

## iDigBio's Public Participation Platform Survey

Thank you for taking the time to consider and respond to the following questions. iDigBio will make your responses available to the natural history collections community, both as an online resource available to anyone, and as a reference specifically for participants in our upcoming Public Participation in Digitization of Biodiversity Collections course.

Please return your completed survey to Michael Denslow ([michael.denslow@gmail.com](mailto:michael.denslow@gmail.com)). And thank you for your time!

### Questions:

1. Name and email of person responding to this survey:

Anton Güntsch, [a.guentsch@bo.berlin](mailto:a.guentsch@bo.berlin)

2. Name of public participation platform:

Die Herbonauten

3. Website:

<https://herbonauten.de/>

4. Company or group responsible for maintaining platform:

Botanic Garden Berlin (BGBM), Center for Biodiversity Informatics and Collection Data Integration (ZBS)

5. Long-term funding structure for maintaining platform (e.g., grants, membership, private):

The technical platform is maintained by the ZBS, which is funded by Freie Universität Berlin. In addition, we have a student assistant funded by the "Friends of the Botanic Garden Association" taking care of the Herbonauten Forum and help desk.

6. Brief summary highlighting the market niche for this platform:

Die Herbonauten is a herbarium specimen transcription platform addressing German speaking Citizen Scientists with a strong interest in botany and natural history in general.

7. Types of biodiversity specimens most common on the platform:

Herbarium specimens only

8. Types of tasks supported by the platform (e.g., transcription, measurement, georeferencing):

Transcription, geo-referencing

9. Other disciplines that utilize the platform (e.g., camera traps):

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10. Example of the types of institutions/collections using your platform:  
Only used by the Botanic Garden Berlin. There is a "sister project" Les Herbonautes in Paris who developed the software platform (in French).
11. Any restrictions as to who can use the platform: no
12. Primary language(s) supported: German
13. Primary volunteer base or core users of the platform: Unclear. We usually do not know our citizen scientists.
14. Brief description of method(s) for quality control/quality assurance available on the platform:  
All data are entered twice (by different persons). If they do not agree on a specific transcription, they try to resolve the problem in the forum. In addition we carried out a statistical analysis of the data quality and found that >95% of the data are correct.
15. Types of media supported by the platform (e.g., image, video, 3D): image
16. File formats supported by the platform. Indicate both input and output as appropriate: input: jpg/tiff, output: n/a
17. Workflow customization available to the user: no
18. Costs to collections to use the platform: we do not (yet) offer the use of the platform as a service. The software, however, is open source.
19. Representative for potential users to contact: n/a
20. Best resources for additional information about the platform (e.g., presentations, brochures, recorded webinars, peer-reviewed papers): the website (<https://herbonauten.de/>).
21. Data ownership or usage policies (e.g., publication, sharing of data, public access): all data are freely and openly available via the herbarium network JACQ (<https://www.jacq.org/>) as well as GBIF (<https://www.gbif.org/>).