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

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SPNHC 2015

Introduction

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

ZOONIVERSE

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

Check back. We'll load more images soon!

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

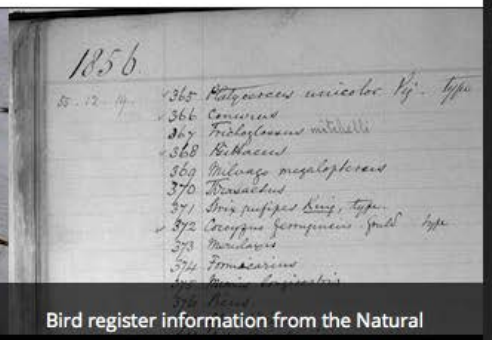
Herbarium

SERNEC

Calbug digitizes collections of pinned insect specimens drawn from eight of California's [illegible]ions, showcasing the stunning [illegible]rld.

Calbug

Essig Museum Collections



Bird register information from the Natural History Museum, London, spanning from [illegible]

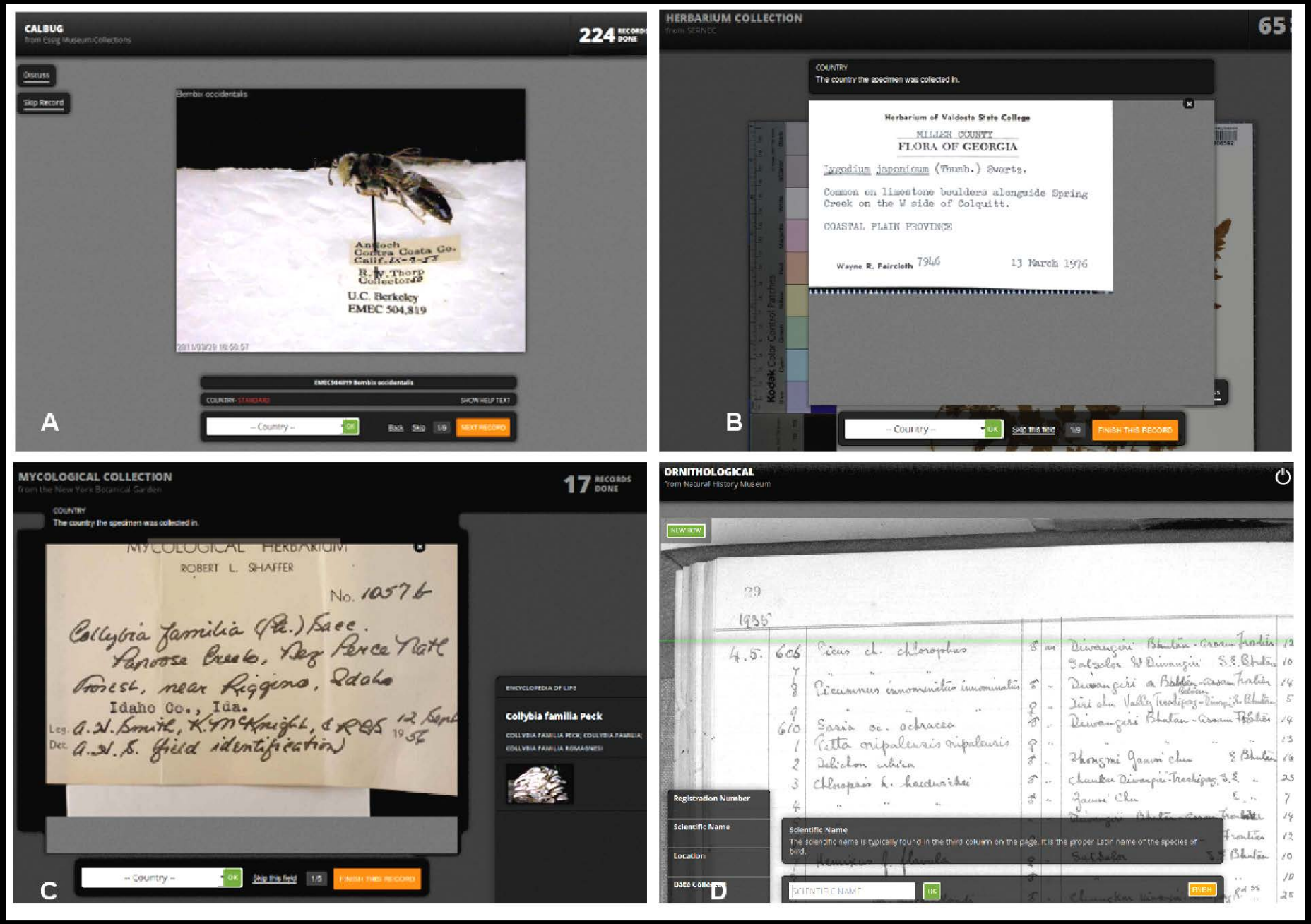
Ornithological

Natural History Museum

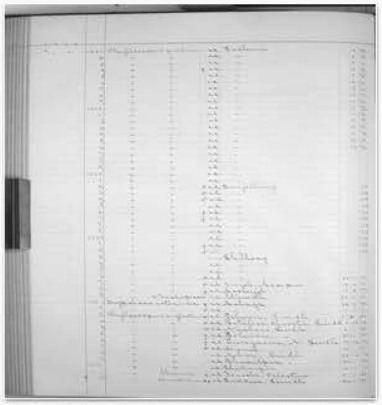
The Macrofungi Collection comprises mushrooms and related fungi. Macrofungi [illegible] documenting their [illegible]tically

