



Agenda

- Who we are and why are we meeting
- Introductions
 - Quick introductions
- Field Priorities/Skeletal Data ([Results from 08/02/2023](#))
 - Encouraging herbaria to focus on entering basic information that allows us to identify duplicates so that we can share parsed and geospatial information.
 - Collector Name, Collector Number, Collector Date, Sci Name, State & County
- Fields We plan to discuss
 - Collector Number ([Results from 08/02/2023](#)) , Associated Collector(s) ([Results from 08/02/2023](#))
 - County ([Results from 08/02/2023](#))
 - Security ([Results from 08/02/2023](#))
 - Verbatim Coordinates, Verbatim Elevation ([Results from 08/02/2023](#))
 - Location Remarks ([Results from 08/02/2023](#))
 - Georeferenced By, Georeference Sources, Georeference Protocol
 - Habitat, Substrate, Associated Taxa
 - Notes (Occurrence Remarks)
 - Phenology ([Results from 08/02/2023](#))
 - Data Gen ([Results from 08/02/2023](#))
 - Collector/Observer Name ([Results from 08/02/2023](#))
 - Identified By, Date Identified
- Future Meeting Topics
 - Discussing standards for remaining fields
 - Coordinating data cleaning
- Workshops
 - Database Entry Workshops-Hosted By USCH/SCDNR ([Avery Browning](#))
 - Georeferencing Workshops-Hosted By SCDNR ([Csilla Czakó](#))
 - Data Cleaning Workshops (and student project ideas!) - Hosted by USCH/SCDNR ([Csilla Czakó](#))





SC and Neighboring Herbaria Meeting

- Csilla Czakó (SCDNR NHT Botany and Plant Conservation Group Data Manager/Herbarium Liaison): czakoc@dnr.sc.gov
- Avery Browning (USCH Assistant Collections Manager/Volunteer Manager): averyob@mailbox.sc.edu
- Charlie Harmon (USCH Collections Manager): harmona3@mailbox.sc.edu
- Herrick Brown (USCH Curator): hbrown@mailbox.sc.edu
- Keith Bradley (SCDNR NHT Botany and Plant Conservation Group Lead/SCDNR State Botanist): bradleyk@dnr.sc.gov





SCDNR NHT Botany & Plant Conservation Program



Keith Bradley
Team Lead/State Botanist



Samantha Tessel
Upstate Botanist



Eric Ungberg
Lowcountry Botanist

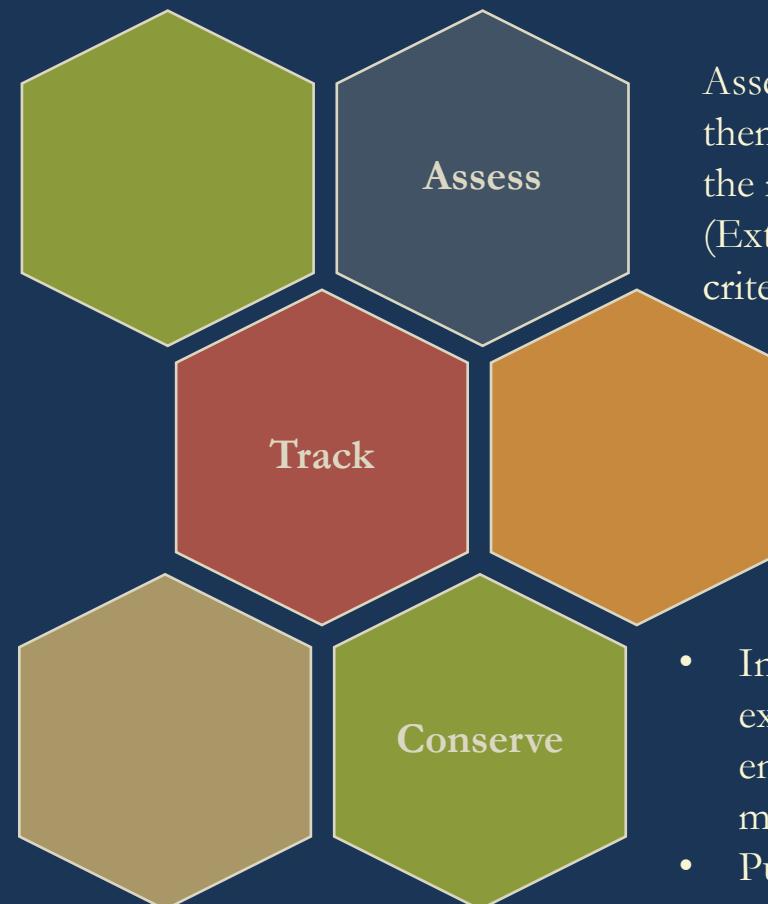


Csilla Czako
Team Data Manager/Geospatial
Analyst

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SCDNR Natural Heritage Trust Botany & Plant Conservation Program Goals

- Track all S1, S2 and S3 species in the state and other species of conservation interest.
- Assess herbarium specimens, iNaturalist, and published materials for rare and endangered species data.
- Update legacy Natural Heritage Trust data.



