all genus- and family- level names, such as `identifier = "Royal NP"` would return `Acacia sp. \[Royal NP]`.

## Value

A lookup table containing the accepted and suggested names for each original name input, and additional taxonomic information such as taxon rank, taxonomic status, taxon IDs and genera.

- `original_name`: the original plant name.
- `aligned_name`: the input plant name that has been aligned to a taxon name in the APC or APNI by the `align_taxa` function.
- `accepted_name`: the APC-accepted plant name, when available.
- `suggested_name`: the suggested plant name to use. Identical to the `accepted_name`, when an `accepted_name` exists; otherwise the `suggested_name` is the `aligned_name`.
- `genus`: the genus of the accepted (or suggested) name; only APC-accepted genus names are filled in.
- `family`: the family of the accepted (or suggested) name; only APC-accepted family names are filled in.
- `taxon_rank`: the taxonomic rank of the suggested (and accepted) name.
- `taxonomic_dataset`: the source of the suggested (and accepted) names (APC or APNI).
- `taxonomic_status`: the taxonomic status of the suggested (and accepted) name.
- `taxonomic_status_aligned`: the taxonomic status of the aligned name, before any taxonomic updates have been applied.
- `aligned_reason`: the explanation of a specific taxon name alignment (from an original name to an aligned name).
- `update_reason`: the explanation of a specific taxon name update (from an aligned name to an accepted or suggested name).
- `subclass`: the subclass of the accepted name.
- `taxon_distribution`: the distribution of the accepted name; only filled in if an APC `accepted_name` is available.
- `scientific_name_authorship`: the authorship information for the accepted (or synonymous) name; available for both APC and APNI names.
- `taxon_ID`: the unique taxon concept identifier for the `accepted_name`; only filled in if an APC `accepted_name` is available.
- `taxon_ID_genus`: an identifier for the genus; only filled in if an APC-accepted genus name is available.
- `scientific_name_ID`: an identifier for the nomenclatural (not taxonomic) details of a scientific name; available for both APC and APNI names.
- `row_number`: the row number of a specific `original_name` in the input.
- `number_of_collapsed_taxa`: when `taxonomic_splits == "collapse_to_higher_taxon"`, the number of possible taxon names that have been collapsed.

**See Also**

[load\\_taxonomic\\_resources](#)

Other taxonomic alignment functions: [align\\_taxa\(\)](#), [update\\_taxonomy\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
resources <- load_taxonomic_resources()

# example 1
create_taxonomic_update_lookup(c("Eucalyptus regnans",
                                "Acacia melanoxylon",
                                "Banksia integrifolia",
                                "Not a species"),
                              resources = resources)

# example 2
input <- c("Banksia serrata", "Banksia serrate", "Banksia cerrata",
          "Banksea serrata", "Banksia serrrrata", "Dryandra")

create_taxonomic_update_lookup(
  taxa = input,
  identifier = "APCalign test",
  full = TRUE,
  resources = resources
)

# example 3
taxon_list <-
  readr::read_csv(
    system.file("extdata", "test_taxa.csv", package = "APCalign"),
    show_col_types = FALSE)

create_taxonomic_update_lookup(
  taxa = taxon_list$original_name,
  identifier = taxon_list$notes,
  full = TRUE,
  resources = resources
)
```

---

default\_version

*Get the default version for stable data*

---

**Description**

This function returns the default version for stable data, which is used when no version is specified.

**Usage**

```
default_version()
```

**Value**

A character string representing the default version for stable data.

**Examples**

```
default_version()
```

---

 gbif\_lite

*GBIF Australian Plant Data*


---

**Description**

A subset of plant data from the Global Biodiversity Information Facility

**Usage**

```
gbif_lite
```

**Format**

gbif\_lite A tibble with 129 rows and 7 columns:

**species** The name of the first or species of scientificname

**infraspecificepithet** The name of the lowest or terminal infraspecific epithet of the scientificname

**taxonrank** The taxonomic rank of the most specific name

**decimalLongitude** Longitude in decimal degrees

**decimalLatitude** Latitude in decimal degrees

**scientificname** Scientific Name

**verbatimscientificname** Scientific name as it appeared in original record

**Source**

<https://www.gbif.org/>

---

`get_apc_genus_family_lookup`*Lookup Family by Genus from APC*

---

**Description**

Retrieve the family name for a given genus using taxonomic data from the Australian Plant Census (APC).

**Usage**

