



Welcome to StockXloader—getting quotes from any stock market


1	Getting Started	1
2	The Download Controller	4
3	License Key	5
4	General Notes and Tips	6
5	Notes on Yahoo Tickers	7
6	Special ProTA Settings	8
7	Importing Textual Ticker Lists	9

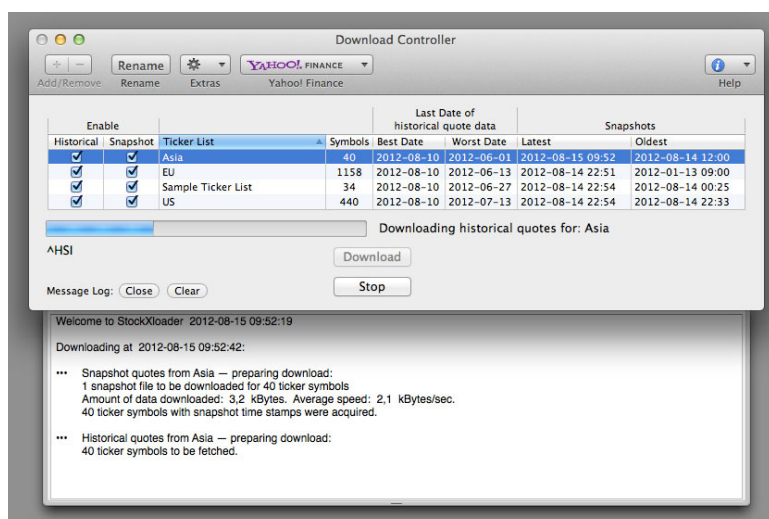
1 GETTING STARTED

1.1 Documentation and Help

All documentation, including this User Guide, is available through menus or popup buttons. Guidance is provided by the following:

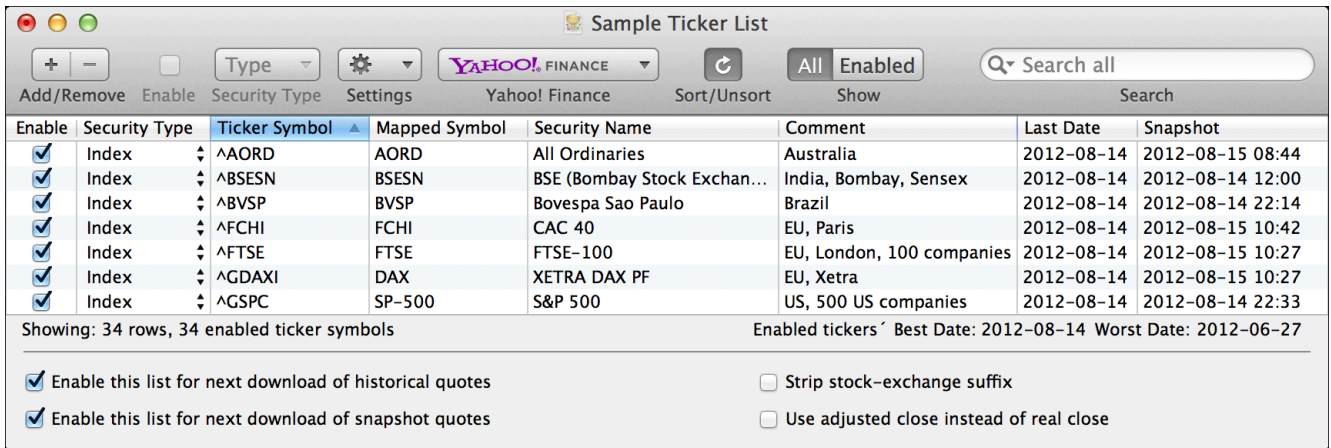
1. *User Guide (online)*: The guide you are currently reading.
2. *Read Me*: System requirements, installation instructions, etcetera.
3. *Release Notes*: What's new in this version, version history, any known "issues".
4. *FAQ (online)*: "Frequently Asked Questions".
5. *Support & Troubleshooting (online)*: Procedures for isolating the source of a problem you may experience.
6. *Purchase License*: How to purchase a License Key.
7. *License Agreement*: The License Agreement for using StockXloader in either Evaluation or Licensed mode.
8. *StockXloader Website*: The web site for StockXloader.
9. *Tool Tips*: They show up for a brief moment when you hover the mouse over an interface item, and provide short explanatory texts that tell you what the item is used for or how you accomplish a task.

