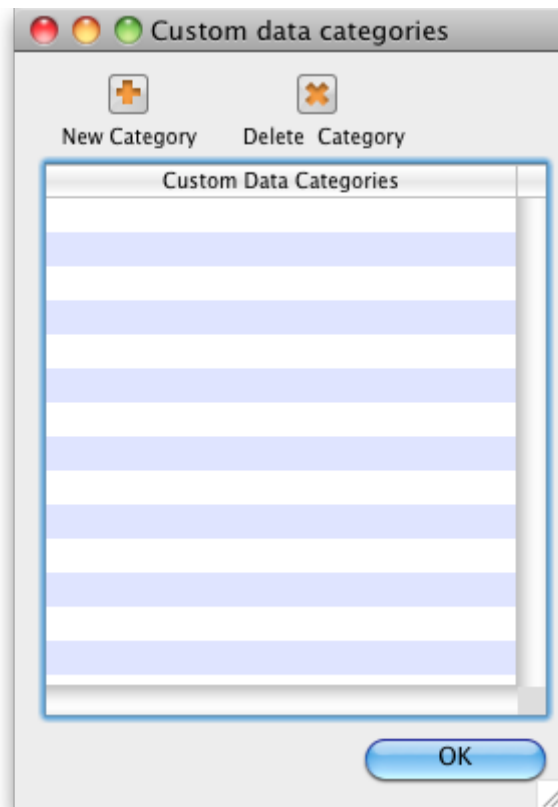# 25.10. Custom data
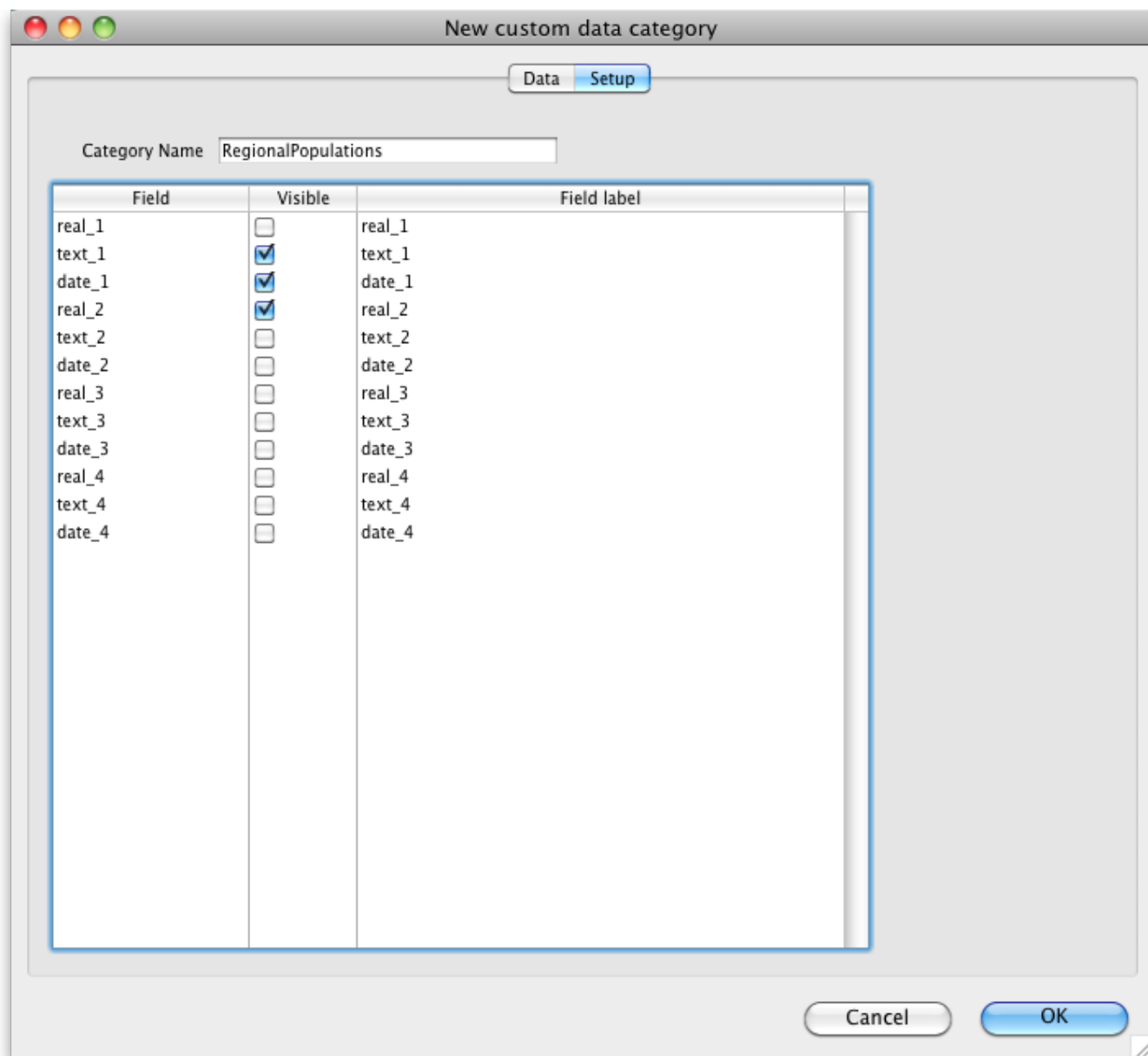
Custom data allows you to add data to mSupply that doesn't naturally fit into one of the existing fields.

