

# Lichen Herbarium

## Field Biology

An herbarium is a collection of dried specimens, used by scientists and researchers as a kind of biological library to refer to when studying different groups of plants. When properly maintained, herbarium specimens have been known to last for hundreds of years. These specimens can be also useful when ecologists want to re-construct the kinds of species that once grew in an area. By referring to the herbarium of dried specimens found in an area many years ago, they can learn how the species composition of plants or lichens has changed over time and potentially address any issues that have caused this change.

### Your goal:

1. Individually, make an herbarium of the 7 different species of lichens we will be studying.

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Ramalina farinacea</i>	Mealy Ramalina
<i>Ramalina menziesii</i>	Fishnet Lichen
<i>Evernia prunastri</i>	Wrinkled Evernia
<i>Parmelia sulcata</i>	Net-marked Parmelia
<i>Usnea subfloridana</i>	Bushy Cord Lichen
<i>Hypogymnia physodes</i>	Inflated Hypogymnia
<i>Lobaria pulmonaria</i>	Lungwort

2. Each lichen specimen must be dried, pressed, and placed in an envelope.
3. Each envelope should include a data label that includes correct identification, usage and collection information, one human use of the lichen, and the lichen's sensitivity to air pollution.
4. Your collection should be neatly held together with a rubber band.

### The data label on each envelope should have the following information:

- Collector: Your name
- Name of lichen: Scientific and common name
- Date: The month and year that the specimen was collected
- Location: Your location should start with "Crescent Valley area, Benton County, Oregon" and should also include a short description of where your specimen was collected (for example, "just east of the tennis courts", or "north side of Noyes property")
- One human use of the lichen – among other things, you might document one of the following:
  - Any medicinal uses of the lichen
  - What kinds of dyes or perfumes it might be used for
  - How it is used in personal products, such as powders, toothpastes
  - Any known nutritional value or toxicity
- Its sensitivity to air pollution or use as an air pollution biomonitor

(For the last two pieces of information, refer to the references on the Lichen Identification Guide posted to the website)