An update on the Notes From Nature project: Bringing a proof of concept into full production

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Introduction

• Notes from Nature (NFN) is a citizen science transcription project launched in April 2013 as part of the roster of successful Zooniverse projects.
Proof of Concept

• Museum digitization in a citizen science framework?
• Represent multiple material types?
• Provide and engaging experience for volunteers?
4 collections available
Browse through them and select your favorite

Herbarium
This SERNEC collection is comprised of herbarium specimens: these flowers and plants are carefully pressed onto sheets

Calbug
digitizes collections of pinned insect specimens drawn from eight of California's Natural History Museums, showcasing the stunning biodiversity of the state.

Ornithological
Bird register information from the Natural History Museum, London, spanning from 1836 to the present.

The Macrogfungi Collection comprises mushrooms and related fungi. Macrogfungi is documenting their importance for Edwinete which mushroom is!

New York Botanical Garden
Murur, I think. The clue is that going into the r, there's that little jag as the

by HelenBennett57 8 hours ago

Problem: after selecting label, clicking 'START THIS RECORD' shows a

by lootser 2 days ago

Row 1347 - location Murur? Munur? Mwur? :(

by bt11262 3 days ago

Montifringilla sordida?
http://bionames.org/names/cluster

by HelenBennett57 4 days ago

scientist At row 329 I changed the batch to 12-7 but kept the year 1889;

by DZM 5 days ago

Wow, is this bug really from 1797? Is this the oldest thing we've ever seen

by HelenBennett57 5 days ago

#dailyzoo!
@darryluk is right, the locality on the label is Rio Temas, Br. Honduras = British Honduras

by alfresco 2 years ago

Still here, still nothing.

by geckzilla 2 years ago

there is a Rio Temas in Honduras, best you can get I think

by darryluk 2 years ago

#NoLabel #NoCollector #NoDate

by Zooniverse@kevyn.com 2 years ago

#error

by ghewson 2 years ago
Transcribe museum records to

TAKE NOTES FROM NATURE

START TRANSCIBING

4 Archives available
1,112,160 Total transcriptions
7,563 Users contributing
Herbarium Interface Statistics

• 2227 transcriptions per week (mean)
• 483 users per month (mean)
• Effort has a skewed distribution of users
  • Most <100
  • Some power users (>16,000)
Herbarium Interface Statistics

- Average time
  - Herbarium 3:39
  - Most are much faster (~2 minutes)

- Tremendous amount of volunteer effort!
Current Limitations

• Open ended projects
• Output requires processing
• Transcription methods may not be most efficient
• Improved user engagement
Upcoming Advancements

• More meaningful tasks
  • Read and select metadata
• Improved transcription efficiency
  • Fewer transcriptions?
  • Transcribe once then validate
Upcoming advancements

• Transcription cleaning service
  • Consensus based output
  • DwC Archive
• Improved user experience
  • User selected content
  • External content (MoL, EoL)
  • User dashboard
Mycological Herbarium
Robert L. Shaffer

No. 10576

Collybia familiaris (Fr.) K. Hace.
Panaroo Creek, Selkirk Plateau,
Forest, near Riggin, Idaho
Idaho Co., Ida.

Leg. A.N. Smith, K. McKnight, & P.G.S. 12 Sept. 1951
Det. A.N. Smith (field identification)
Notes from Nature.

robgur's Fieldbook

Most Recent Badge:
You've earned the butterfly badge!
You earned this badge for transcribing 100 Calbug records.

Curator Status
Transcription Accuracy 100%
Privileges: ✓ Transcription ✓ Validation

Your Transcription Stats:
You have transcribed 118 records.
Only 6% of participants have transcribed this many.

Species: Sarracenia alata
Florida State University
Robert K. Godfrey Herbarium
Map of Life species distribution
EOL images

Most Recent Expeditions:
Florida Hotspots
CA Bees and Wasps
N. American Fungi
London Bird Register

Distribution Map:
Sarracenia alata

robgur's Transcriptions Map:

Most Recent Species:

Encyclopedia of Life

MOL
Map of Life
Upcoming advancements

• Educational modules
  • Grade level based
  • Southeastern U.S.
Thank you!

@nfromn
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blog.notesfromnature.org/
• We discuss forthcoming improvements for: 1) Creating more meaningful provider- and user-generated “expeditions,” or sets of images based on themes; 2) Tools to build consensus and quality metrics for the transcriptions to further enhance data quality; 3), Better workflows to support image loading and repatriation of data to our providers. We also discuss engagement efforts and interoperability with other biodiversity informatics tools. Such improvements help NFN take its place as a critical component of an ecosystem of tools needed to unlock the vast legacy biodiversity data for broad public good.