```
get_apc_genus_family_lookup(genus, resources = load_taxonomic_resources())
```

**Arguments**

<code>genus</code>	A character vector of genus names for which to retrieve the corresponding family names.
<code>resources</code>	The taxonomic resources required to make the lookup. Loading this can be slow, so call <a href="#">load_taxonomic_resources</a> separately to speed up this function and pass the resources in.

**Value**

A data frame with two columns: "genus", indicating the genus name, and "family", indicating the corresponding family name from the APC.

**See Also**

[load\\_taxonomic\\_resources](#)

**Examples**

```
get_apc_genus_family_lookup(genus = c("Acacia", "Eucalyptus"))
```

---

`get_versions`*Which versions of taxonomic resources are available?*

---

**Description**

Which versions of taxonomic resources are available?

**Usage**

```
get_versions()
```

**Value**

tibble of dates when APC/APNI resources were downloaded as a Github Release

**Examples**

```
get_versions()
```

---

```
load_taxonomic_resources
```

*Load taxonomic reference lists, APC & APNI*

---

**Description**

This function loads two taxonomic datasets for Australia's vascular plants, the APC and APNI, into the global environment. It creates several data frames by filtering and selecting data from the loaded lists.

**Usage**

```
load_taxonomic_resources(
  stable_or_current_data = "stable",
  version = default_version(),
  quiet = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

stable_or_current_data	Type of dataset to access. The default is "stable", which loads the dataset from a github archived file. If set to "current", the dataset will be loaded from a URL which is the cutting edge version, but this may change at any time without notice.
version	The version number of the dataset to use. Defaults to the default version.
quiet	A logical indicating whether to print status of loading to screen. Defaults to FALSE.

**Details**

- It accesses taxonomic data from a dataset using the provided version number or the default version.
- The output is several dataframes that include subsets of the APC/APNI based on taxon rank and taxonomic status.

**Value**

The taxonomic resources data loaded into the global environment.

**Examples**

```
load_taxonomic_resources(stable_or_current_data="stable",
version="2024-10-11")
```

---

```
native_anywhere_in_australia
      Native anywhere in Australia
```

---

**Description**

This function checks which species from a list is thought to be native anywhere in Australia according to the APC.

**Usage**

```
native_anywhere_in_australia(species, resources = load_taxonomic_resources())
```

**Arguments**

species	A character string typically representing the binomial for the species.
resources	An optional list of taxonomic resources to use for the lookup. If not provided, the function will load default taxonomic resources using the <code>load_taxonomic_resources()</code> function.

**Details**

Important caveats:

- This function will not detect within-Australia introductions, e.g. if a species is from Western Australia and is invasive on the east coast.
- Very recent invasions are unlikely to be documented yet in APC.
- Ideally check spelling and taxonomy updates first via [create\\_taxonomic\\_update\\_lookup](#).
- For the complete matrix of species by states that also represents within-Australia invasions, use [create\\_species\\_state\\_origin\\_matrix](#).

**Value**

A tibble with two columns: `species`, which is the same as the unique values of the input `species`, and `native_anywhere_in_australia`, a vector indicating whether each species is native anywhere in Australia, introduced by humans from elsewhere, or unknown with respect to the APC resource.

**See Also**

Other diversity methods: [create\\_species\\_state\\_origin\\_matrix\(\)](#), [state\\_diversity\\_counts\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
native_anywhere_in_australia(c("Eucalyptus globulus", "Pinus radiata", "Banksia speciosa"))
```



standardise\_taxon\_rank

*Standardise taxon ranks*

---

### **Description**

Standardise taxon ranks from Latin into English.

### **Usage**

```
standardise_taxon_rank(taxon_rank)
```

### **Arguments**

taxon\_rank      A character vector of Latin taxon ranks.

### **Details**

The function takes a character vector of Latin taxon ranks as input and returns a character vector of taxon ranks using standardised English terms.

### **Value**

A character vector of English taxon ranks.

### **Examples**

