

# Using Digitized Specimen Data in Research: Applications for Ecology, Phylogenetics, and Biogeography



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BiotaPhy



# Topics

- Intro to data
- Downloading data
- Cleaning data
- Georeferencing
  - GEOLocate
- Ecological Niche Modeling
  - Maxent
- ENM Analysis & Interpretation
- Scaling Up – BiotaPhy
- Additional uses of collections data
- Discussion/Q&A
- Manual and R-based options

# Workshop Leaders

- Pam Soltis
- Makenzie Mabry
- Lauren Gillett
- Shelly Gaynor
- JT Miller
- Elizabeth White
- Maria Cortez
- Doug Soltis
- Malu Ore Rengifo
- Contributions from many previous lab members/colleagues:
  - Blaine Marchant, Charlotte Germain-Aubrey, Andre Naranjo, Anthony Melton, Tal Kinser, Mike Belitz, Rhett Rautsaw, João Vidal, Jr.







# Logistics

- Dropbox folder
  - <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/gtvo3z20rw5j7wt/AADKEhCHgHxxM9gjT8MPq8c4a?dl=0>
  - Word doc with schedule and instructions
  - Presentations folder
  - Demos folder
- Workshop evaluation survey
  - by email
- Pace/breaks





# Herbaria Worldwide

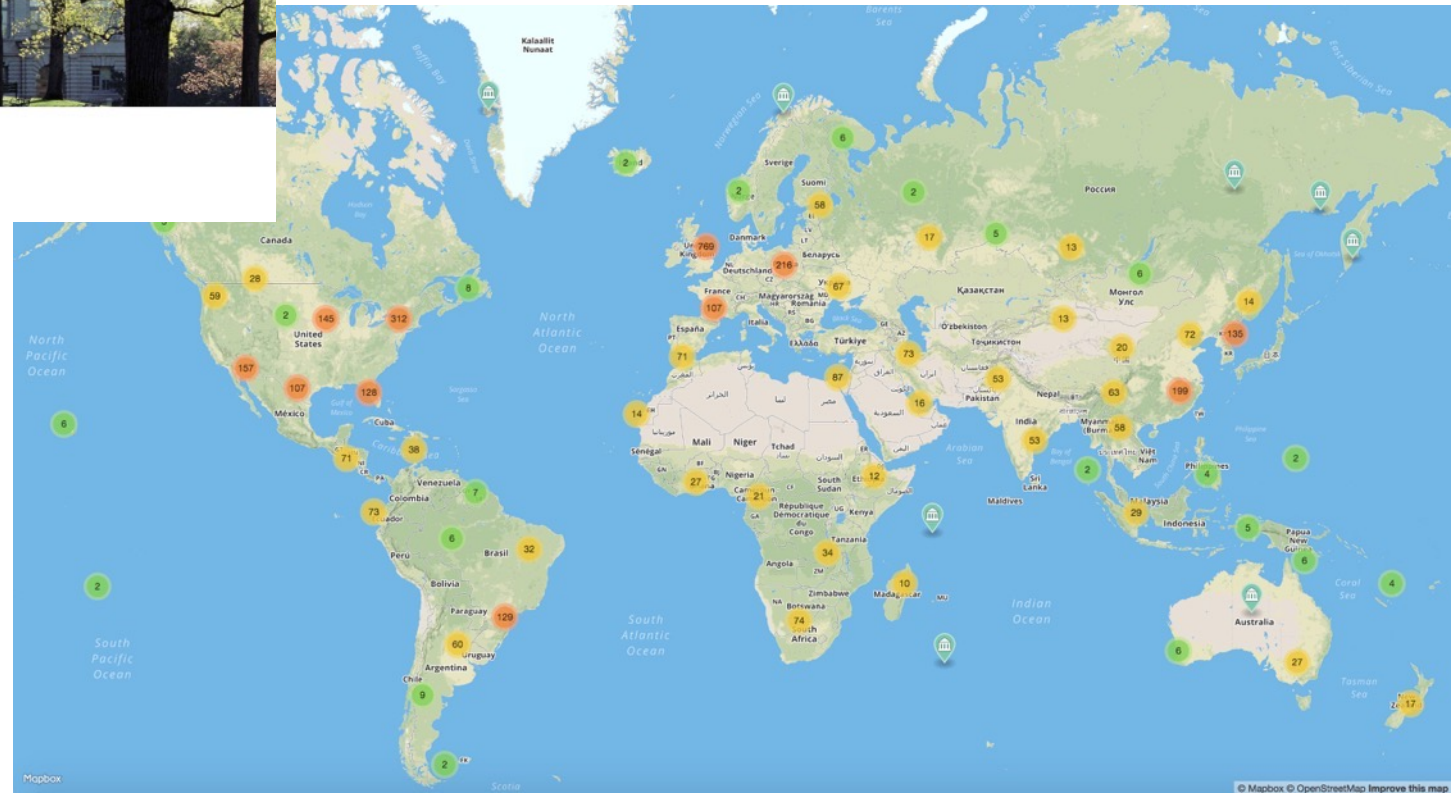
NYBG STEERE HERBARIUM

[Home](#) [Collections](#) [Discover](#) [Index Herbariorum](#) [Virtual Herbarium](#) [Loans](#) [Digitization](#)



Index Herbariorum

3,400 herbaria  
400,000,000 specimens!





# Natural History Collections



1-2 billion specimens  
in the US

3-4 billion specimens  
worldwide

Smithsonian

~1600 natural history  
collections in the US,  
thousands in the world





# Systematics & Taxonomy



The Linnean  
Collections

LINNEAN  
SOCIETY  
of London



Linnean Society Home

*Linnaea borealis*, 1732

Carl Linné, aka Carolus Linnaeus



# Uses of Natural History Collections



Genetics  
Genomics  
Chemistry...

...Species interactions  
Phenology  
Biogeography  
More!

Smithsonian





# Uses of Natural History Collections



Most specimens locked away in cabinets, unavailable for general use.