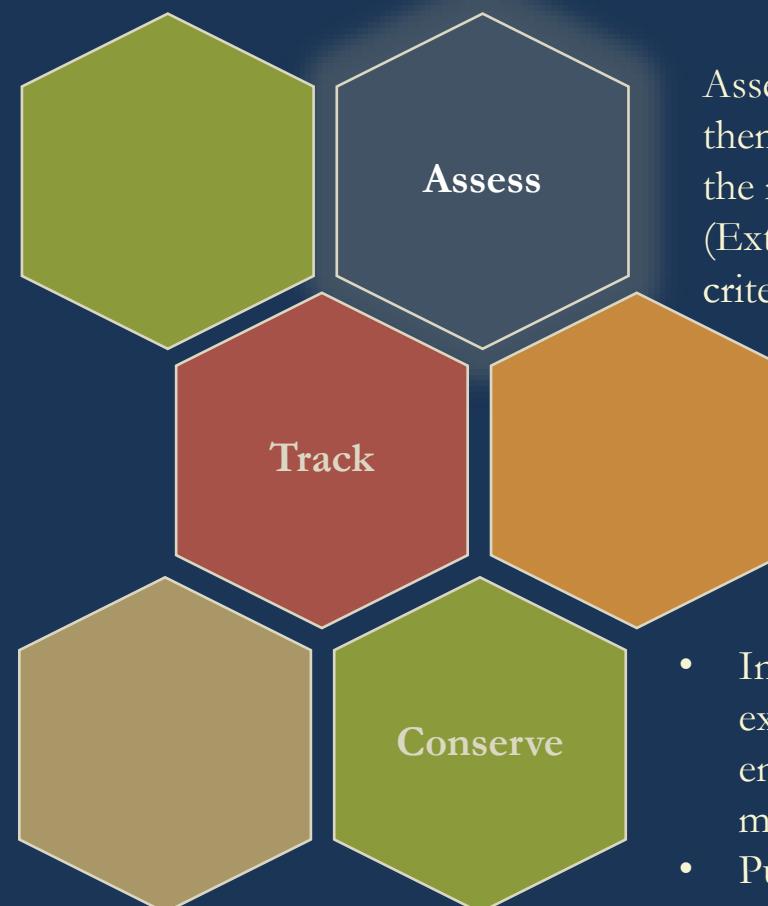
Assess all of South Carolina's Native Flora and give them conservation rankings from S1 to S5 where S5 is the most common (think loblolly pine), SX (Extirpated), or SH (Historical) following NatureServe criteria.

- Inventory all Heritage Preserves for all native and exotic plant species and to keep track of rare and endangered plants to guide conservation and management.
- Purchase more Heritage Preserve Land, using Tracked Species data to guide acquisition.



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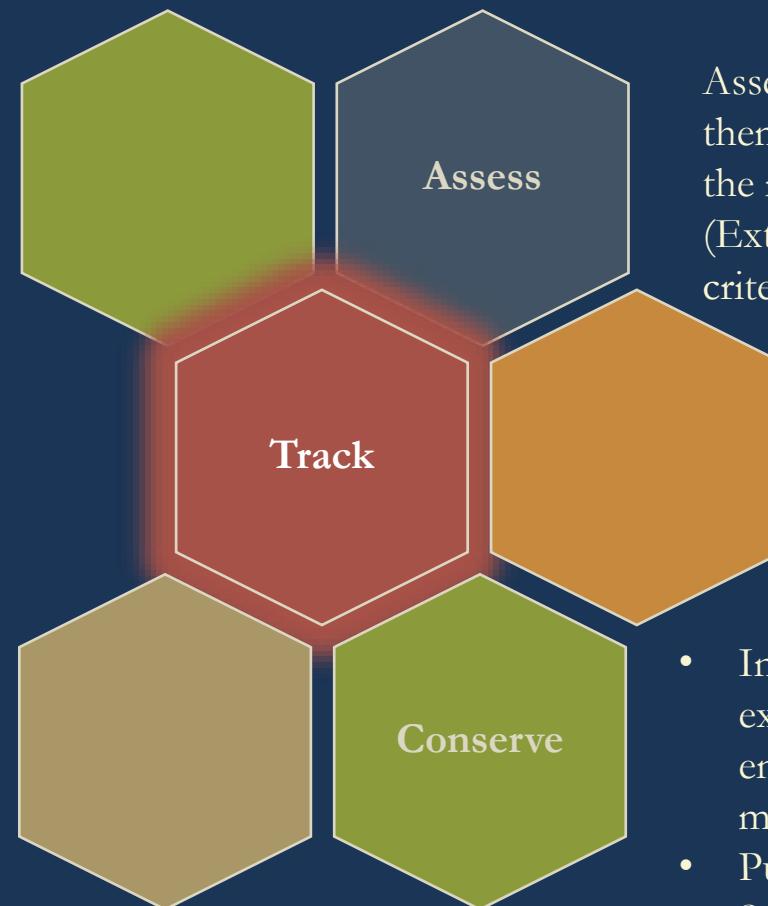
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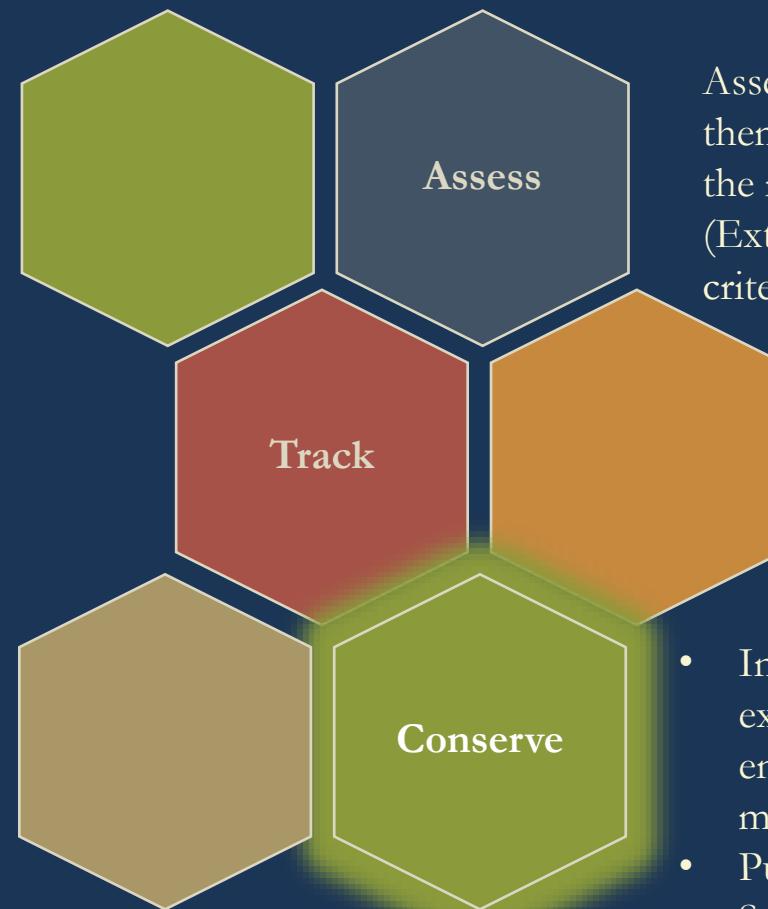
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Brief Intro to USCH

- The A.C. Moore Herbarium (USCH) at the University of South Carolina is located in Columbia, South Carolina.
- Our collections total just over 130,000 specimens making USCH the largest herbarium in SC!