To access these items, look for the application menu *StockXloader 4*, the *Help* menu, and the menu button  in the Welcome window and Download Controller. Also, there is the Yahoo help pages that you can find in the Yahoo menu and in the toolbar menu button **YAHOO! FINANCE**.

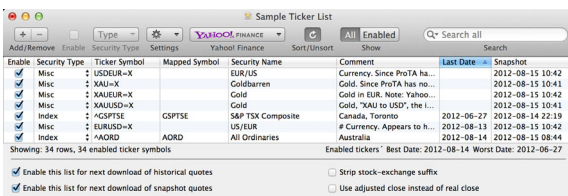


1.2 Basic Usage

- Ticker Lists**
- If you are new to StockXloader, the first time you start it, you will be offered an optional *Sample Ticker List*. You can either edit this to suit your needs, or you can copy and paste rows from it into a new ticker list. If you delete this list, you can bring up a new one by using the menu File > Sample Ticker List. Initially, all symbols are disabled.
 - If you are upgrading from StockXloader 3, you will be offered to import all four ticker lists from StockXloader 3, and it will preserve your settings of Last Date and the enable status.
 - To open a ticker list and edit its content, just double-click on the name of the ticker list. The following shows the Sample Ticker List.



- The Ticker List Editor**
- The ticker list editor supports full multiple undo! This means that you can undo any operation anywhere in the editor as many steps you like — and redo all the way back! This even works after you have downloaded quotes and StockXloader has updated the date/time columns — if you undo at that stage, it will revert the dates/times to the instant before you downloaded! This can be useful if you want to re-download for some reason.
 - You can set the category of each ticker symbol, such as stock, index, mutual fund, future, but you can also select a number of rows and use the toolbar item Type to set the category for all of them. Similarly, you can enable/disable individual symbols, or enable/disable all selected rows. Disabling a row can be useful to exclude it from downloading without having to delete the row completely.
 - Each ticker symbol can optionally be mapped to a name you prefer to use instead of the Yahoo symbol. The mapped name (if you have given one) is what will be used in the data file that will be imported into your application (such as ProTA or Excel). You can also give a symbol its full security name and/or supply a comment.
 - You can sort the data on any column, or filter (search) the data. For instance, sorting on Last Date makes it easy to find symbols that lag, i.e symbols whose data is significantly older than other symbols. That indicates a problem, such as the company no longer exists, has been renamed to a new symbol, or Yahoo has a data feed problem. In the example screen shot to the left, you can see below the table that Worst Date is June 27 whereas the Best Date is August 14. In the table you will find that the troublesome ticker symbol is ^GSPTSE, ie the S&P TSX Composite index at the Toronto exchange. Yahoo stopped getting data for it on June 27.



Preferences—before first download

- Before you download for the first time, go to Preferences and set which program you want to import data into, and make yourself acquainted with some of the other settings.

Download

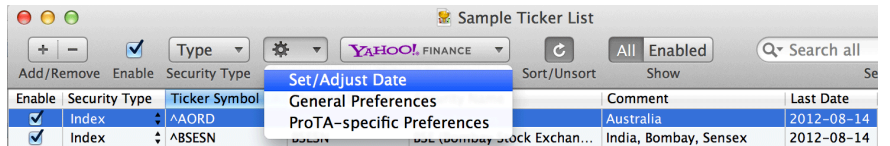
- The first time you download data for a ticker list that has symbols whose Last Date column is empty, you are prompted to set the date from which you want to download. The next time, it will remember the last dates of quotes for every ticker symbol, so that date will be the starting point for the next download.
- After StockXloader has finished downloading, it will launch the program you have chosen in Preferences, which will start the import of a file called Import.txt.

If ProTA is your choice, it will show its Universal Importer. The settings you did in the ProTA section of StockXloader Preferences will be communicated to ProTA. With the proper settings, all you need to do at this stage is to click the button Start Import.



- Sometimes you may wish to back the date for one or several ticker symbols and re-download historical data. In the ticker list document, you can simply double-click the Last Date column for the ticker symbol, which brings up a small panel where you can set the date. See the left picture.