Smithsonian





# Uses of Natural History Collections



**DIGITIZATION**

Smithsonian



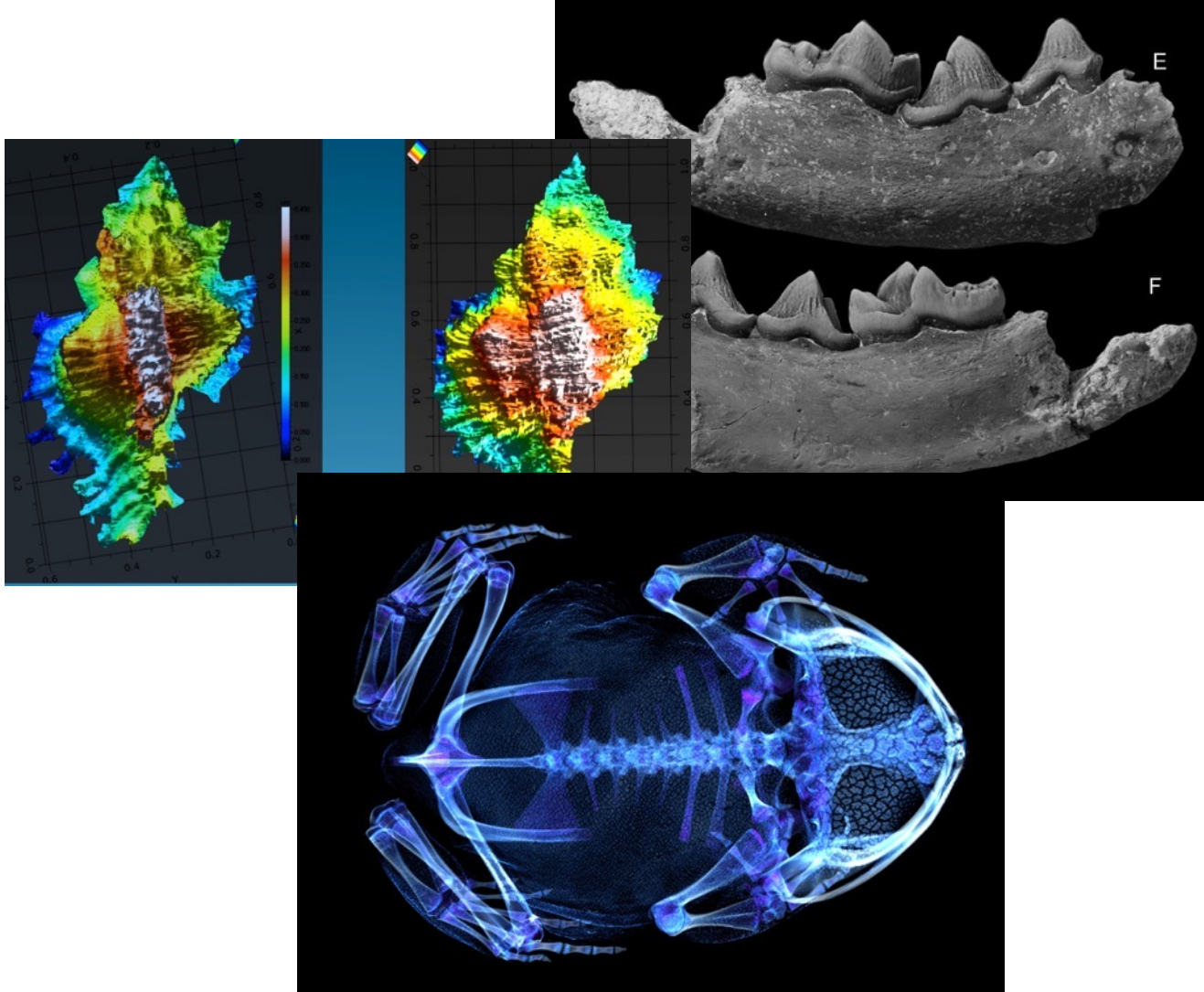
# Digitization: Data and Images

- Scientific name – including authority
- Date
- Collector
- Location – state, county, specific site, GPS coordinates
- Associated species
- Notes





# Digitization: Data and Images



# iDigBio: [www.idigbio.org](http://www.idigbio.org)



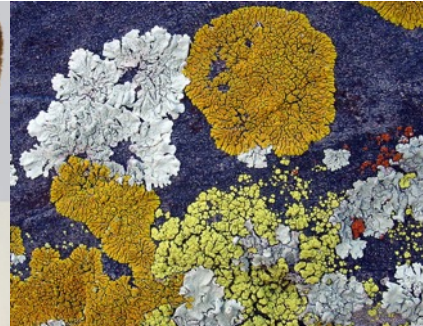
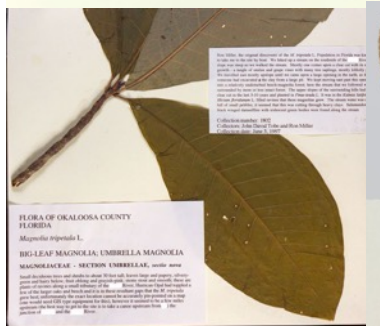
## National Coordinating Center For Digitization of Biodiversity Collections

Ingest, serve, integrate data:

Localities

Dates

Images





# iDigBio: A Source for Specimen Records



[About iDigBio](#) | [Research](#) | [Technical Information](#) | [Education](#)

ENHANCED BY 

Log In



Making data and images of millions of biological specimens available on the web

137,571,430  
Specimen Records

52,529,865  
Media Records

1,797  
Recordsets

[Search the Portal](#)



**WHY DIGITIZE?**

[Why digitization matters](#)  
More about what we do and why



**Digitization**  
Learn, share and develop best practices



**Sharing Collections**  
Documentation on data ingestion



**Working Groups**  
Join in, contribute, be part of the community



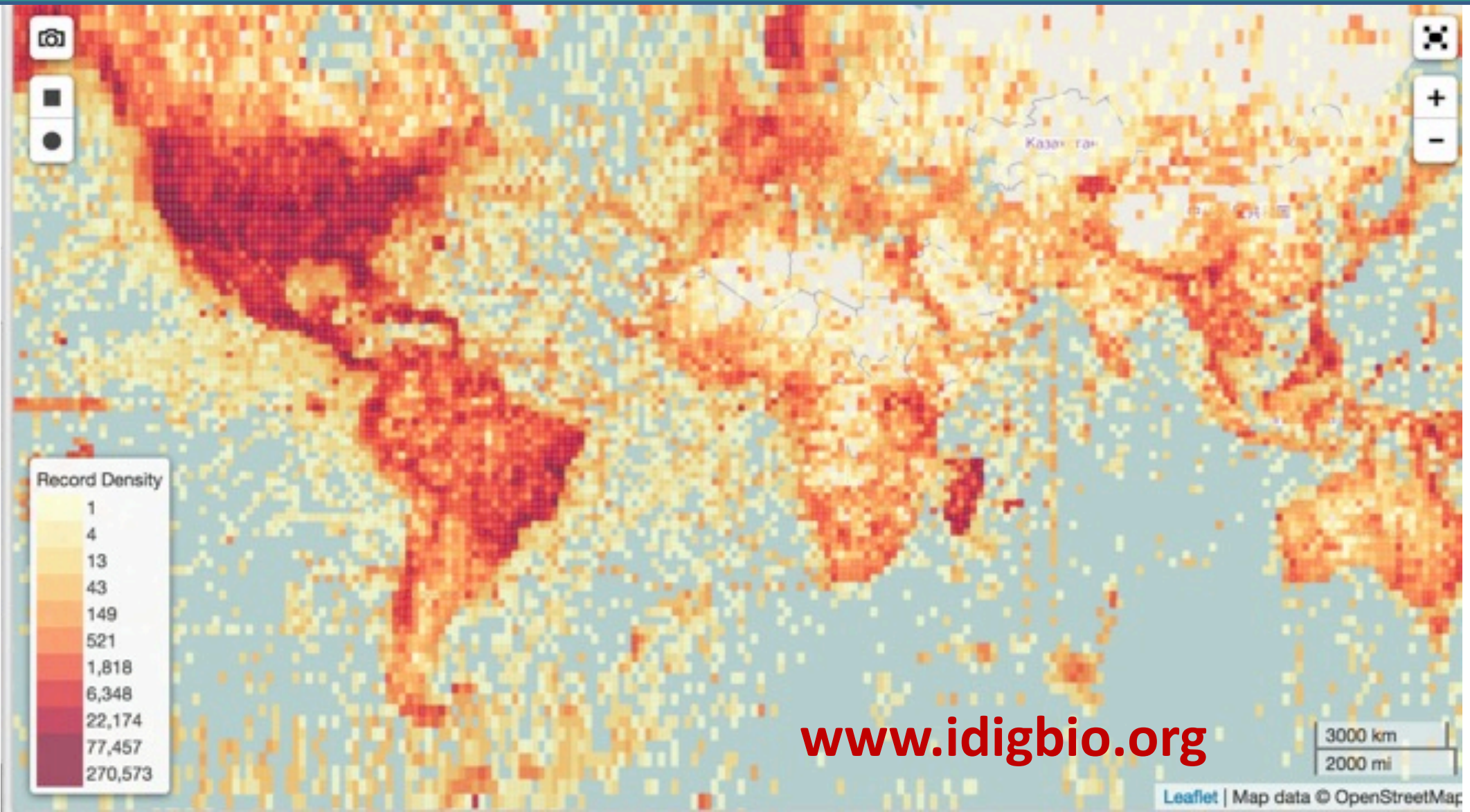
**Proposals**  
New tool and workshop ideas



**Citizen Scientists**  
How can you help biological collections?



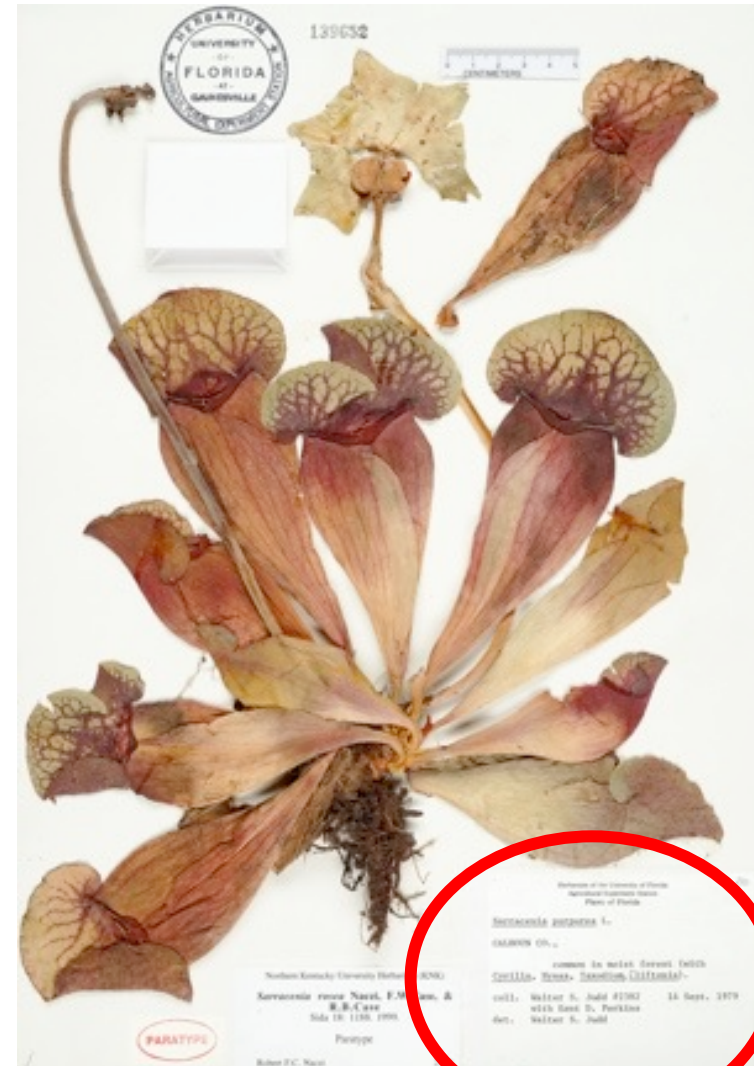
# Specimen Occurrences in iDigBio





# Label Data from Herbarium Specimens

- Scientific name – including authority
- Date
- Collector
- Location – state, county, specific site, GPS coordinates
- Associated species
- Notes



# Machine Learning & Biodiversity Research



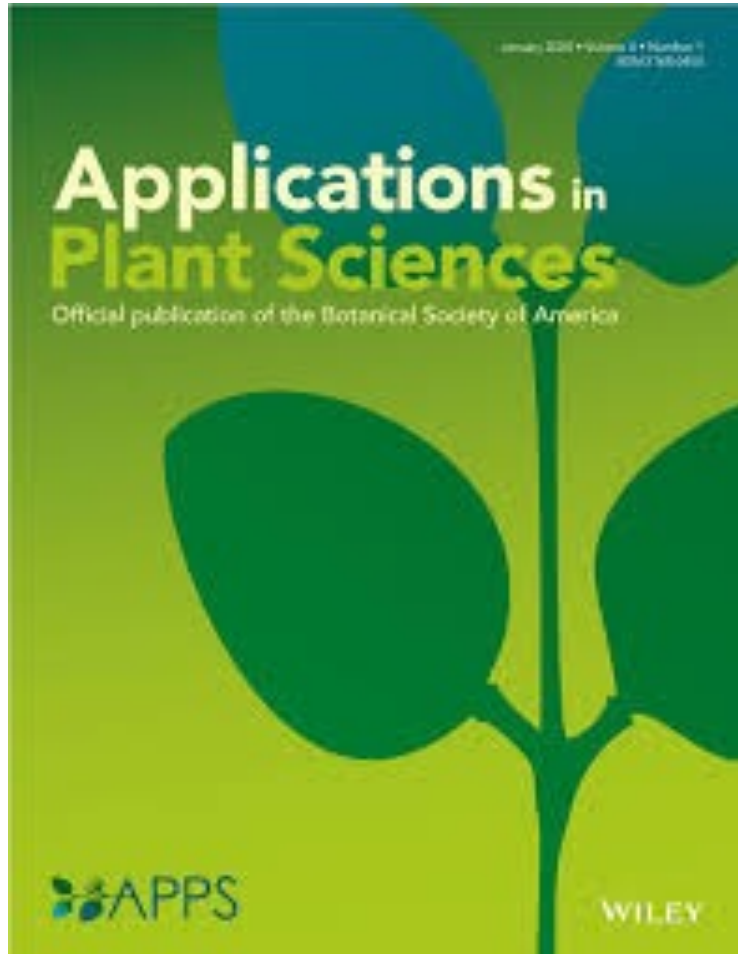
Carranza-Rojas et al. 2017



Pearson et al. 2020



# Machine Learning & Plant Biology: Special Issue of *APPS* (2020)



## June: Herbarium Specimen Images

- Phenology (2)
- Morphology
- Herbivory
- Species Identification (2)
- Software: Leaf Detection
- Software: Leaf Recognition and Measurement

Edited by P. Soltis, G. Nelson, A. Zare, E. Meineke

# Other Data Aggregators





# 'Big Data' Research in Biodiversity Science

- Monitoring shifts in biodiversity
- Tracking invasive species
- Ecological Niche Modeling, climate change
- Past movements and climate change
- Tracking phenological shifts
- Landscape genetics
- Integration of ENM with phylogeny
- Community phylogenetics/assembly
- Biogeography





# Overview of Day's Activities

- 8:00 Welcome and Overview of the Workshop – Pam
- 8:15 Darwin Core and Data Fields – Pam
- 8:30 Data Downloading Overview – Makenzie
- 9:00 *Activity:* Manual Data Downloads, iDigBio Portal – Lauren
- 9:30 *Activity:* R-based Data Downloads – Shelly
- 9:45 Data Cleaning Overview – JT
- 10:00 Break**
- 10:30 *Activity:* Data Cleaning (A) Manual (JT)  
(B) R-based (Shelly)
- 11:00 Georeferencing Overview – Lauren
- 11:15 *Activity:* Georeferencing (A) Manual (Lauren)  
(B) R-based (Makenzie)



# Overview of Day's Activities

<b>12:15</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
1:00	Climatic Processing Overview – Shelly
1:20	<i>Activity:</i> Climatic Processing – (A) Manual (Elizabeth) (B) R-based (Shelly)
2:00	Ecological Niche Overview – Makenzie
2:15	ENM Settings Overview – JT
2:30	<i>Activity:</i> Ecological Niche Modeling (A) Manual (Elizabeth) (B) R-based (Shelly)
<b>3:00</b>	<b>Break</b>
3:30	Interpreting ENMs Overview – Shelly
3:40	<i>Activity:</i> Interpreting ENMs (A) Manual (Elizabeth/Lauren/Makenzie) (B) R-based (Shelly)
4:00	Post-ENM analysis – Shelly
4:15	BiotaPhy: An Overview – Doug/Maria
4:30	<i>Wrap-up and Q&amp;A</i>
5:00	End