

## Extra Credit

## PLANT COLLECTION WFS 536: Advanced Wetland Ecology

You can create a mounted collection of up to 30 wetland plant species for extra credit. At most, 10 of your specimens can be woody; the remaining specimens must be herbaceous. All species must be facultative species (FAC) in the Southeast or more wetland dependent (FACW or OBL). FAC-, FACU, and UPL will not be counted.

- Steps to Collecting:
- 1) Collect plant (try to include leaves, reproductive parts [seed head, flower, fruit], and twigs if woody)
  - 2) Attach a consecutive numbered tag to the plant.
  - 3) In field book, write:
    - a) Common or scientific name (if known)  
*Note:* If a plant species is unknown, take detailed field notes to help with key identification later.
    - b) Location of collection (e.g., Kyker Bottoms Wildlife Refuge)  
*Note:* Ideally, latitude and longitude coordinates should be geo-referenced.
    - c) Wetland type (USFWS Classification)  
*Note:* Include system, subsystem (if applicable), and class
    - d) Date of collection
  - 4) Place tagged plant in large Ziploc or garbage bag.
  - 5) Press plants in  $\leq 24$  hours (see websites: Forestry Suppliers, Ben Meadows).
  - 6) Ideally allow to dry for  $\geq 1$  week.
  - 7) After plants are dry, glue (botany paste or Elmer's) specimens to individual identification sheets ( $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$  inches).  
*Plant ID sheets should include:* Date and location of collection, family, scientific name, common name, and wetland type (see 3c above).
  - 8) After glue dries, place plants in protective plastic covers and arrange them alphabetically (by family then scientific name) in 3-ring binder.

[www.forestry-suppliers.com](http://www.forestry-suppliers.com)  
[www.benmeadows.com](http://www.benmeadows.com)

### Some Resources:

- A) Plant collection: <http://www.herbarium.usu.edu/K-12/Collecting/specimens.htm>
- B) Plant taxonomy: <http://tenn.bio.utk.edu/vascular/vascular.html>

Godfrey, R. K., and J. W. Wooten. 1979. Aquatic and wetland plants of the southeastern United States: Monocotyledons. University of Georgia, Athens. (ISBN 0-8203-0420-4)

Godfrey, R. K., and J. W. Wooten. 1981. Aquatic and wetland plants of the southeastern United States: Dicotyledons. University of Georgia, Athens. (ISBN 0-8203-0532-4)

Prescott, G. W. 1980. How to know the aquatic plants, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. McGraw-Hill, New York. (ISBN 0-697-04775-X)

Collections are due on **Thursday, 15 November 2007**