

UNIT – 5.3 Herbarium Techniques Part - 3

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Mounting of Specimens

- After the collection, pressing and drying the specimens are ready for mounting.
- They are mounted on the herbarium sheet on standard size of 28.75 by 41.25 cms.
- Herbarium sheets are usually made of heavy handmade card sheets which are very durable.
- Several adhesives are used for attaching the specimens to the sheet.
- Heavy or woody specimens are tied by the strips of brown gum paper or by stitching them with a heavy threads.
- The specimens are also poisoned by dipping them in a saturated solution of mercuric chloride and ethyl alcohol.

Herbarium Labels

After mounting the specimens a label is glued on the lower right hand corner of the sheet. The Label includes the following data :

1. Heading indicating the name of institution with specimen originated and region of the collection.
2. Name of the family.
3. Botanical name of the plant with authority.
4. Locality of collection.
5. Date of collection.
6. The Habitat.
7. The Field areas.
8. The name of collector.
9. The collector's field number.
10. The vernacular names and local names.

Herbarium Labels – Pictures

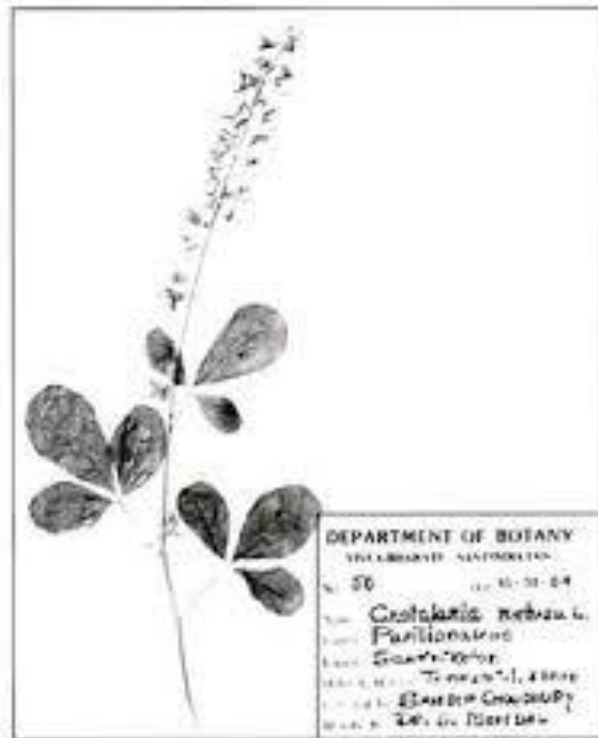


Fig. 4.5 : Single Herbarium sheet with label

[Photo courtesy - Dr. Subrata Mondal, Visva-Bharati]

Genus/Species: _____

Family: _____ Habitat: _____

Growth: _____ Flower Color: _____

Where Collected: _____

Collected by: _____

Identified by: _____

Common Names: _____

Date Collected: _____ Collection #: _____

Filing of Herbarium Sheets

- The mounted and properly identified specimens are stored systematically in the wooden or steel cabinets with pigeonholes.
- The specimen sheets are filed inside the folders of different color schemes indicating species, genus or geographical area.
- Most of the Indian Herbariums are arranged according to Bentham and Hooker's System of classification.
- The Herbarium are protected from insects and fungi by fumigation, Naphthalene flakes, moth balls or brushing with the solution of mercuric chloride.

Herbarium Almirah

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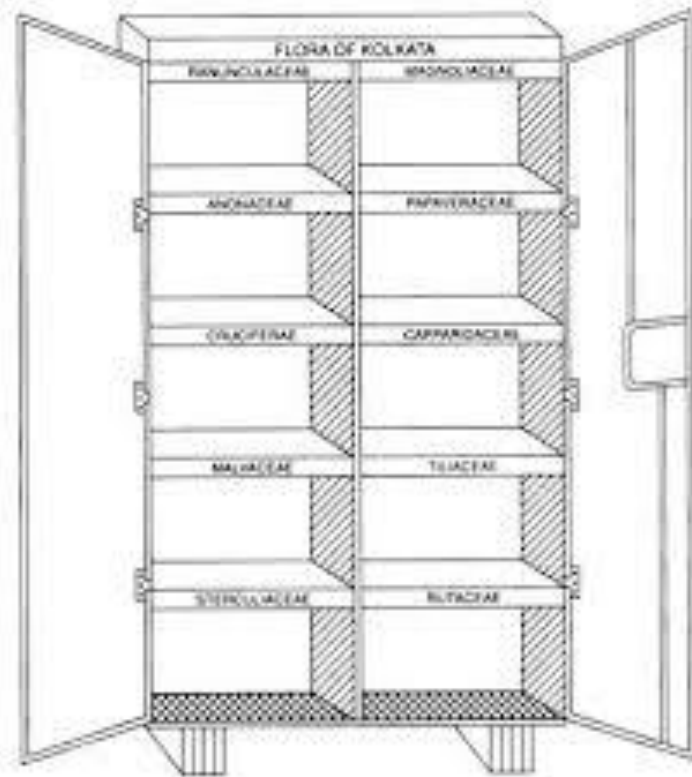


Fig. 4.6 : Single Herbarium almirah

