Database of Latin Dictionaries: Medieval & Early Modern Dictionaries


*Dictionarius familiaris et compendiosus* (W. Edwards & B. Merrilees, Eds.).
Turnhout: Brepols.

The *Vocabularius familiaris et compendiosus* is a Latin-French dictionary from the late Middle Ages. It is one of the final links in the chain of medieval lexicographical transmission which includes the works of Papias, Osbern of Gloucester, Hugutio of Pisa, Brito, Johannes Balbus and their successors.


*Dictionarius. Le Glossaire latin-français du MS Montpellier H236* (A. Grondeux, Ed.).
Turnhout: Brepols.

This is a Latin-to-French glossary which dates from the fourteenth century. In this glossary which will not only find rare words such as *acirologia* (also present in Firminus Verris), but also forms that are absent from the other dictionaries in the *DLD*.


*Diccionario latino-espanol (Salamanca 1492)*
(G. Colón & A.-J. Soberanas, Eds.).
Barcelona: Puvill.

Fundamentally modern in its design and organisation, this work, first published in 1492, occupies a significant place in the history of lexicography. Unlike his predecessors, who in general were interested primarily in rare or obscure words and their etymology, Nebrija, as he explains in his preface, sets out to provide a complete lexicon of classical Latin, with the aim of improving the knowledge of Latin among men and women of letters.


*Dictionarius. Dictionnaire latin-français de Firmin Le Ver* (B. Merrilees & W. Edwards, Eds.).
Turnhout: Brepols.

This major dictionary produced by the Carthusian Firmin Le Ver draws on several sources, including the thirteenth-century *Catholicon* by Johannes Balbus of Genoa. The *Dictionarius* of Firmin Le Ver was produced in 1440 and its organisational quality and bilingual character make it one of the greatest lexical undertakings of the Middle Ages. It is not only important in documentary terms, but also remains a most valuable working instrument. For instance, it contains words attested in the textual databases of Brepolis, but in no other dictionary of the *DLD*; moreover, it is very useful as a starting point for studies on derivative words and compounds, since in nearly all its articles the main lemma is followed by numerous sub-lemmas from the same family.