Macrofungi

New York Botanical Garden


CALBUG
from Essig Museum Collections
224 RECORDS DONE
Discuss
Skip Record
Bombix occidentalis
Antioch
Contra Costa Co.
Calif. IX-9-53
R. W. Thorp
Collector
U.C. Berkeley
EMEC 504,819
2011/03/29 10:50:57
EMEC504819 Bombix occidentalis
COUNTRY- STANDARD
SHOW HELP TEXT
-- Country --
OK
Back
Skip
1/9
NEXT RECORD
A
HERBARIUM COLLECTION
from SERNEC
COUNTRY
The country the specimen was collected in.
Herbarium of Valdosta State College
MILLER COUNTY
FLORA OF GEORGIA
Lygodium japonicum (Thunb.) Swartz.
Common on limestone boulders alongside Spring Creek on the W side of Colquitt.
COASTAL PLAIN PROVINCE
Wayne R. Faircloth 7946
13 March 1976
Kodak Color Control Patches
-- Country --
OK
Skip this field
1/9
FINISH THIS RECORD
B
MYCOLOGICAL COLLECTION
from the New York Botanical Garden
17 RECORDS DONE
COUNTRY
The country the specimen was collected in.
MYCOLOGICAL HERBARIUM
ROBERT L. SHAFFER
No. 10576
Collybia familia (Pk.) Sacc.
Panoose Creek, Nez Perce Natl
Forest, near Riggins, Idaho
Idaho Co., Ida.
Leg. A. H. Smith, K. McKnight, & RES 12 Sept 1956
Det. A. H. S. field identification
ENCYCLOPEDIA OF LIFE
Collybia familia Peck
COLLYBIA FAMILIA PECK; COLLYBIA FAMILIA;
COLLYBIA FAMILIA ROMAGNESI
-- Country --
OK
Skip this field
1/5
FINISH THIS RECORD
C
ORNITHOLOGICAL
from Natural History Museum
NEW ROW
29
1935
Registration Number
Scientific Name
Location
Date Collected
Scientific Name
The scientific name is typically found in the third column on the page. It is the proper Latin name of the species of bird.
SCIENTIFIC NAME
OK
FINISH
D

Recent Object Comments...



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

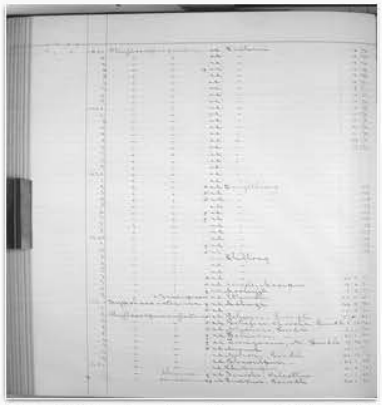
by HelenBennett57 8 hours ago

#error The highlighted isn't the same as the original

by mlwtt159 a day ago

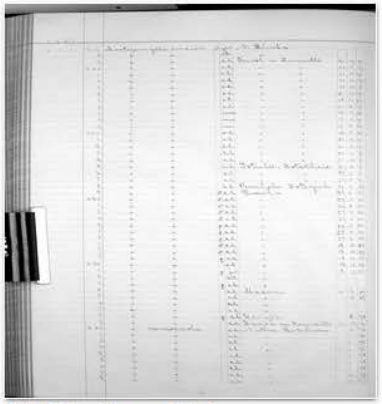
Problem: after selecting label, clicking 'START THIS RECORD' shows a

by lootser 2 days ago



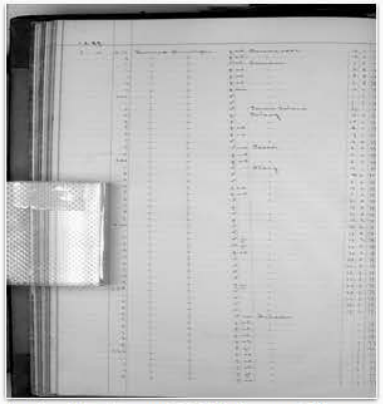
Row 1347 - location Mumur? Munur? Mwuur? :'(

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 HelenBennett57 4 days ago

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

by DZM 5 days ago

#dailyzoo !

by HelenBennett57 5 days ago

EMEC451729 Cogia calchas

Cogia calchas

Say something, or mark with a #hashtag

140 characters

Comment

@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

4	1,112,160	7,563
Archives available	Total transcriptions	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

