

---

Subject: Dropdown list

Posted by [htManager](#) on Sun, 22 Jun 2014 08:06:14 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hi Tony,

I try to use the same option list in the text/<language>/language\_array.inc file to serve different columns in different tables.

The column names are different as you described in one of your articles.

But only if I name the option list as the column name it will be filled. I used the sample in Tutorial 5 (5. Convert STAR\_SIGN into a dropdown list).

```
function _cm_getExtraData ($where, $fieldarray)
    // get values for star_sign and insert into lookup array
    $array = $this->getValRep('star_sign');
```

In this line I thought to put the different column name:

```
$this->lookup_data['different_column_star_sign'] = $array;
```

Is this correct or am I wrong?

Best regards,

Juergen

---

---

Subject: Re: Dropdown list

Posted by [AJM](#) on Sun, 22 Jun 2014 20:28:03 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

While it is usual to name the option list after the column to which it belongs, it is not mandatory. This is why the data dictionary allows you to specify whatever name you want. In this way you can use the same list for multiple fields.

---

---

Subject: Re: Dropdown list

Posted by [htManager](#) on Mon, 23 Jun 2014 07:45:38 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

I also thought so but it doesn't work with me. Do I have to take attention of something else or is something wrong with my code?

Here is my code:

```
function _cm_getExtraData ($where, $fieldarray)
    // Perform custom processing for the getExtraData method.
    // $where = a string in SQL 'where' format.
```

```

// $fieldarray = the contents of $where as an array.
{

    // get values for groesse_international and insert into lookup array
    $array = $this->getValRep('groesse_international');
    $this->lookup_data['kontakt_ausruestung_groesse_international'] = $array; // column of the
table

    return $fieldarray;

} // _cm_getExtraData

function _cm_getValRep ($item, $where)
// get Value/Representation list as an associative array.
{
    $array = array();
    if ($item == '_groesse_international') {
        $array = getLanguageArray('groesse_international');
        return $array;
    } // if

    return $array;

} // _cm_getValRep

```

---

**Subject: Re: Dropdown list**  
 Posted by [AJM](#) on Mon, 23 Jun 2014 07:58:28 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

When you say "it doesn't work" what exactly do you mean? Is your array of values which you insert into \$this->lookup\_data empty? Or can't you load this list into your dropdown?

Whatever name you use for each list in \$this->lookup\_data MUST be the same as you assign to 'Option List' in the 'Update Column' screen in the data dictionary. This name need not be the same the column name, but it must point to an entry in \$this->lookup\_data.

---



---

**Subject: Re: Dropdown list**  
 Posted by [htManager](#) on Mon, 23 Jun 2014 08:06:33 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Thank you for the last response. I now understand how it works. The relation between the option list and the values is made in the data dictionary and not in the class! I thought that also in the class file there must be an entry for the column.  
 I changed the correct option list name in the class file and everything works fine now.

Thank you very much.

---