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## Dimensions to consider when identifying an ontology for data annotation

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The use of ontologies in agricultural data management is evolving at a fast pace and requires shared knowledge and consistency of use across sectors. To optimize integration and efficiency of data it is important to use ontologies of references. During a webinar organized by the Ontologies CoP, experts cited the following dimensions to consider when identifying an ontology for data annotation:

- Represent a unique non-overlapping knowledge domain
- Adheres to the OBO Foundry guidelines on design and format
- Must be widely used in annotation and data capture (Popularize it)
- Open Source/CC BY
- Logically structured and defined
- Sustainable funding sources
- May contain relationships and dependencies on other reference ontologies
- Human resources to manage it (I.e. maintainers, editors, and developers)
- Represent accurate science supported by evidences
- Established ontology management system including roles and responsibility
- Preferably species agnostic to support both inter and intra-specific needs
- Must be designed to answer both the computing and community needs
- Reducing reliance on internal processes and data stewardship networks
- Reducing the costs of integrating external datasets