Curator: **Dr. Herrick Brown**



Assistant
Collections
Manager/Volunteer
Manager: **Avery Browning**



Collections
Manager: **Charlie Harmon**



SCDNR NHT
Botany & Plant
Conservation
Group
Liaison/GIS
Specialist: **Csilla Czakó**

Additional Staff and Affiliates not Pictured: Dr. Mihaly Czakó (Resident Xylogist); Dr. John B. Nelson (Curator Emeritus); Maura C. Flannery (Research Affiliate/Professor Emerita); Keith Bradley (Research Affiliate/SCDNR State Botanist); Samantha Tessel (Research Affiliate/SCDNR Upstate Botanist); Eric Ungberg (Research Affiliate/SCDNR Low Country Botanist)



Introduction

- This meeting format uses descriptions of USCH/SCDNR data standards and suggestions, as well as a time between each for discussion.
- The field names in this presentation are referenced as they appear SERNEC.
- You will hear us recommend writing things into fields using brackets. The brackets are meant to indicate data added post-mounting.



Field Priorities/Skeletal Data

The fields USCH uses for skeletal records include:

- Catalog Number
- Additional Identifier Value (our stamped accession number)
- Collector Name and Number
- Collection Date
- Latest Determination
- Country, State, and County
- Language
- Label Project

We suggest at least the **bare minimum**:

- Catalog Number
- Additional Identifier Value (our stamped accession number)
- Collector Name and Number
- Collection Date
- Latest Determination
- Country, State, and County



Field Priorities/Skeletal Data

What do you think of the fields chosen for prioritization? Are there fields you disagree with?

Field Priorities/Skeletal Data (08/02/2023)

- Collector Number vs. Catalog Number vs. Additional Identifier Value vs. OCCID
- **Collector Number:** the unique identifier given by the collector to their specimen
- **Catalog Number:** the number associated with the image, SERNEC's primary unique identifier provided by the herbarium
- **Additional Identifier Value:** formerly known as the Catalog Number, this usually corresponds to a herbarium accession number
- **OCCID** is the unique identifier generated by SERNEC for the digital record

Field Priorities/Skeletal Data (08/02/2023)

Collector Number

Catalog
Number/Barcode

Additional Identifier
Value/Other Catalog
Number/Stamped
Number

OCCID

Collection Event

Most times correlates to
image but is the primary
unique identifier for the
specimen

Herbarium Accession
Number

Digital Record

Field Priorities/Skeletal Data (08/02/2023)

FYI-the OCCID is in the record web link

https://sernecportal.org/portal/collections/individual/index.php?occid=7578235

Details Duplicates Comments Linked Resources

University of Michigan Herbarium (MICH)

Catalog #: 1389744
Occurrence ID: 955c516a-a6c9-44f7-82ec-cc40fe3e05ec

OCCID



Skeletal Data

Scientific Name:

Country State/Province County/Parish

Collector Collector Number Date

Catalog Number Other Catalog Numbers Add Record

Records

SCDNR pulls OCCID, Catalog Number, Other Catalog Number and Collector Number.

id	institutionCode	collectionCode	ownerInst	basisOfRecord	occurrenceID	catalogNumber	otherCatalogNumbers
7578235	MICH	Angiosperms		PreservedSpecimen	955c516a-a6c9-44f7-82ec-cc40fe3e05ec	1389744	
7578276	MICH	Angiosperms		PreservedSpecimen	2747b12f-e58a-4d59-b6c1-b79a5d349bf3	1389785	
7951368	CLEMS			PreservedSpecimen	e3e6fb1-1e3d-4a1d-8fed-6d5b2dd0fa0e	CLEMS0007087	11961
7951369	CLEMS			PreservedSpecimen	15242f1f-e862-462d-82d8-feba5d5331b5	CLEMS0007086	11962

Field Priorities/Skeletal Data (08/02/2023)

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Collector / Observer Number

Loran C. Anderson No. 13,076

Collector / Observer ?	Number ?
Anderson, Loran C.	13076

- The collector number goes verbatim into the Number field, **but** commas are left out.
- When labels do not include a collection number, the Number field is entered as “s.n.”

Coll. Mrs. Edna Mixor Date 19 Nov 1968 No.
Det W. T. Batson

Number ?
s.n.

- Some collectors use more unique identifiers, such as adding letters, dashes, periods, etc. These are also included verbatim.

Uotila, Pertti 43543a

Collector / Observer ?
Uotila, Pertti

Number ?
43543a

- If a collector number starts with a 0, then it should be entered verbatim (i.e., Pittman).

A.B. Pittman #06229803

Collector / Observer ?
Pittman, A.B.

Number ?
06229803



Collector/Observer Number

For records with no collector number should we put “s.n.”?
Should we exclude commas in long numbers?

Collector / Observer Number (08/02/2023)

- "s.n." preferred for no collector number

Collector / Observer Number (08/02/2023)

Collector/Observer Number



Mihaly Czako

For records with no collector number should we put “s.n.”?
Should we exclude commas in long numbers?

Associated Collector(s)

- Last Name, First Name Middle Initial

Ex. John B. Nelson with Keith A. Bradley

John B. Nelson 36141
with Keith Bradley

- Entered in the same format as Collector/Observer name.