```
standardise_taxon_rank(c("regnum", "kingdom", "classis", "class"))
```

---

state\_diversity\_counts

*State- and territory-level diversity*

---

### **Description**

For Australian states and territories, use geographic distribution data from the APC to calculate state-level diversity for native, introduced, and more complicated species origins

### **Usage**

```
state_diversity_counts(state, resources = load_taxonomic_resources())
```



**Arguments**

state	A character string indicating the Australian state or territory to calculate the diversity for. Possible values are "NSW", "NT", "Qld", "WA", "ChI", "SA", "Vic", "Tas", "ACT", "NI", "LHI", "MI", "HI", "MDI", "CoI", "CSI", and "AR".
resources	the taxonomic resources required to make the summary statistics. loading this can be slow, so call <code>load_taxonomic_resources</code> separately to greatly speed this function up and pass the resources in.

**Value**

A tibble of diversity counts for the specified state or territory, including native, introduced, and more complicated species origins. The tibble has three columns: "origin" indicating the origin of the species, "state" indicating the Australian state or territory, and "num\_species" indicating the number of species for that origin and state.

**See Also**

[load\\_taxonomic\\_resources](#)

Other diversity methods: [create\\_species\\_state\\_origin\\_matrix\(\)](#), [native\\_anywhere\\_in\\_australia\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
state_diversity_counts(state = "NSW")
```

---

strip_names	<i>Strip taxon names</i>
-------------	--------------------------

---

**Description**

Strip taxonomic names of taxon rank abbreviations and qualifiers and special characters

**Usage**

```
strip_names(taxon_names)
```

**Arguments**

taxon_names	A character vector of taxonomic names to be stripped.
-------------	---

**Details**

Given a vector of taxonomic names, this function removes:

- subtaxa designations ("subsp.", "var.", "f.", and "ser")
- special characters (e.g., "-", ".", "(", ")", "?")
- extra whitespace

The resulting vector of names is also converted to lowercase.

**Value**

A character vector of stripped taxonomic names, with subtaxa designations, special characters, and extra whitespace removed, and all letters converted to lowercase.

**Examples**

```
strip_names(c("Abies lasiocarpa subsp. lasiocarpa",
              "Quercus kelloggii",
              "Pinus contorta var. latifolia"))
```

---

strip_names_extra	<i>Strip taxon names, extra</i>
-------------------	---------------------------------

---

**Description**

Strip taxonomic names of sp. and hybrid symbols. This function assumes that a character function has already been run through strip\_names.

**Usage**

```
strip_names_extra(taxon_names)
```

**Arguments**

taxon\_names     A character vector of taxonomic names to be stripped.

**Details**

Given a vector of taxonomic names, this function removes additional filler words (" x " for hybrid taxa, "sp.") not removed by the function strip\_names

**Value**

A character vector of stripped taxonomic names, with sp. and hybrid symbols removed.

**Examples**

```
strip_names_extra(c("Abies lasiocarpa subsp. lasiocarpa",
                    "Quercus kelloggii",
                    "Pinus contorta var. latifolia",
                    "Acacia sp.",
                    "Lepidium sp. Tanguin Hill (K.R.Newbey 10501)"))
```

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update_taxonomy	<i>Update to currently accepted APC name and add APC/APNI name metadata</i>
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### Description

For a list of taxon names aligned to the APC, update the name to an accepted taxon concept per the APC and add scientific name and taxon concept metadata to names aligned to either the APC or APNI.

### Usage

```
update_taxonomy(  
  aligned_data,  
  taxonomic_splits = "most_likely_species",  
  quiet = TRUE,  
  output = NULL,  
  resources = load_taxonomic_resources()  
)
```