Alternatively, you can select a number of rows and use the Settings toolbar item where you choose Set/Adjust Date, as in the following picture:



2 THE DOWNLOAD CONTROLLER

Create a new ticker list / Delete selected ticker list

Rename selected ticker list

Preferences / Show in Finder

Various links to the Yahoo site

Some of the enabled ticker symbols in this list had data up to the Best Date on their last download of historical quotes, whereas other symbols only had data up to the Worst Date

online help pages

Latest price values (delayed intraday values)

Enable		Ticker List	Symbols	Last Date of historical quote data		Snapshots	
Historical	Snapshot			Best Date	Worst Date	Latest	Oldest
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sample Ticker List	34	2012-08-14	2012-06-27	2012-08-15 10:42	2012-08-14 12:00

There are 34 enabled symbols in this list

Message Log: Close Clear Stop

Downloading at 2012-08-15 10:42:10:

- Snapshot quotes from Sample Ticker List — preparing download:
 - 1 snapshot file to be downloaded for 34 ticker symbols
 - Amount of data downloaded: 2,4 kBytes. Average speed: 1,0 kBytes/sec.
 - 34 ticker symbols with snapshot time stamps were acquired.
- Historical quotes from Sample Ticker List — preparing download:
 - 34 ticker symbols to be fetched.
 - Amount of data downloaded: 20,0 kBytes. Average speed: 1,9 kBytes/sec.
 - 29 ticker symbols with historical quotes were acquired.
 - The following ticker symbols had no historical quotes since Last Date (or were not found):
USDEUR=X, XAU=X, XAUEUR=X, XAUUSD=X, ^GSPTSE.

In this example, StockXloader warns that some symbols did not have any historical quotes. In principle, it could be because the symbols are wrong, but in this case it is simply because Yahoo did not carry any historical quotes for the currencies, and for ^GSPTSE, i.e the S&P TSX Composite index at the Toronto exchange, Yahoo stopped getting data for it on June 27.

Snapshots are always downloaded before historical because historical may be “richer” and more accurate. For instance, snapshots may lack volume whereas historical *may* include that, and the Open quote for snapshots is sometimes just the previous day’s close whereas the historical *may* have the real Open quote.

3 LICENSE KEY

Extended evaluation period

If the trial period has expired, but you really need more evaluation time, e.g. due to a long “inactive” period, you can apply for an extended evaluation time. The procedure for requesting such an extension is provided when you start StockXloader and the trial period has expired or there are only a few days left. You must provide at least some form of motivation, although we are pretty liberal and generous about extensions.

Second license key

A license key is valid for one user, identified with either the login *Short Name*, which is the same as the name of the home folder, or with the full user name as shown in System Preferences > Users & Groups. If you buy a new computer, or use more than one computer, you will normally use the same account name. In special rare cases, however, you may have chosen to use different such names on the different computers, despite you are the only user of StockXloader. If you really need to get a second license key, BragIt may offer you that if you send a mail to support@bragit.com and provide:

- * My full name = ...
- * My current license key = ...
- * The licensed User Name for the current key = (these are case sensitive)
- * The User Name (either 'Short Name' or full name) for the new requested key = ...
- * My motivation for getting an additional license key = ...

Note that the User Name (both the 'Short Name' and the full name) are case sensitive—Joe is not the same as joe. Naturally, BragIt can not grant you a new license key automatically—only if the statement of reasons is motive enough. Different people using StockXloader should buy their own license keys, unless you accept that they all use the same login account on your computer and they all work on the same database.

4 GENERAL NOTES AND TIPS

Dates All dates presented by StockXloader follow your regional settings, and where times are presented, they are in your local time zone. Specifically, this means that the times of snapshots you can see in the Ticker List and in the Download Controller, are the last traded times as given by the Yahoo database, translated into your local time zone, including any daylight saving time. (The times in the Yahoo database are New York times, which may include daylight saving time.)

Message log You can save the Message Log to a plain-text file if you want (use the File menu Save...). The name of the file is automatically set to a name that includes the current date, as in the following example: StockXloader log [2012-06-27].txt.

In the Message Log, certain warnings are highlighted in red. These warnings are not necessarily fatal, but worth reading.

Location of ticker lists In the Download Controller, you can access your ticker lists in Finder by using the toolbar menu button Extras, item Show Ticker Lists in Finder. They reside in: <your home>:Library:Application Support:StockXloader 4: Also temporary files are downloaded into a subfolder there, along with the finally converted and assembled file `Import.txt`. In Lion and Mountain Lion, the Library folder is hidden, but it can be accessed in Finder by: hold down the option key and click the Go menu choosing Library (may have other names in your language).

From a Ticker List, you can also access it in Finder, but you do that the standard Mac OS way, i.e hold down the command key and click the document's name list.