- Choose **Special > Show custom data…** to show the list of custom data sets.

Setup fields

- Click **New**
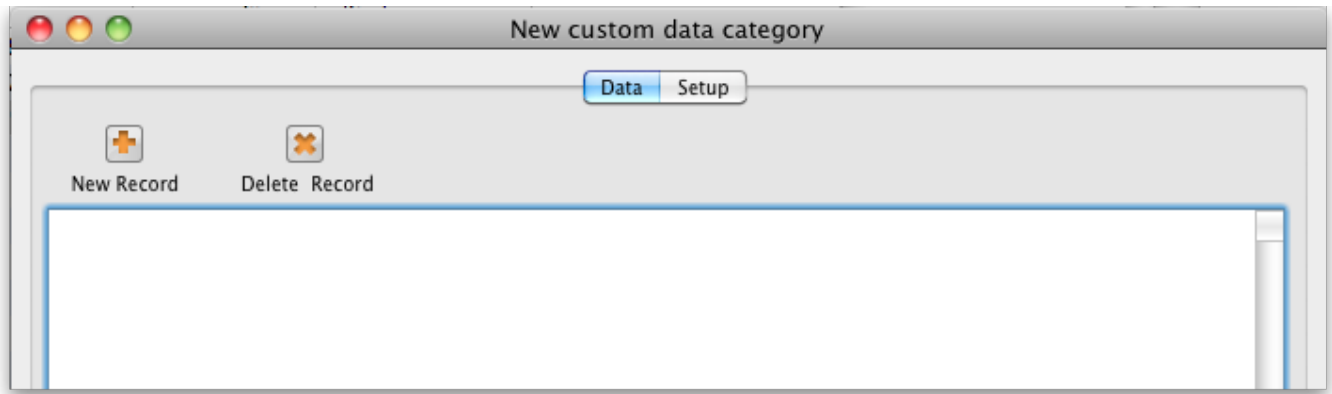- This window is shown:

- For our example, we're going to record population in several regions each year, so we need
    - A real number field to store the population number
    - A text field to store the region name
    - A date field to store the year
- We've labelled the data set *RegionalPopulations*
- To change the field names, click once on the name, and then wait a second or two and click again- now it is editable:

Adding data

- Click the **data** tab then click **New**

Using data in reports

- You can extract data by using the following method in a pagepro report
- custom_value_get("data_set";"field_to_query";"search_value";"field_to_return";→"variable_to_return")
    - "data_set" is the name of the data set. e.g. "RegionalPopulations"
    - field_to_query is the internal name of the field "text_1" , "Text_2", "real_2", "date_7"
    - "search_value" is the value you're looking for in "field_to_query"
    - "field_to_return" is the field name of the value to return
    - "variable_to_return" is a pointer to the variable that will contain the data returned.
- Sound too complicated? We usually build these reports for clients, but this documentation is for the technically minded who want to build their own.

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