

Digitizing Biological Collections

O2D2EI—Existing Specimen Workflow: Object to Data to Exemplar Images

This workflow is in use for collections that capture data in specimen lots, collecting events, taxon container, or other aggregates, but capture images only for exemplar specimens. Data capture is effected from specimen labels. Depending upon preparation type, barcodes are usually applied inline—often to the containing tray or container—as the step immediately preceding data entry. Hence, barcodes may designate a single specimen or an aggregate of specimens, such as a unit tray within an insect drawer or ethanol-filled container in a wet collection. Barcode application is executed prior data entry and image capture usually follows data entry. Pre-digitization curation, including nomenclatural annotations and specimen organization, is usually important in this workflow.