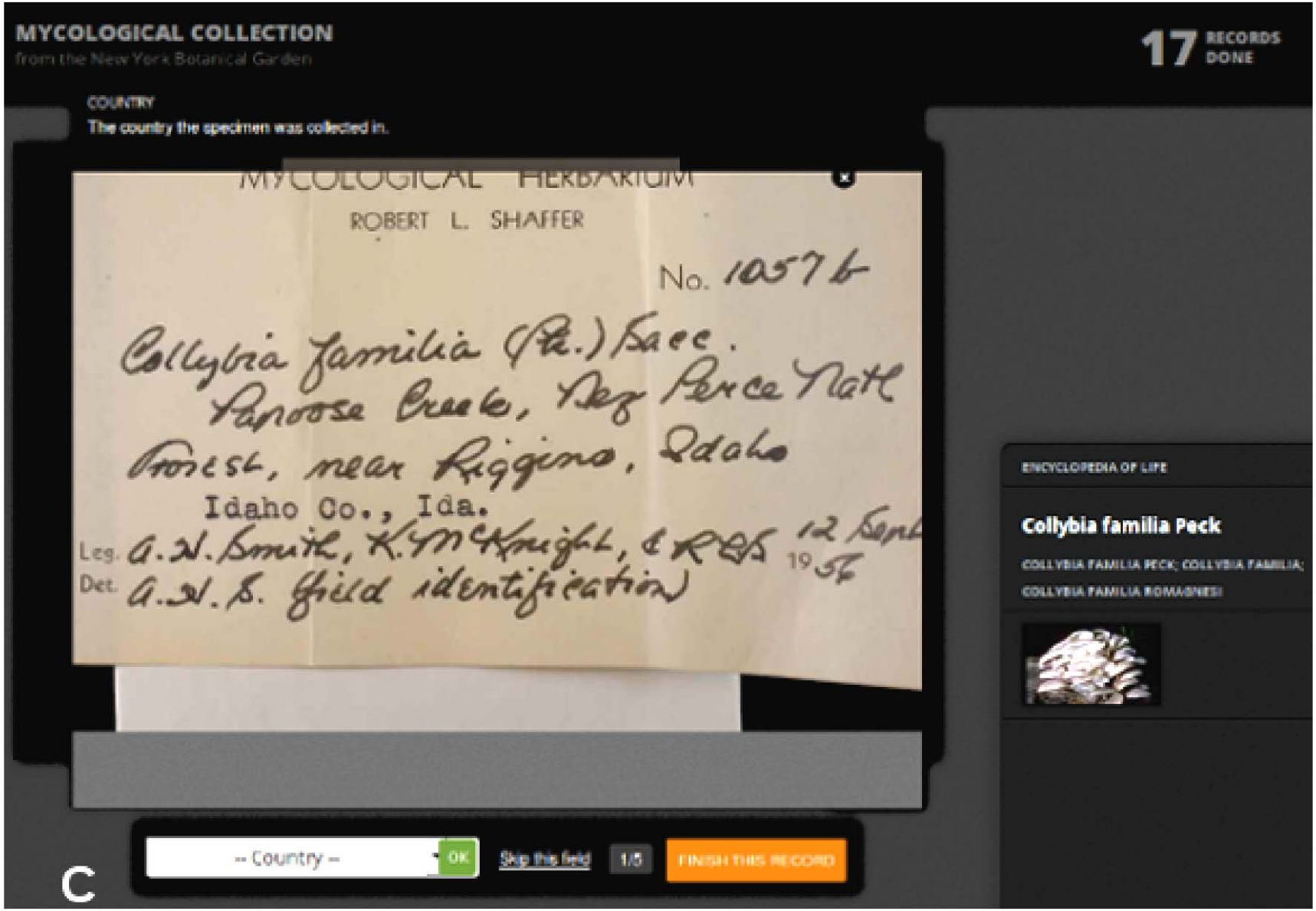
- Open ended projects
- Output requires processing
- Transcription methods may not be most efficient
- Improved user engagement

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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Leg. A.H. Smith, K. McKnight, & R.E.S. 12 Sept 1956
Det. A.H.S. (field identification)
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COLLYBIA FAMILIA PECK; COLLYBIA FAMILIA;
COLLYBIA FAMILIA ROMAGNESI
-- Country --
OK
Skip this field
1/5
FINISH THIS RECORD
C

Notes from Nature.

COLLECTIONS ABOUT DISCUSS BLOG ROBGUR

robgur's Fieldbook

robgur's Museum | Badges | Expeditions | Events | Weekly Challenges

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:

Current dashboard design

Notes from Nature.

robgur

A transcriber's life

118 1

Calbug

Your Badges

Encyclopedia of Life

MOL MAP OF LIFE

Upcoming advancements

- Educational modules
  - Grade level based
  - Southeastern U.S.

Thank you!

@nfromn

facebook.com/pages/Notes-from-Nature

blog.notesfromnature.org/

SPNHC 2015 Abstract

- 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.