- Ex. Keith A. Bradley becomes **Bradley, Keith A.**



Collector / Observer ?
Nelson, John B.
Associated Collectors ?
Bradley, Keith A.

- If there are multiple associated collectors, each name is separated with a semicolon (;).

- Ex.

R.K. Godfrey no. 82847 with Angus Gholson &
Richard Carter



Collector / Observer ?
Godfrey, R.K.
Associated Collectors ?
Gholson, Angus; Carter, Richard



Associated Collector(s)

Do you agree with the name
formatting and separating
multiple associated collectors with
a semicolon?

Associated Collector(s) (08/02/2023)

- Associated collector(s) separated by a semicolon is preferred

Associated Collector(s) (08/02/2023)

Associated Collector(s)



Do you agree with the name
formatting and separating
multiple associated collectors with
a semicolon?

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Notes about Location Fields

- USCH distinguishes between first pass of data and data that is then perfected by a georeferencing specialist or georeferencing student.
- A lot of these fields we are referencing bare minimum/first pass of data.



County

- Don't add the word “County”, “Co.”, “CO” or any other additional words.
- Make sure the county is spelled correctly.
- If county is misspelled on the label, or the county does not match the described location, enter the verbatim county and corresponding corrections, along with the data processor's initials and the processing date in brackets at the end of Location Remarks.





County

- If the county is misspelled, enter it verbatim and corrected at the end of Location Remarks in brackets and put the data processor's initials and the date.
 - FORMAT: [Verbatim County: *county on label*. Correct Spelling: *corrected spelling*. Initials YYYY-MM-DD]
 - Aberville instead of Abbeville: “[Verbatim County: Aberville. Correct Spelling: Abbeville. CC 2023-06-21]”
- If the county does not match the state, enter the verbatim.
 - FORMAT: [Verbatim County: *county on label*. Corrected County: *corrected county*. Initials YYYY-MM-DD]
 - Bibb County, SC BUT the location remarks make sense for South Carolina: [Verbatim County: Bibb. Corrected County: Aiken County, SC. CC 2022-02-15]



County

- For historical counties (yes, they did change!) we will have students ask for guidance until they have been trained
- The present-day county will be added
- If the locality and historic information is so vague it covers multiple counties, that information will go into the Location Remarks
- Potentially can add the current day counties it covers, separated by a semicolon



County

For historical records should USCH add all counties the area covers separated by semicolons into the County field?

County (08/02/2023)

- If location spans multiple counties put **all** relevant counties and separate them by a semicolon (suggested that this is for advanced students)
- This is an indexed field so after adding the semicolon the picklist will no longer work! Data processors need to spell check themselves.
- *Suggested: first by **amount in county**, and then **alphabetically***

County (08/02/2023)

County

For historical records should USCH add all counties the area covers separated by semicolons into the County field?



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Security

- Herrick Brown created a Rare species of South Carolina Checklist that SCDNR curates so all species in the state of SC automatically get security
- Other reason would be private residence
- In this case we write “Private Residence” for Security Reasons



Security

Do you all agree with adding security for private residences?

What other scenarios are relevant?

Security (08/02/2023)

- Location Specific Security: needs to be **batch edited by Symbiota using OCCID**
- Should be discussed with Symbiota first
- In NC, they want everything off of the Blue Ridge Parkway to be protected, some TNC (The Nature Conservancy) and Natural Park Services
- Rare species hot spots and associated occurrences of rare species may also be protected

Security (08/02/2023)

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Verbatim Coordinates

- **Main Goals**
 - To determine if the coordinates were provided by the collector or georeferenced by someone else
 - Make sure the coordinates carry over to decimal lat and long
- **First Pass**
 - Data processor writes the coordinates as they appear into Verbatim Coordinates
 - If coordinates do not carry over to the decimal lat and long fields, the data processor needs to manually copy them into their respective fields
- **Georeferencing Specialist or Georeferencing Student**
 - Change the format of the verbatim coordinates to match SERNEC standards
 - Check coordinates to make sure they are properly converted and make sense
 - Copy the coordinates as they appear on the label into the Location Remarks. (*Even if they are wrong or formatted improperly*).
 - The verbatim coordinates should be tagged in the location remarks with: “Verbatim Coordinates:”
 - Fill out georeferenced by, georeferenced protocol, and georeferenced verification



Verbatim Coordinates

Do you agree with having the students copy the coordinates as is into the Verbatim Coordinates field and making sure they end up in decimal lat and long?

Verbatim Coordinates (08/02/2023)

- *No comments*

Verbatim Elevation

- **Main Goals**
 - to determine if the elevation was provided by the collector or georeferenced after the collection
 - make sure the elevation carries over to min and max elevation
- **First Pass**
 - Students write the elevation or elevation range and corresponding unit as they appear into Verbatim Elevation
 - If both do not carry, make sure they get into min and max elevation
- **Georeferencing Specialist or Georeferencing Student**
 - Double check the elevation and make comments in Location Remarks
 - Run zonal statistics on the polygon OR take verbatim coordinates and turn them into a polygon using the coordinates and the buffer using an SCDNR provided Digital Elevation Model(DEM)



Verbatim Elevation

Do you agree with having the students copy the elevation as is into the Verbatim Coordinates field and making sure they end up min and max elevation?

Verbatim Elevation (08/02/2023)

- Verbatim elevation does not have a preferred unit, but the minimum and maximum elevation is meant to be in **meters**.
- *Please note that when records were imported from Specify, records that are edited post-import may have errors when trying to save because the elevation was forced into the maximum elevation field – however **SERNEC only allows for a minimum elevation when there is only one number and not a range**.

Elevation in Meters ?

 - -

sernecportal.org says

Maximun elevation field contains a value yet minumum does not. If elevation consists of a single value rather than a range, enter the value in the minimun field.

