



THE FROZEN ARK PROJECT

Saving the DNA and viable cells of the world's endangered species

FROZEN ARK

Information needed about each individual frozen sample

The value of stored samples is greatly enhanced when there are detailed records of taxonomy, methods of preservation, locations and habitats. We realise that, with material already collected, it may not be possible to put entries in every one of the following categories, but the list should help you to record as much information as is available. For material not yet collected, the data can be obtained immediately during and after collection, and the whole list should be used. We will provide a printable format for recording in the field.

PART I: ABOUT THE SPECIMEN (TO BE COMPLETED BY THE COLLECTOR)		
A. DESCRIPTION OF ANIMAL		
* Denotes compulsory field		
*	1. Latin name (genus and species; subspecies or race if applicable) - e.g. ' <i>Partula suturalis vexillum</i> '	
	2. Phylum – e.g. 'Mollusca'	
	3. Class - e.g. 'Pulmonata'	
	4. Family - e.g. 'Partulidae'	
	5. Sex (if known)	
	6. Local name (if known) e.g. - 'pupu'	
	7. Common name in English (where applicable) – e.g. banded wood snail - <i>Cepaea nemoralis</i>	
	8. Studbook number (for captive-bred species), identifying the source of studbook numbers.	
	9. Unique identifier of individual animal and the institution's accession number for the individual (when there is more than one individual of the species) - e.g. '2/17' (the second individual out of seventeen).	
	10. Unique identifier of the tissue sample and the institution's accession number for the individual (when there is more than one tissue sample from the individual) - e.g. '3/4' (the third sample out of four from this individual).	
*	11. Nature of sample (lump of tissue, frozen cell culture - in this case please include cell numbers, or whole organism) - e.g. 'whole baby snail', or 'second left leg', as appropriate)	



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	12. Description of tissue (if relevant) - e.g. 'ovotestis', or 'cell-culture from ovotestis', or 'tail slice' (as appropriate).	
B. Description of location where animal collected <i>In the case of animals born in captivity, please describe, as far as possible, the location and habitat of the most recent wild ancestor</i>		
*	1. Country	
*	2. Province. State, County, Island	
*	3. Nearest Village and town	
*	4. Location (by GPS, if possible, otherwise by map grid references, bearings and distances from permanent landmarks, or the best available way to find the same locality even after a long interval).	
	5. Altitude above sea level (in metres)	
	6. Area in which animals collected, if there is more than one from the same location – e.g. '10m X 10m square. Snails collected on shrubs up to 5m in height'.	
C. Description of habitat where animal collected		
*	1. General description of habitat – e.g. 'tropical rain forest'.	
	2. Dominant trees in canopy (Latin names of species if possible, with height and percentage cover) – e.g. ' <i>Hibiscus tiliaceus</i> about 15m in height, 80% cover; <i>Inocarpus edulis</i> about 20m in height, 10% cover.'	
	3. Dominant shrubs and large ferns (Latin names, with height and percentage cover)	
	4. Dominant herbs, small ferns, grasses, and bare earth, rotting logs etc (Latin names, with height and percentage cover).	
	5. Slope of ground (very steep, steep, medium, gentle or flat, and compass bearing that the slope faces) – e.g. steep, NNE, or 23°.	
	6. Where animal found – e.g. 'under leaf of <i>Inocarpus edulis</i> about 4m above ground'.	



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D. Collector Details	
*	Name:
*	Address:
*	Phone number(s)
*	E. Date Collected
F. Any other useful information about the animal, sample, location and habitat, etc.	

PART II: PRESERVATION AND TRANSPORT OF SPECIMEN (TO BE COMPLETED BY THE COLLECTOR AND/OR PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR TRANSPORT)	
*	1. Interval from collection to time of first storage (please be sure to record the interval between death and preservation, if any; this is <i>very</i> important.) – e.g. 'collected live at 9am on 20th January 2004, kept alive for 5 hours then stored'.
*	2. Method and time of first storage – e.g. 'kept alive for 10 days' or 'preserved whole in ethanol at - 4°C for 3 days', or 'frozen at -20° C for 10 days', or 'frozen at - 80° C for 22 days', as appropriate.
*	3. Date transported
*	4. Condition (and duration) of transport – e.g. 'transported for 3 days by air in liquid nitrogen, continuously below -196°C' or 'with dry ice' or 'transported live by post'.
*	5. Maximum temperature reached between first and final storage



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PART III: FINAL STORAGE OF SPECIMEN (TO BE COMPLETED BY PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR STORAGE)		
*	1. Date Specimen Received	
*	2. Date of Final Storage	
*	3. Method of Final Storage – e.g. 'freeze dried'	
*	4. Identifiers of other specimens from this individual	
*	5. Exact location of final storage – e.g. 'in room 25, ground floor, The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London, SW7 5BD, UK. Vial 27, box 12, rack 12, Frozen Ark freezer No 4.'	
*	6. Name and Address of person responsible for stored specimens	

PART IV: VOUCHER SPECIMENS AND MOLECULAR BARCODE (TO BE COMPLETED BY PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR STORAGE)		
1. Location of Voucher Specimen		
2. Location of digital Image		
3. Molecular Barcode	a. Molecular marker e.g. SSU, CO1	
	b. Genbank Accession	