When Mangia! is opening a new file, it needs to add the Terms used in that file to the Dictionary. To do that properly, Mangia! needs your help. Sometimes a file will use a Term that's just a little different from something that's already in the Dictionary. In that case, it's a good idea not to create a separate new entry, but just use the old entry for the new Term. The Term Reconciliation Dialog gives you a choice between entering a new Term as a new Term in the Dictionary and saying that this new Term really should be the same as something that's already there.

Why not just go ahead and enter everything as a new Term? Why not have a bunch of similar but different Terms in the Dictionary? Well, for example, if you have three Terms for essentially the same ingredient, and you want to find all recipes containing that ingredient, then you will have to specify all three of those Terms to cover all the ground. In other words, Mangia! assumes that if they're different Terms, they're different things (unless you specify that they're synonyms of one another, but even then, you're going to have menus cluttered up with similar Terms).

If you just want to spell something in several different ways, you can edit the Dictionary entry for that Term, giving the Alternative Spellings in the box under that label.