# QGIS Application - Bug report #2629
# fTools fail to rename duplicated field names if they are 10 char long

2010-04-05 11:24 AM - Borys Jurgiel

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Status:** | Closed | | | |
| **Priority:** | Low | | | |
| **Assignee:** | cfarmer - | | | |
| **Category:** | Python plugins | | | |
| **Affected QGIS version:** | | **Regression?:** | No | |
| **Operating System:** | All | **Easy fix?:** | No | |
| **Pull Request or Patch supplied:** | | **Resolution:** | fixed | |
| **Crashes QGIS or corrupts data:** | | **Copied to github as #:** | 12689 | |

**Description**

If I join two tables containing common 10-char-long field name, fTools try to add the "_" char to one of them, then truncate it and fail to write, with no warning message. Could it rename the field name in a more robust way or at least warn that the layer won't be created and why?

**History**

**#1 - 2010-04-07 08:10 AM - Borys Jurgiel**

I've just realized it's a common issue in all fTools.

**#2 - 2010-04-14 12:24 AM - Alexander Bruy**

This is not an fTools issue, this is limitation of ESRI Shapefile format (exactly DBF format). Field name must be <= 10 characters.

Here is patch to add some warnings to the "Join by attributes" and "Spatial join" tools

**#3 - 2010-04-14 01:33 AM - Borys Jurgiel**

The warnings are necessary, but I still suggest to truncate names to 8 characters before adding the suffix. It's extremely easy to implement and can help in many cases (not in all, of course).

**#4 - 2010-04-14 01:50 AM - Alexander Bruy**

Ok, here is another patch. Long names are truncated to 8 characters and then suffix added. But in this case warning are not necessary I think and we can remove it.

**#5 - 2010-04-14 04:02 AM - Borys Jurgiel**

They're still necessary, as one can have more than 2 affected fields. E.g. both "foobarfoo1" and "foobarfoo2" in both tables. It would be the best to add a computed suffix _(n+1) (thought it's still not ideal, as it could cause confusions)

**#6 - 2010-04-14 05:04 AM - Alexander Bruy**

Replying to [comment:6 borysiasty]:

> *It would be the best to add a computed suffix _(n+1) (thought it's still not ideal, as it could cause confusions)*

As far as I see computed suffixes _(n+1) are used

**#7 - 2010-04-14 05:12 AM - Borys Jurgiel**

Sorry, my fault! I've look too briefly into the code!

Anyway, I believe we should keep the warnings for a case if one has more than 9 very long names with common prefix in a non-dbf table (e.g. fobarfoo_temperature, fobarfoo_precipitation etc).

**#8 - 2010-04-14 05:27 PM - cfarmer -**

*- Resolution set to fixed*

*- Status changed from Open to Closed*

Patch applied in commit:71a9f815 (SVN r13314).

Carson

**Files**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| add_warnings.diff | 7.33 KB | 2010-04-13 | Alexander Bruy |
| trim_and_warnings.diff | 7.7 KB | 2010-04-13 | Alexander Bruy |