

Field Notes

The collection and archiving of field notes is a serious part of the work of a field scientist. Careful notes regarding the weather, soil, time of day or season may later become the basis of important study. The field notebook should be the place where you write down all of your observations at a particular site. The filed notebook may be divided into three or four sections.

Journal

The journal is a running narrative of everything you do at a particular site. It will identify the site and may indicate how you got there, how far from a previous site, etc. The format for the journal is quite simple. All pages have the same basic data. Two lines are drawn on the page, one 1" from the left edge. In the upper left square you should put your initials and below that the year. Below that, but still in the square, you should write the date. The top of the page has the word "Journal" written in and on the left corner the page number. In the left hand column, you should indicate the date, if it changes before you get to a new page.

Further notes:

Dates are written as "day month year." Time should be indicated on a 24-hour clock and you should indicate your time zone, i.e. PST is Pacific Standard Time, PDT is pacific daylight time.

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| ACH 2000 | Journal |
| 2 FEB 2000 | Arroyo Trabuco, Ladera Ranch, Orange County, CA |
| 10:05 | Began point quarter transect of the Arroyo Trabuco Area below the housing development below Winfield and O'Neill Dr. Students were instructed on the proper sampling techniques and plant identification. |
| 3 FEB 2000 12:15 | Caspers Wilderness Park – began plot quadrant sampling techniques at 10:15 one quarter mile from NW of the visitor's center. Students were instructed on The sampling technique and plant identification |
| 14:50 | New time...more data collection and information, etc |
| 15:05 | <u>1.5 miles NW of entrance to Caspers Park, Orange County, CA</u> More information regarding this location |

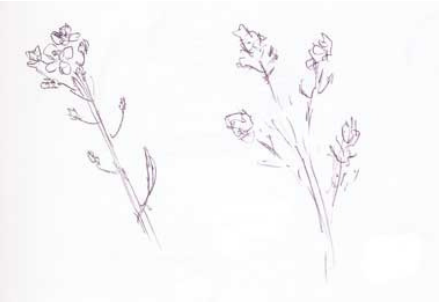
Species Account

This section of the notebook is used for specific notes regarding a species of interest. A single note about mallards might be kept in the journal section, but several hours of data collection or observation on this species would warrant a species account. On a species account page, the specie name is placed in the center of the upper space, just above the lines. The data are recorded as in the journal section. Do not use pages in this section. Instead, place the account in alphabetical order based upon the common or scientific name.

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| ACH 2000 | Species Account |
| 2 FEB 2000 | Common Name <i>Scientific name</i> |
| 10:00 | Marsh area below the Windfield housing development <u>Ladera Ranch CA</u> Two male Anna's hummingbirds buzzing, chattering and dive-bombing each other for 10 minutes. One male would fly about 20' above the other and dive down at the other male perched at the top of a 30' sycamore tree. This continued until the second male flew off. |

Catalog

This section of a field notebook was used extensively by natural historians in the earlier part of this century. It was a running catalog of specimens collected. For this class, it will serve a "mini-herbarium." Each specimen will receive its own page. On the top of the page (as in the species account section) you should write the scientific name of the plant. Do not use pages in this section. Instead, place the specimens in alphabetical order base upon the common or scientific names.

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| ACH 2000 2 FEB 2000 | Catalog Common Name <i>Scientific name</i> |
| |  <p data-bbox="453 854 569 959">Locality: Date: Community: Notes:</p> |