How to reset If you delete the whole folder <your home>:Library:Application Support:StockXloader 4: StockXloader will automatically recreate it and any necessary files in that folder the next time StockXloader starts. To reset your settings in Preferences, plus the widths of windows and table column widths, window positions etcetera, you need to delete the Preferences file, which you can do as follows:

1. Quit StockXloader, then in Finder, hold down the option key and click the Go menu, choosing Library (may have other names in your language).
2. Continue to hold the option key and double-click Preferences.
3. Delete all files starting with `com.bragit.StockXloader4.plist`.
4. Start StockXloader.

Renaming ticker lists You can select a ticker list in the Download Controller and use the toolbar button Rename. This will automatically show the file in Finder and highlight the name so you can change it. Actually, you can always rename your ticker lists in Finder any time you want (but don't do that while you are downloading). When you switch back to StockXloader, it will always automatically refresh the list in the Download Controller!

Moving ticker lists
Optimizing start-up times Also, you can move any ticker lists you are not interested in any longer to a subfolder you may want to create. This will hide them from StockXloader, which also will start-up faster since it does not have to read the contents of those files. (Very useful if you have a huge list with thousands of symbols.) When you want to work with an old list again, you can simply move it back into the StockXloader 4 folder!

5 NOTES ON YAHOO TICKERS

Strip stock-exchange suffix

Most Yahoo ticker symbols for non-US exchanges have a suffix indicating the stock exchange, such as 'ST' for Stockholm. StockXloader can optionally strip this suffix so you don't have to see it in your destination application. To do that, tick Strip stock-exchange suffix at the bottom of the ticker list editor. Alternatively, you can map the name to whatever you like in the column Mapped.

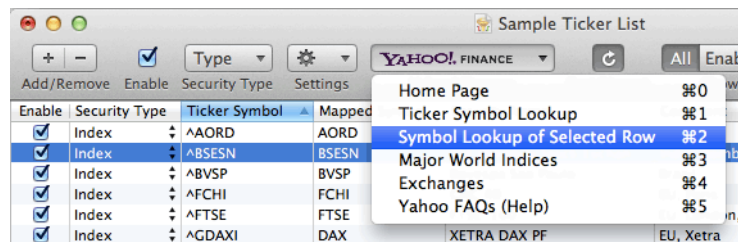
Example: ERIC-B.ST will then translate into ERIC-B. If you only deal with tickers from one stock exchange (besides looking at world indexes), this may make the symbols more familiar and easy to read, but if you work with several stock exchanges, it is safer to keep the suffix.

Finding the ticker symbol

To find the right ticker symbol for a certain security (share/stock, fund, index, future, option), use the **YAHOO! FINANCE** toolbar menu and choose Ticker Symbol Lookup (or the shortcut equivalent Cmd-1), and then search for the security you are interested in. Alternatively, use the Yahoo menu. Beware though, that not all tickers carry historical data—as of this date, most futures, options, currencies and metals only have data for the current day. An exception, however, is EURUSD=X, which, as of this date, actually *has* historical data, despite it's not seen on the Yahoo web page!

Lookup selected ticker symbol

To lookup the ticker symbol for the currently selected row, use the **YAHOO! FINANCE** toolbar menu and choose Symbol Lookup of Selected Row (or the shortcut equivalent Cmd-2), as the picture below shows.



Close vs adjusted close

The term *Adjusted Close* means that the Close quote has been multiplied by a value as a result of splits and/or dividends. The ticker list has an option where you can tick Use adjusted close instead of real close. This will use the Yahoo column 'Adj Close' instead of the actual real close. It will *not* affect open/high/low quotes.

Although files for historical quotes from Yahoo do contain a column for adjusted close, many ticker symbols for non-US markets have not been adjusted at all, despite the claim and despite splits really have been performed. And for tickers that actually *have* been adjusted, **only the close is adjusted**, which means that the open/high/low quotes remain untouched, which is totally unacceptable when charting these quotes! In contrast, when ProTA adjusts for splits, all quotes for the day are adjusted, i.e open/high/low/close.

To avoid the risk of getting an inconsistent database of mixed Close/Adjusted Close, depending on *when* you download, the safest is to use the real Close, leaving any necessary database adjustments to be made later (e.g in ProTA) under your full control. If you do this in ProTA, it will set the appropriate note that specifies for which dates the adjustment was executed, so it all becomes explicit.

