Research: Help improve GRASS GIS startup mechanism and Data Catalog
State of version 7.9 after GSoC

In the development version, the Data Catalog takes over all the functionality of the Startup screen including switching mapsets as well as locations and databases.

In the case of a first-time user, GRASS is launched directly with the Data Catalog visible in a prepared Demolocation. Similarly, GRASS bypasses the Startup screen if possible to start in the last used mapset. However, if a mapset is not in a usable state (was deleted or is used by another process) the Startup screen still appears.

So, we have no more startup screen for a first-time user: