Species Identification

Help identify wildlife within the Botanic Gardens

Context

Glasgow City Council (GCC) has a Biodiversity Action Plan and regularly collects reports of plant and wildlife species throughout the city. It's important to get regular, accurate data to inform future action plans, interventions and environmental projects. Glasgow Botanic Gardens is home to a cultivated collection of plants but also many native, wild plants and wildlife. iNaturalist holds an annual City Nature Challenge in the spring to encourage people to record biological sightings.

Problem

Species are added to the biological record ad-hoc and manually entered into a spreadsheet after being authenticated. We would like to streamline this process, reducing manual entry while still maintaining a level of authentication by experts, and we would like to expand the role of citizen recorders via the iNaturalist app, year round.

Getting started

Begin by looking at iNaturalist app. Look around for other apps used for data entries. Think about how to help identify species. How do other 'identification' type services and software products function? What could be usefully applied here? What sort of features would users like?

Resources

- https://glasgowbotanicgardens.com/
- https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/city-nature-challenge-2025-greater-glasgow
- https://glasgownaturalhistory.org.uk/bio_sites.html

Contacts

Chrissy Sanachan
Friends of Glasgow Botanic Gardens
chrissy@glasgowbotanicgardens.com