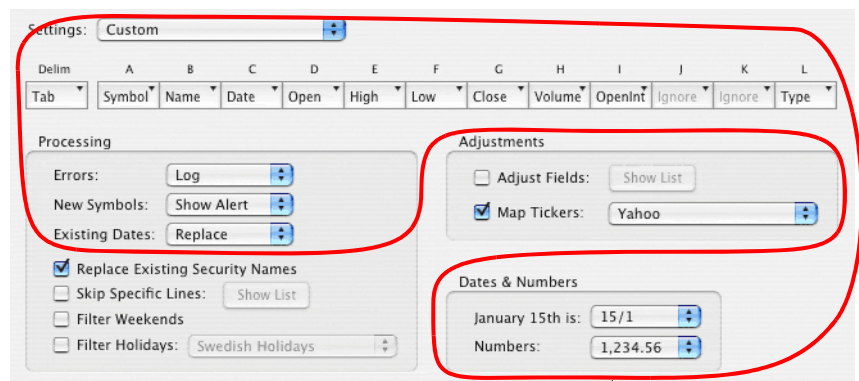
You have hereby been warned, but the choice is yours. StockXloader offers the choice only because a fair number of customers have requested this feature.

6 SPECIAL PROTA SETTINGS

Settings for the Import Format

StockXloader can automatically tell ProTA which columns contain which fields, and what the delimiter is, and what the number format is, and ensure correct interpretation of dates. Also, in StockXloader Preferences you can set if new symbols should cause ProTA to automatically create new files (or show a prompt or skip), and if data for existing dates should be replaced or skipped, and if any errors should be logged, so you have full control over how new symbols and existing dates are treated.

In addition, it specifies a *Settings* file named StockXloader. The purpose is that it provides you with a method to automatically control a few other things that StockXloader by itself cannot control directly, namely those that are *outside* the red encirclement in [Figure 1](#). E.g, you might want to associate a file that map tickers. However, most users will not need that, since StockXloader itself has the feature to map a Yahoo ticker to one that you prefer. The other thing you may want to control is that existing security names should be replaced—this way you can rename a security by changing its name in the StockXloader ticker list, and ProTA will then adapt on next download.



StockXloader controls this automatically

Figure 1 This is the import window that is shown each time you import from StockXloader. StockXloader automatically sets all items encircled by red, whereas the other items are things you can control by making a settings file called StockXloader.

How to create a Settings File

If you have no need to control the items outside the red line in [Figure 1](#), you can ignore the rest of this chapter.

You create and edit the Settings File from within ProTA. Choose Tools > Universal Text Importer, click Settings Database. Then, follow instructions in [Figure 2](#).

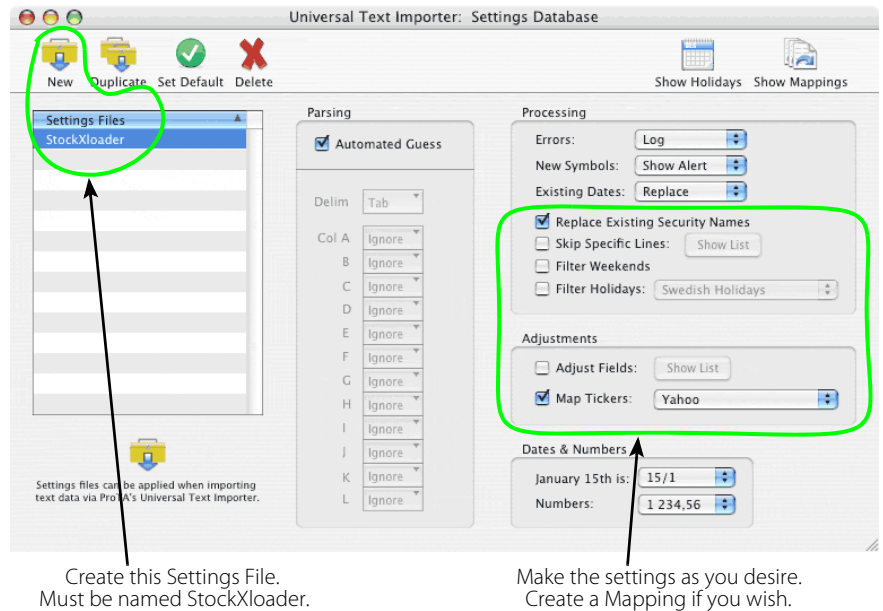


Figure 2 This is the Settings Database in ProTA. Create a Settings File called StockXloader, and make your settings as desired for the items encircled by the right green line (StockXloader controls the other items).

