

ENT 502 — INSECT COLLECTION

The Basics

The specimens in your collection must be acquired during the semester and for this class. Specimens collected during other periods of your life and/or for other purposes (e.g., other classes, lab cultures) are not eligible for credit. Exceptions *can be made*, however, under certain circumstances. If you want to start early so that you can collect seasonal families, for example, or if you are traveling to interesting habitats please discuss the options with your instructors. Immature insects are generally not accepted as part of your ENT 502 collection. You may trade specimens with your fellow students, but they must be unidentified; you cannot offer specimens you determined already (e.g., “I’ll give you a pentatomid for your lucanid”). **Collections are due by the end of the last lab – without exception.**

All specimens must be obtained legally. Collecting in national, state, and most local parks requires a permit. Obtain written permission to collect. Collecting on private land (if you have the owner’s permission) and lands owned by NC State generally does not require a permit.

Equipment

Students must complete and sign a loan card for equipment and supplies borrowed. All equipment must be returned before or during the last laboratory period in order to complete the course and receive a grade. *No specimens are to be removed from the NCSU teaching collections.* A separate handout describes equipment issues.

Accuracy of Data

Data labels, like all other scientific data, must be accurate (locality, date, collector, etc.) An erroneous label, if quoted in print, may have *serious* consequences that will forever reflect on the scientific integrity of the collector. The discovery of such erroneous labels in an ENT 502 collection could result in a **grade of zero** for the entire collection, as well as prosecution as a case of academic misconduct.

Preparation of Specimens

Specimens and labels prepared for the collection must conform to the instructions provided in lab; check with your instructors regarding label format variations and alternative preservation or pinning techniques. Slightly damaged specimens are acceptable, especially if the damage is indicative of a biological event (e.g., being fed upon by birds). Keep in mind that your collection must include at least one pinned insect, one slide-mounted specimen, one double-mounted microlepidopteran, and one spread lepidopteran.

Collection Arrangement

Arrange the collection according to the family lists on the grading spreadsheet. All boxes and vial racks submitted must bear your name (**do not permanently mark the wooden boxes**).

**SUBMISSION FORM FOR ENT 502 COLLECTION:
DONATIONS AND REQUESTS FOR RETURNS**

Briefly justify why you wish to have specimens returned, indicating how they will be used, preserved, and stored:

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX (1-4) AND FILL IN NUMBERS OF SPECIMENS.

- 1. I do NOT want any specimens returned.
- 2. Please return _____ marked specimens only. (enter a #)
- 3. Please return _____ marked specimens and any unwanted specimens. (enter a #)
- 4. Please return ALL specimens except _____ marked specimens that I am donating to the NCSU Insect Museum. (enter a #)

PLEASE ALSO RETURN _____ INSECT BOXES MARKED AS MY PERSONAL PROPERTY.

NCSU INSECT MUSEUM ACQUISITION FORM

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I affirm that all material submitted for grading belongs to me, that it was legally acquired and transported, and that the data labels are accurate. I hereby give all material described below to the North Carolina State University Insect Museum for use as the curators deem appropriate, and affirm that I am authorized to make this transaction.

SIGNATURE

DATE SUBMITTED: / /

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SPECIMENS DONATED

Number of specimens donated: _____

Geographic areas (countries, states):

Unusual specimens, vouchers, etc.: