

Plant Collection Info: Botany 401 (summer)

Plant Collections will be completed in pairs or alone if you wish. Each group is responsible for collecting **30** different plant species. *Please get proper authorization for landowners or caretakers before you collect (especially on protected lands!) In most cases, they will be happy to help you, but they might need advanced notice and paperwork filled out. Do NOT collect threatened or endangered species!

Each of the 30 plant collections must be:

- Entered in your field notebook with date, collection #, plant characters and location (GPS) info
- Wild-collected (not planted by people)
- Fertile (sori, cones, flowers or fruits) *and* complete enough to ID
- Properly pressed, dried, and in good shape
- Correctly identified to species
- Annotated with a complete label (see examples)

Five plants should be mounted for deposition in the Student Herbarium. Please see your instructors for advice on which specimens would be most helpful for building up the collection.

Final report will consist of a) an introduction to your project, description of the locations you visited and any pertinent fieldnotes, b) a complete checklist of plant species (Family, Genus, species, Common Name, Status), c) GoogleEarth locality map, and d) any photographs you have of the plants. The digital project will be uploaded to the Botany 401 website.

Plant Collection Checkpoint 1 (Thurs. June 11):

Group members, project option, locations and plan of attack

Plant Collection Checkpoint 2 (Thurs. June 25):

10 collections pressed and dried. ID check encouraged.

Plant Collection Checkpoint 3 (Thurs. July 2):

20 collections pressed and dried, label templates made with one complete. ID check encouraged.

Plant Collection DUE (Tues. July 14):

Entire collection due, including mounted specimens, final online report and field notebook.

The THREE options for the Plant Collection:

Option A: Survey a fieldsite. This collection will come from a single locality (e.g. your uncle's woodlot, a prairie restoration project in Spring Green) that hopefully has many native species. You must visit your site at least **twice** to find different species in bloom.

Your collection must include-

- At least one Poaceae or Cyperaceae
- At least one Asteraceae
- At least one tree or fern or aquatic plant

Option B: Plant community collection. This collection will come from several sites all representative of the same type of plant community (e.g. prairie, mesic forest, boreal forest, wetland). You should visit at least **three** areas and your collection must include-

- At least one Poaceae or Cyperaceae
- At least one Asteraceae
- At least three "hallmark" species of your plant community

Option C: Themed collection. This collection will come from multiple locations and will involve looking for specific plants (e.g. plants used medicinally by the Ho Chunk nation, butterfly pollinated plants, *Carex* species.) You must demonstrate that you went to given sites expecting to find certain plant species there (e.g. collections were reported from that locality in the WIS herbarium, an area is a known vegetation type for species x...)