### Arguments

<code>aligned_data</code>	A tibble of plant names to update. This table must include 5 columns, <code>original_name</code> , <code>aligned_name</code> , <code>taxon_rank</code> , <code>taxonomic_dataset</code> , and <code>aligned_reason</code> . These columns are created by the function <code>align_taxa</code> . The columns <code>original_name</code> and <code>aligned_name</code> must be in the format of the scientific name, with genus and species, and may contain additional qualifiers such as subspecies or varieties. The names are case insensitive.
<code>taxonomic_splits</code>	Variable that determines what protocol to use to update taxon names that are ambiguous due to taxonomic splits. The three options are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <code>most_likely_species</code>, which returns the species name in use before the split; alternative names are returned in a separate column</li> <li>• <code>return_all</code>, which returns all possible names</li> <li>• <code>collapse_to_higher_taxon</code>, which declares that an ambiguous name cannot be aligned to an accepted species/infraspecific name and the name is demoted to genus rank</li> </ul>
<code>quiet</code>	Logical to indicate whether to display messages while updating taxa.
<code>output</code>	(optional) Name of the file where results are saved. The default is <code>NULL</code> and no file is created. If specified, the output will be saved in a CSV file with the given name.
<code>resources</code>	the taxonomic resources required to make the summary statistics. Loading this can be slow, so call <code>load_taxonomic_resources</code> separately to greatly speed this function up and pass the resources in.

## Details

- This function uses the APC to update the taxonomy of names aligned to a taxon concept listed in the APC to the currently accepted name for the taxon concept.
- The `aligned_data` data frame that is input must contain 5 columns, `original_name`, `aligned_name`, `taxon_rank`, `taxonomic_dataset`, and `aligned_reason`. (These are the columns output by the function `align_taxa`.)
- The aligned name is a plant name that has been aligned to a taxon name in the APC or APNI by the `align_taxa` function.

### Notes:

- As the input for this function is a table with 5 columns (output by `align_taxa`), this function will only be used when you explicitly want to separate the alignment and updating components of APCalign. This function is the second half of `create_taxonomic_update_lookup`.

## Value

A tibble with updated taxonomy for the specified plant names. The tibble contains the following columns:

- `original_name`: the original plant name.
- `aligned_name`: the input plant name that has been aligned to a taxon name in the APC or APNI by the `align_taxa` function.
- `accepted_name`: the APC-accepted plant name, when available.
- `suggested_name`: the suggested plant name to use. Identical to the `accepted_name`, when an `accepted_name` exists; otherwise the `suggested_name` is the `aligned_name`.
- `genus`: the genus of the accepted (or suggested) name; only APC-accepted genus names are filled in.
- `family`: the family of the accepted (or suggested) name; only APC-accepted family names are filled in.
- `taxon_rank`: the taxonomic rank of the suggested (and accepted) name.
- `taxonomic_dataset`: the source of the suggested (and accepted) names (APC or APNI).
- `taxonomic_status`: the taxonomic status of the suggested (and accepted) name.
- `taxonomic_status_aligned`: the taxonomic status of the aligned name, before any taxonomic updates have been applied.
- `aligned_reason`: the explanation of a specific taxon name alignment (from an original name to an aligned name).
- `update_reason`: the explanation of a specific taxon name update (from an aligned name to an accepted or suggested name).
- `subclass`: the subclass of the accepted name.
- `taxon_distribution`: the distribution of the accepted name; only filled in if an APC `accepted_name` is available.
- `scientific_name_authorship`: the authorship information for the accepted (or synonymous) name; available for both APC and APNI names.

- `taxon_ID`: the unique taxon concept identifier for the `accepted_name`; only filled in if an APC `accepted_name` is available.
- `taxon_ID_genus`: an identifier for the genus; only filled in if an APC-accepted genus name is available.
- `scientific_name_ID`: an identifier for the nomenclatural (not taxonomic) details of a scientific name; available for both APC and APNI names.
- `row_number`: the row number of a specific `original_name` in the input.
- `number_of_collapsed_taxa`: when `taxonomic_splits == "collapse_to_higher_taxon"`, the number of possible taxon names that have been collapsed.

### See Also

`load_taxonomic_resources`

Other taxonomic alignment functions: [align\\_taxa\(\)](#), [create\\_taxonomic\\_update\\_lookup\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
# Update taxonomy for two plant names and print the result

resources <- load_taxonomic_resources()

update_taxonomy(
  dplyr::tibble(
    original_name = c("Dryandra preissii", "Banksia acuminata"),
    aligned_name = c("Dryandra preissii", "Banksia acuminata"),
    taxon_rank = c("species", "species"),
    taxonomic_dataset = c("APC", "APC"),
    aligned_reason = c(NA_character_,
                      NA_character_)
  ),
  resources = resources
)
```

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