

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 ≤ 24 hours (see websites: Forestry Suppliers, Ben Meadows).
 - 6) Ideally allow to dry for ≥ 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
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.shtml>

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, 2nd edition. McGraw-Hill, New York. (ISBN 0-697-04775-X)

Collections are due on **Tuesday, 15 November 2011**