

## **Wish List of Tools to add into Symbiota**

From Alison Colwell, California Consortium of Herbaria

- 1) Biggest wish: We often have two, sometimes three, or even four herbarium numbers associated with our specimens (these may include: old herbarium accession number, new herbarium accession number, barcode number, and a National Park Service Catalog Number, if the specimen was collected in an NPS unit). Please add two more herbarium catalog number boxes for us to keep them organized. It would be nice if we could customize what these supernumerary boxes are titled also. Right now, we cram all the extra numbers into the secondary box and they don't show up for the public to see, which means the public requests loans based on a number that causes us extra work.
- 2) We would like to be able to customize our output herbarium labels more, to save a bunch of editing in Word. For example, we would like collectors printed on our labels in one line instead of two, e.g.: "Primary Collector, collection number, Secondary Collector(s);" we also end up adjusting the font size, boldness and typeset in our headers and footers.
- 3) Many older records use Decimal Minutes. These we find less useful than decimal degrees (although those who use USGS 7.5' topo maps use decimal minutes). We would like to be able to convert Decimal Minutes to read as decimal degrees on our database entries, and also to be able to print these as decimal degrees on an herbarium label. Would you add: a) Decimal Minutes converter tool in the "F Box functions" and if this is the case, please add an explanation of how this works within the question mark function and b) an option on the "Print Specimen Labels" page to select what coordinate style(s) is/are printed on the specimen label? For instance, I would want the verbatim T/R/S coordinates printed on the label along with a decimal lat/long conversion (much like how we print the feet elevation with the meters conversion), but for a verbatim decimal minutes, I might only want to print the converted decimal degrees on the label.
- 4) When analyzing taxonomic names within the Data Cleaning Tools option, it would be helpful to have more options to filter the returned problematic specimens detected by the search. An extra filter to sort the results further by Nation, State, County and taxonomically (ie., by family or by genus). These problems which are detected the search tool could then also be queried by experts who are currently working on resolving such issues as well.
- 5) There is a very useful Add Batch Determinations/Nomenclature Adjustments tool in the Data Entry Panel but it currently only allows for batch changing at the genus and/or species level. It will query and autofill family names but then it doesn't produce records to adjust if you search for family name. This is a problem when migrating data and family name appears to be defaulted to the one that Symbiota accepts, which is not the same in all cases as what our herbarium is filed as.
- 6) When comments are made on Symbiota, we need a way to privately contact the commenter such as an email, or an interface within CCH2.
- 7) Within CCH2 there needs to be a way for the commenter to be notified privately when their comment has been addressed so they are aware of their helpful update.
- 8) A way to enter hybrids. Example: our Oak specimens. Perhaps there should be two boxes for each species of the hybrid? We are not sure how to specifically address this. Perhaps a way to push the authority of the hybrid?

- 9) Addition of a "Prefecture" box in the Locality section, for Japanese entries.
- 10) Addition of "Island" and "Archipelago" boxes in the Locality section (The Country of Japan is also an Archipelago of 6,852 Islands of which 5 large islands are the most inhabited and which are then regionally defined further into prefectures; The Hawaiian Archipelago and "State of Hawaii" with eight islands: Kauai, Oahu, Maui, Hawaii, Molokai, Lanai, Nihau, Kaholawe each with counties etc)
- 11) The addition of a content along with country. The Country of France has ownership of some Caribbean islands, which are in the continent of North America. Example: Guadeloupe Island within the Lesser Antilles Archipelago of Islands. Maybe this is for CC2 Planet Earth one day.