OK

Verbatim Elevation (08/02/2023)

Verbatim Elevation

Do you agree with having the student copy the elevation as is into the Verbatim Coordinates field and making sure they end up min and max elevation?



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Georeference Remarks, Georeferenced By, Georeference Sources, Georeference Protocol

- Georeference Remarks
 - How the record was georeferenced
 - There is a character limit so it should be succinct.
 - Full or additional details can go into Location Remarks
- Georeferenced By
 - Full Name (Last Name, First Name MI)
- Georeference Sources
 - Follow Darwin Core Standards
- Georeference Protocol
 - USCH limits the options to the following:
 - SCDNR Georeferencing Protocol*
 - Carried over from Duplicate
 - Field Survey of Site**
 - Georeferenced in Field

Comments

Recommended best practice is to separate the values in a list with space vertical bar space (|). This term has an equivalent in the dwciri: namespace that allows only an IRI as a value, whereas this term allows for any string literal value.

*SCDNR Georeferencing Protocol refers to a set of guidelines written and is being perfected by Csilla Czakó that SCDNR and USCH processors follow when georeferencing

**Field Survey of Site refers specifically to well known botanical hotspots. In these cases, SCDNR or affiliated botanist will go out and map precise location information for all records associated with the area.



Georeference Remarks, Georeferenced By, Georeference Sources, Georeference Protocol

Comments? Questions?

Georeference Remarks, Georeferenced By, Georeference Sources, Georeference Protocol (08/02/2023)

- *No comments*



Location Remarks

- What goes into this field:
 - Anything and everything to do with location *even if it is repeated in habitat*
 - Write out abbreviations in brackets (i.e. N -> N [north], cr -> cr [creek])
 - Additional comments in brackets related to coordinates, elevation, clarification, updated names, and georeferencing remarks that don't fit into georeferencing remarks because of the character limit
 - Everything in location remarks doesn't necessarily end up in locality





Location Remarks Example

Label Information:

4.5 mi N of jct FSRD 715 and 715 A. Deep drainage on wooded slope. Oak-hickory forest.

Location Remarks: 4.5 mi [miles] N [north] of jct [junction] FSRD [forest service road] 715 and 715 A. Deep drainage on wooded slope.

Habitat: Deep drainage on wooded slope. Oak-hickory forest.



Location Remarks

Do you agree that any and all information related to location and associated remarks about geospatial information and additional georeferencing remarks should go in this field?

Location Remarks (08/02/2023)

- Seems like we need a specific meeting for location remarks and for collectors writing labels. In upcoming meetings, we can discuss this.
- On adding **Location Remarks** when there **are** given coordinates:
 - Useful when browsing SERNEC vs. dropping data into GIS software
- Air miles vs. Road miles
 - Collectors writing labels and Georeferencer adding location remarks: specify which you are using and put both units (miles and meters)
 - Miles are better for referencing when driving, meters are more scientific

Location Remarks (08/02/2023)

Location Remarks

Do you agree that any and all information related to location and associated remarks about geospatial information and additional georeferencing remarks should go in this field?

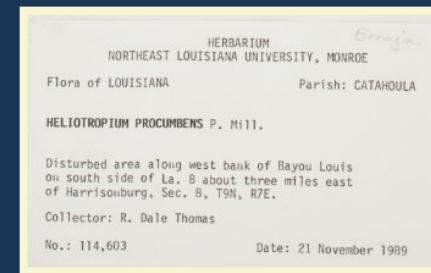
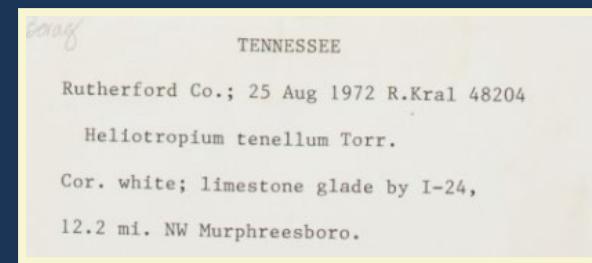


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Habitat



- This field is written as a sentence, with capitalization and a period at the end.
- General habitat description, but *also* includes associated taxa (scientific names and common names) in this field as well as the distribution and substrate.
- Some labels, such as algae, may have the air temperature, water temperature, and salinity. These measurements would go in the Habitat field as well.



Habitat

Do you agree with also including the distribution, associated taxa, and substrate in this field?

Should habitat be written in full sentences?

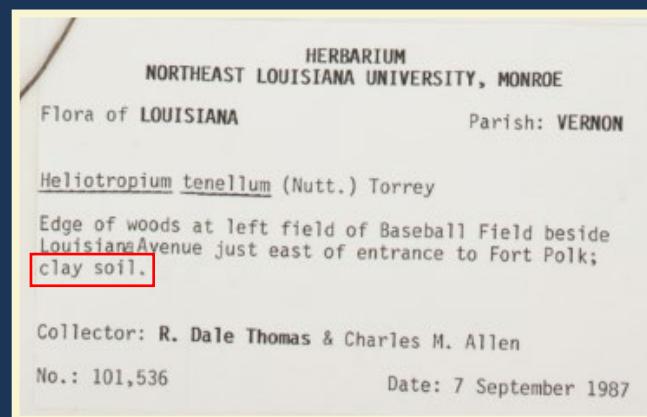
Habitat (08/02/2023)