Next time you import from StockXloader, your settings will be loaded automatically together with those that StockXloader controls directly. The import window that is shown each time you import from StockXloader (Figure 1) will say that the Settings File is called Custom; that is simply because it starts with your settings StockXloader, and then control statements “modifies it” by setting the items encircled by red in Figure 1.

7 IMPORTING TEXTUAL TICKER LISTS

Simple import If you have a text file with ticker symbols, one line per symbol, you can import that into StockXloader, and after that you can edit the list as any other ticker list inside StockXloader. To accomplish this, do as follows:

1. Make a list of ticker symbols in a regular plain text ASCII file with one line per ticker symbol (but it may also use Mac OS Roman encoding or UTF-8). The file must have file extension ‘txt’, the line endings may be CR, LF or CRLF.
2. In StockXloader, choose File > New Ticker List. Name it anything you want.
3. Choose File > Import Ticker List...
4. Choose the textual ticker list and click Import.

You can also import to an existing list. To see the added symbols in the list, use the menu View > Sort/Unsort Table, or click the corresponding Sort/Unsort button in the toolbar to make it unsorted (so you can see the new rows at the end of the list).

Note: the choose-file panel starts in the support folder for StockXloader 3 if it exists, otherwise it starts in the last folder you used.

Advanced import StockXloader has an importer that can import, not only the basic ticker symbols, but also full import of the security type, security name and a comment, and even the enable status. This is used to import ticker lists from StockXloader 3, but it can be used generally to import ticker lists that may have been generated by a program. However, a note of warning:

NOTE This feature is only provided as a convenience to those who want to have a programmatic way of supplying ticker lists. We do *not* give user support for this feature, so you can not mail and ask for advice on how to do, or if you have problems with this interface. It is provided as is. You may report bugs, but there is no obligation that it will be fixed beyond what is needed to import ticker lists from StockXloader 3.

To import a fully specified textual ticker list, you do the same as in [Simple import](#), but with a file that has some more information, ordered in a specific way. Do as follows:

Make a list of ticker symbols in a plain text file with one line per ticker symbol, using any sensible text encoding, such as Western, Mac OS Roman, Latin 1, Windows or UTF-8 (it will attempt to guess the encoding). The file must have file extension ‘txt’, the line endings may be CR, LF or CRLF. Make each line to comply with the following rules for extracting the enable, security types, tickers, security names and comments, in order of priority:

1. A ticker line that starts flush left with ‘#’ and is directly followed by either a type code or a ticker symbol will be set to disabled, provided that the rest of the line can be interpreted as a valid line. (Note, if there is a space or tab after the ‘#’, the line will be regarded as a comment and therefore ignored.)
2. A security type is a single character in the set [SMIFOB] (for: Stock, Mutual fund, Index, Futures, Option, Miscellaneous) that either starts flush left on the line or directly follows a ‘#’, and is thereafter directly followed by a colon and optionally some spaces/tabs. A security type may be left out, whereupon the importer will assume it is an Index if the ticker symbol starts with ‘^’, and it will assume it is a Mutual Fund if the ticker symbol is exactly 5 characters long ending with an ‘X’, and it will assume it is Misc (for currency/commodities) if the next-to-last character in the ticker symbol is ‘=’. In all other cases, it assumes Stock.
3. A ticker is a sequence of characters in the (regex) set [a-zA-Z0-9_-.:=] right after the security type indication (if any), or after a disabling #. (A consequence of this and the above is that it must start flush left unless there is a security type, or it is disabled by #.) Note that the allowable character ‘_’ does not seem to be used by Yahoo, but it is included just in case Yahoo would use it in the future. Furthermore, the importer requires the first character to be in the set [a-zA-Z0-9^].
4. The full security name is taken after this ticker and some spaces/tabs/= characters, as a sequence of 0-63 of non-(tab, #, new-line). (If it is longer than 63 characters it will “spill” into the comment.)
5. A comment after tabs or the #-character, ignoring any white space right after the #-character.

ProTA can only take 63 characters as a name, and if there are more characters, the result is shown as an empty name! Therefore, it is important to limit the length here! May be any MacRoman name. (Note that trailing spaces are *not* stripped.)

Lines that do not comply with the above rules are simply skipped.

When you have a file that complies with the above rules, choose: File > New Ticker List, then File > Import Ticker List..., then click Import.