

Herbarium Specimen Collection Book

Project:

Fieldwork Location(s):

Fieldwork Start/End Dates:

First Collection Number in this Book: _____

Last Collection Number in this Book: _____

Book _____ **of** _____

If found, please return to:

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Address:

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

How to fill out a Collection Record

Each field in a Herbarium Specimen Collection Record is described below. Each record should be filled out as completely as possible.

Collection number: This is a unique identification number assigned to each specimen, allowing the field notes in this book to be linked to the sample. Best practice is for an individual collector to start at 1 and work their way up.

Date collected: The date the specimen was collected on.

Species: The species name of the specimen (if known). If you don't know the species, identify it as closely as possible (i.e., to family or to genus), or leave blank. Be sure to circle the type of specimen you've collected (vascular plant, moss, lichen, macoralge, or other), and whether or not a silica gel sample and/or photograph were taken.

Specimen Notes: Record here anything about the plant observed in the field that may not be evident on the herbarium sheet, i.e., flower color, reproductive stage, plant height, shrub diameter, etc.

So you want to collect herbarium specimens?

This book contains templates designed to facilitate the collection of vascular plant, moss, lichen, and macroalgae specimens in the field. For each specimen collected, fill out a unique herbarium collection record. Make sure to write the collection number on the specimen collected at the time you initially process the specimen: either on the newsprint containing your pressed vascular plant or macroalgae, or on the paper bag containing your moss or lichen specimen.

Once your herbarium specimens are ready to be deposited at a herbarium, filling out a Herbarium Specimen Data Spreadsheet (Available at arcticplants.myspecies.info > Herbaria and other Arctic Resources > Plant Collecting) will facilitate making labels for the specimens. Please consider depositing your specimens at the National Herbarium of Canada at the Canadian Museum of Nature. For more details, contact Jennifer Doubt, Curator (jdoubt@mus-nature.ca).



Scan code for additional templates, data spreadsheet, and information on how to collect plants.

Species abundance at site: Record a rough estimate of plant abundance at the collected site, i.e.: common, moderately common, rare.

Collector(s): Record the names of all collectors in your party, starting with the collector whose number series (see Collector Number) is being used. If the collectors are the same as a previous specimen, simply write that number.

Site Information: Record the complete site information for the specimen here. Locality should use common landmarks to assist in relocating populations, i.e. “10 km north of Cambridge Bay, along road to Mount Pelly.” Best practice is to record coordinates in degrees, minutes, seconds. If setting GPS waypoints record them here as well. If the site is the same as a previous specimen, simply write that number.

Habitat Info: Record the conditions the specimen was found growing in, i.e. dry tundra, wet meadow, gravelly scree. If the habitat is the same as a previous specimen, simply write that number.

Associates: List the plant species growing associated with the specimen collected. If the associates are the same as a previous specimen, simply write that number.