- *No comments*

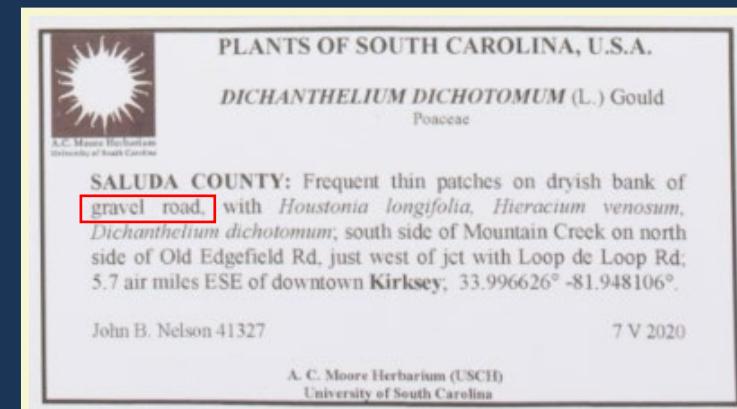


Substrate

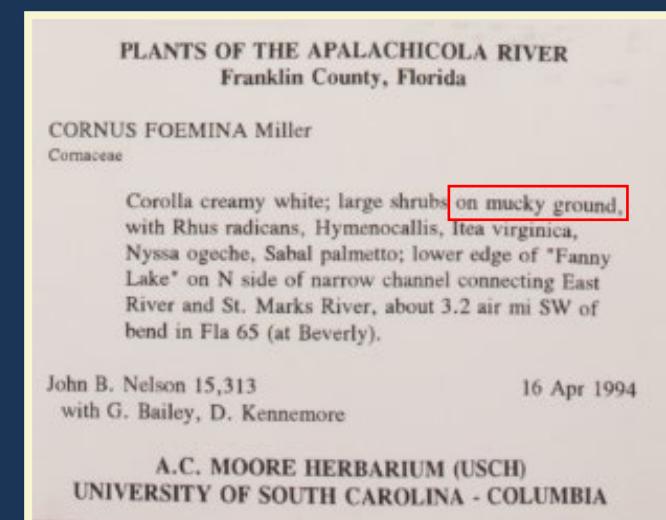
- We include the full description of the substrate, such as: Iredell soil, moist sand, basic soil, acidic, nutrient-rich, poor, etc.
- This field is also written as a sentence, with capitalization and a period at the end.



Substrate ?
Clay soil.



Substrate ?
Gravel road.



Substrate ?
Mucky ground.



Substrate

Should the Substrate field be limited
to the material/surface only?

Should substrate be written in full
sentences?

Substrate (08/02/2023)

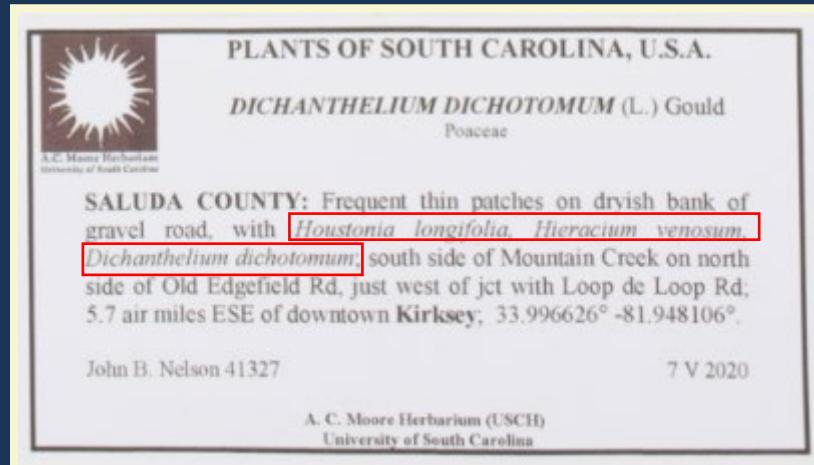
- *No comments*

Associated Taxa Formatting

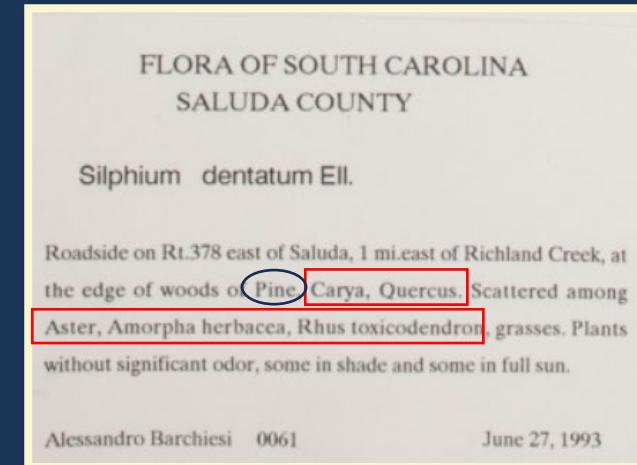
- Scientific names only
- Only those from the dropdown list
- Do not write “sp.” or “spp.”
- Do not convert common names into scientific names from habitat and add them to associated taxa
- No period at the end
- Write out abbreviated Genus names (ex. Aster dumosus, A. pilosus = Aster dumosus, Aster pilosus).



Associated Taxa Examples



Associated Taxa ?
Houstonia longifolia, *Hieracium venosum*, *Dichanthelium dichotomum*



Associated Taxa ?
Carya, *Quercus*, *Aster*, *Amorpha herbacea*, *Rhus toxicodendron*



*Ignore "Pine" for the Associated Taxa field because Pine is a common name, not scientific.



Associated Taxa

Do you agree with formatting associated taxa
for a clean match up to SERNEC Taxon ID?

Do you agree with leaving out common
names from the Associated Taxa field?

Associated Taxa (08/02/2023)

- *No comments*

Notes (Occurrence Remarks)

- In this field, USCH also includes:
 - When a two or more specimens are sharing a sheet – written as: "Shares sheet with USCH Accession # _____. "
 - The sheet number when there are multiple related sheet – i.e., "Sheet # of #."
 - Statements from the label that describe the collection permits as well as individuals that monitored or supervised the collection
 - e.g., "Collection with permission and under supervision of Groton Plantation Staff," "Collection authorized by Collection authorized by FMNF permit #2900, cy 2021 and 2022."
 - Remarks about support given to the collector or organization
 - e.g., "Supported by the Janice C. Swab Botanical Research Award."
 - When specimens are included in the South Carolina Heritage Trust Program – entered as "South Carolina Heritage Trust Program."



