

## COLLECTION PROTOCOL FOR THE COLLABORATORS

*All collaborators will be acknowledged in the section "Collaborators" of the SEXAS homepage and in any scientific paper produced.*

### **Infructescence collection**

Harvest 30 capitula once seeds are ripe but before seed dispersal has begun. Please, follow the instructions below:

- Harvest one capitulum per individual (genet), chosen at random. To reduce the possibilities of sampling different ramets of a same genet, do not take capitula from individuals very close to each other (probably the "safety distance" will be species-specific; one rough guideline is 2 m).
- Harvest only capitula in which seed dispersal has not begun.
- Some seed predation will be unavoidable. Try to get at least 15-20 non-predated capitula but do not completely exclude predated capitula, as they will provide us with interesting information.
- For gynodioecious<sup>1</sup> species, harvest capitula from both hermaphroditic and female morphs, i.e. 30 capitula from hermaphroditic individuals and 30 capitula from female individuals. Do not forget to label the capitula accordingly.

Keep each capitulum in a paper bag and store the capitula in a dry place. Label each paper bag with the following information: collector's name, harvest date, species name, individual gender, collection place and country. Write this information both on the paper bag and in a label inside the bag:

Collector's name	
Species name	
Individual gender <sup>2</sup>	
Harvest date	
Collection place and country	

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<sup>1</sup> Gynodioecious plants have two kinds of individuals: hermaphrodites and females.

<sup>2</sup> Indicate the gender, as appropriate. Enter this information only for species having more than one gender, as in gynodioecious and dioecious species.

### **Inflorescences collection**

Harvest 30 capitula at flowering time. Please, follow the instructions below:

- Harvest one capitulum per individual (genet), chosen at random. To reduce the possibilities of sampling different ramets of a same genet, do not take capitula from individuals very close to each other (probably the "safety distance" will be species-specific; one rough guideline is 2 m).
- Harvest only capitula about to open, but not those already open. It is important that pollen has not been released yet.
- Avoid those capitula clearly damaged by predation.
- For gynodioecious and dioecious species, harvest 30 capitula of each kind of individual (male and hermaphrodite, or male and female). Do not forget to label the capitula accordingly.

Preserve the capitula in vials with 70% alcohol or Copenhaguen mixture (70% ethanol, 29% water, 1% glycerine). Be sure that vials close perfectly and do not leak. Label the vials with the following information: collector's name, harvest date, species name, individual gender, collection place and country. We are aware of the added complication in sending us flowering capitula but we will greatly appreciate your effort in doing it as this will provide us with very important information.

### **Where to send the capitula**

Post the capitula to the address below. Please, include the "Invoice sheet" which you will find in the SEXAS homepage.

Rubén Torices  
Área de Biodiversidad y Conservación  
Universidad Rey Juan Carlos  
c/ Tulipán s/n.  
E-28933 Móstoles (Madrid)  
Spain - España