Notes (Occurrence Remarks)

What additional data should go into this field? What should not go into this field?

Notes/Occurrence Remarks (08/02/2023)

- Include **as much information as possible**. Anything that doesn't neatly fit anywhere else should be going here.

Notes/Occurrence Remarks (08/02/2023)

Notes (Occurrence Remarks)

What additional data should go into this field? What should not go into this field?





Phenology

- USCH currently leaves this field blank unless the data processor is certain of the plant's phenology or if it was specified by the collector in their description.
- Darwin Core:

Phenology (Reproductive Condition): The reproductive stage the specimen is in. Typically used for plant and fungal collections.
Ex: flower, fruit, sterile
[See Darwin Core's reproductiveCondition](#)

reproductiveCondition	
Identifier	http://rs.tdwg.org/dwc/terms/reproductiveCondition
Definition	The reproductive condition of the biological individual(s) represented in the dwc:Occurrence.
Comments	Recommended best practice is to use a controlled vocabulary. This term has an equivalent in the dwciri: namespace that allows only an IRI as a value, whereas this term allows for any string literal value.
Examples	non-reproductive pregnant in bloom fruit-bearing

*USCH mainly uses "flowering," "fruiting," and "reproductive."

*More than one descriptor is also acceptable



Phenology

When should this field be used?
If there is no data for phenology,
should this field be left blank or
entered as "No data"?

Phenology (08/02/2023)

- Comments about importance of this field due to notable events – such as flowering out of season go into Description.
- Option was discussed for using "Unknown" instead of leaving the field blank or entering "no data" as to avoid implying that information was left out by the data processor.

Phenology (08/02/2023)

The screenshot shows the 'Traits' tab in the SERNEC options interface. The tab bar includes 'Occurrence Data', 'Determination History', 'Images', 'Linked Resources', 'Traits' (which is highlighted with a green border), and 'Admin'. The main content area is titled 'Trait: Phenology (ver 1.0)'. It lists several reproductive traits with checkboxes: 'reproductive' (selected), 'flowering', 'fruiting', 'senesced', 'budding', 'sterile', and 'not scoriable'. Below these is a 'Notes:' input field, a 'Source:' dropdown set to 'Field mining: reproductivecondition', and a 'Status:' dropdown set to 'Not reviewed'. At the bottom are 'Save Edits' and 'Delete Coding' buttons.

Traits Tab in SERNEC options.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0FECOytpTiY>
Starts at around 5 minutes 25 seconds
“Trait Data in Symbiota Portals”
Explanation on how to use
Occurrence Trait Coding Tools

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Phenology (08/02/2023)

Phenology

When should this field be used?
If there is no data for phenology
should this field be left blank or
entered as "No data"?

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Data Generalizations

- This field is used for additional data about the specimen including:
 - Mounted / Remounted Dates, Ex. Herbaria, Voucher Specimen information, , and Duplicate (aka Dupl. or Dupe) specimen locations.
 - The Label Project **if** the name of the project exceeds the character limit in the Label Project field.
- If more than one of the above apply, the information should be separated by a semicolon (;) when it is entered.



Current standards for additional data that does not have a specified field

Data Generalizations

DNR Specific

Notes (Occurrence Remarks) ?

DNR Specific

Data Generalizations	Add. Specimen Comm.	Add. Occurrence Comm.	Add. Record Comm.
Mounted, Remounted, or Repaired dates	Type of sampling (e.g., destructive)	Any comment that doesn't directly apply to the occurrence	Shares sheet with...
Ex. Herbaria	Any "Examined for..." Label that doesn't correlate to a determination	Collected with permission....	Sheet # of #
Voucher Specimen...	"Specimen used for..." (Making it Grow, Mckissick, classroom, etc.)	Supported by...	
Paper Purchased....		South Carolina Heritage Trust Program	
Dupl. at...			
Label Project (if it does not fit into the Label Project field)			





Proposed SERNEC Hierarchy

Data Generalizations

Notes (Occurrence Remarks) ?

Description ?

Data Generalizations - Curation	Notes (Occurrence Remarks) - Misc.	Description – Misc.
1. Ex. Herbaria	1. Shares sheet with...	1. Type of sampling (e.g., destructive)
2. Dupl. at...	2. Sheet _ of _	2. Any "examined for" label that does not correlate to a determination
3. Label Project (if it does not fit into the Label Project field)	3. Collected with permission...	3. Specimen used for... (e.g., Making it Grow, Mckissick Museum, classroom demonstrations)
4. Mounted, Remounted, Repaired	4. Supported by...	
5. Voucher Specimen	5. SC Heritage Trust Program	



Data Generalizations

What additional data should go into this field? What should not go into this field?

Data Generalizations (08/02/2023)

- Doesn't show up on public view so this is for mainly comments about **curation**.
- **Hierarchy** not fully discussed yet - proposed hierarchy will likely be tweaked

Data Generalizations (08/02/2023)

Data Generalizations

- This field is used for additional data about the specimen including
 - Mounted / Remounted Dates, Ex. Herbaria, Voucher Specimen information and Duplicate (aka Dupl. or Dupe) specimen locations.
 - The Label Project if the name of the project exceeds the character limit in the Label Project field.
- If more than one of the above apply, the information should be separated by a semicolon (;) when it is entered.

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Current Protocol: Collector / Observer

Collector: R. Dale Thomas with Scott D. Thomas
No.: l64,462 Date: 20 Nov.

Collector / Observer ?	Number ?
Thomas, R. Dale	l64462
Associated Collectors ?	
Thomas, Scott D.	

- The format USCH uses for this field is Last name, First name, Middle Initial.
 - No spaces are entered between initials
 - If suffixes are included (e.g., George P. Sawyer Jr.) USCH use the format Last name, Suffix, First name, Middle initial
- USCH only lists one person in this field, additional collectors go in the Associated Collectors field.
- If the label lacks a collector completely, the Collector / Observer is entered as "Unknown"

Herrick H. K. Brown (coll. & det.)

Collector / Observer ?
Brown, Herrick H.K.

Collector / Observer ? Number ?
Unknown s.n.

George P. Sawyer Jr. 29 Sept
1863
class trip with A. E. Radford

Collector / Observer ?
Sawyer, Jr., George P.
Associated Collectors ?
Radford, A.E.





Collector and Observer

- There will be in the future, a Bionomia ID added to SERNEC
- Data entry staff, students, and volunteers will still need to look up the ID
- Best case scenario-> batch edit
- ETA of Bionomia ID being added to SERNEC is unknown but contact with them suggests it is not soon.





Importance of Verbatim Collector Name

- Provides historical context
- Avoids confusion for inaccurately entered data
 - Ex. Jones, S. (Steven M. Jones OR Samuel B. Jones)
 - By preserving both verbatim and standard name, if there is a misinterpretation of the abbreviated name, it will be easy to find and clean up
- Reflects name change of the collector
- Verbatim collector name is easier for entry level and community science volunteers & data processors to enter
 - No need to look up anything
 - No need to remember formats



Collector/Observer – Name Discrepancies Example

Coll. Cindy Aulbach

Collector / Observer
Aulbach, Cindy

Coll. Cynthia A. Aulbach

Collector / Observer ?
Aulbach, Cynthia A.

Coll. C. Aulbach-Smith

Collector / Observer ?
Aulbach-Smith, C.

Cynthia A. Aulbach-Smith

Collector / Observer ?
Aulbach-Smith, Cynthia A.

Coll. Cynthia Aulbach

Collector / Observer ?
Aulbach, Cynthia

Coll. C. A. Aulbach

Collector / Observer
Aulbach, C.A.

Cynthia Aulbach-Smith

Collector / Observer ?
Aulbach-Smith, Cynthia





Synonymy Table for Collectors

Verbatim Name	Standardized Name	SC Collector ID	Bionomia ID
Radford, A.E.	Radford, Albert Ernest	35	Q2831158
Radford, A. E.	Radford, Albert Ernest	35	Q2831158
Radford, Albert E.	Radford, Albert Ernest	35	Q2831158
Radford, Albert Ernest	Radford, Albert Ernest	35	Q2831158





Suggested Compromise

- Entry level students, staff and volunteers write in verbatim precisely as it appears on the label
- Somebody else will come in and batch edit



Where to put Verbatim Name?

- Once the data is standardized, where should we put the verbatim name?
- Options:
 - Add it to Notes/Occurrence Remarks
 - Add it to Data Gen
 - Save it to a spreadsheet with the OCCID of the record so that when SERNEC adds a verbatim collector field, we can batch upload





Shared Collector Spreadsheet

- We created a spreadsheet that has information that *we know* about collector names.
- Full Name:
 - Last Name, First Name Middle Name, Jr./Sr.(suffix)
- Abbreviated Name:
 - Last Name, FI. MI., Suffix
- We invite you all to use this and add to it with additional knowledge



Collector Name

Should we use MLA or APA
format for the name?

Collector Name

Should we write the name as it appears on the label in the previously agreed format and then batch update?

Collector Name (08/02/2023)

- **APA** formatting preferred over MLA format
- **Brackets** were suggested but Herrick mentioned it might break the indexing when the collector's name becomes indexed
- **Batch editing** is also a solution
- Overall, there is still division on how this should be dealt with

Collector Name (08/02/2023)

Collector Name

Should we use MLA or APA
format for the name?

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Identified By

- The original determination on the label is the first determination that USCH adds into the Latest Identification field.
- Unless the determiner is specified on the label, USCH assumes that the original identification was made by the collector.
 - In these instances, in the Identification Remarks, USCH also includes: "Original det. on label. Presumed to be by the collector."
- If the determiner *is* identified on the label, USCH *still* includes "Original det. on label." in the Identification Remarks.

Identification Remarks: ?
Original det. on label. Presumed to be by collector.

Identification Remarks: ?
Original det. on label.



Identified By

Should we match the collector
name format?

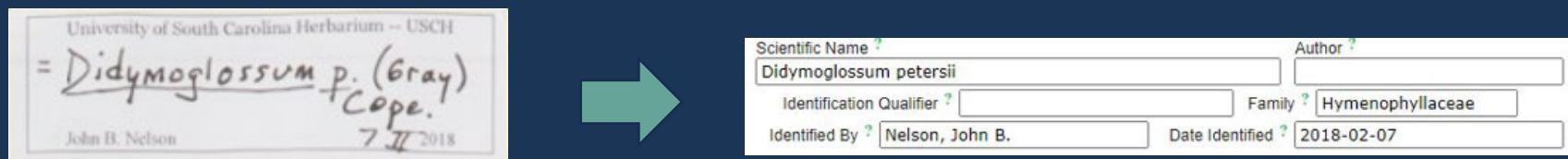
Identified By (08/02/2023)

- Not yet discussed due to time constraints

Date Identified

- If no date is included for when the identification was made, USCH writes "s.d." into the Date field.

- If a date is provided, USCH follows the same format as used for the collection date, i.e., YEAR-MONTH-DAY
 - The same standards also apply if the provided date is incomplete, such as May 2009 – which is then written as 2009-05-00, with zeros as place holders for missing information.



Date Identified

Do you agree with putting “s.d.”
for no date and YYYY-MM-DD for
date identified?

Date Identified (08/02/2023)

- Not yet discussed due to time constraints



Future Meeting Topics

- Discussing standards for additional data fields
- Coordinating data cleaning





Workshops

1. Database Entry Workshops – Hosted by USCH/SCDNR
2. Georeferencing Workshops – Hosted by SCDNR (Csilla Czakó)
3. Data Cleaning Workshops (and student project ideas!) - Hosted by USCH/SCDNR

***These will be recorded and shared for future reference!**



Workshops (08/02/2023)

- *No comments*

THANK YOU!