

# The Importance of Plant Vouchering in Weedy Plant Control

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# What is a plant voucher?

- A plant voucher is a dried pressed plant specimen with collection data
- A voucher is deposited in a permanent plant collection where future workers can see it.
- A plant specimen is the data, not a representation of it. It is an example of the actual plant growing at a specific place and time.

# What is an accession?

- An accession is a collection of a particular thing (e.g., plant species) at a particular place and time
- An accession can result in one specimen or voucher or several
- An accession becomes official when it is added to a permanent collection

# Why Bother?



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- It's easy!  
Vouchering takes  
very little time



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- It's easy! Vouchering takes very little time
- Vouchering allows an independent identification of the target



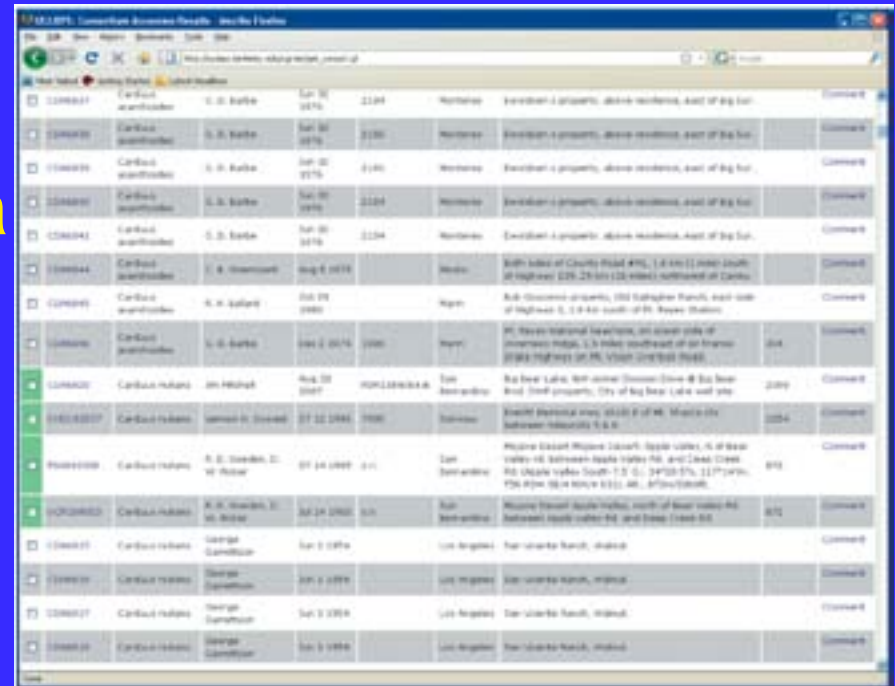
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The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a table of voucher records. The table has columns for Voucher ID, Species, Collector(s), Date, Locality, and other details. The records are listed in a grid format with alternating row colors.

Voucher ID	Species	Collector(s)	Date	Locality	Other
226621	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2264	Herbaria
226622	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2265	Herbaria
226623	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2266	Herbaria
226624	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2267	Herbaria
226625	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2268	Herbaria
226626	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2269	Herbaria
226627	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2270	Herbaria
226628	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2271	Herbaria
226629	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2272	Herbaria
226630	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2273	Herbaria
226631	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2274	Herbaria
226632	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2275	Herbaria
226633	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2276	Herbaria
226634	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2277	Herbaria
226635	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2278	Herbaria
226636	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2279	Herbaria
226637	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2280	Herbaria
226638	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2281	Herbaria
226639	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2282	Herbaria
226640	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2283	Herbaria
226641	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2284	Herbaria
226642	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2285	Herbaria
226643	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2286	Herbaria
226644	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2287	Herbaria
226645	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2288	Herbaria
226646	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2289	Herbaria
226647	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2290	Herbaria
226648	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2291	Herbaria
226649	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2292	Herbaria
226650	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2293	Herbaria
226651	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2294	Herbaria
226652	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2295	Herbaria
226653	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2296	Herbaria
226654	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2297	Herbaria
226655	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2298	Herbaria
226656	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2299	Herbaria
226657	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2300	Herbaria
226658	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2301	Herbaria
226659	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2302	Herbaria
226660	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2303	Herbaria
226661	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2304	Herbaria
226662	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2305	Herbaria
226663	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2306	Herbaria
226664	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2307	Herbaria
226665	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2308	Herbaria
226666	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2309	Herbaria
226667	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2310	Herbaria
226668	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2311	Herbaria
226669	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2312	Herbaria
226670	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2313	Herbaria
226671	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2314	Herbaria
226672	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2315	Herbaria
226673	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2316	Herbaria
226674	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2317	Herbaria
226675	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2318	Herbaria
226676	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2319	Herbaria
226677	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2320	Herbaria
226678	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2321	Herbaria
226679	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2322	Herbaria
226680	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2323	Herbaria
226681	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2324	Herbaria
226682	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2325	Herbaria
226683	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2326	Herbaria
226684	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2327	Herbaria
226685	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2328	Herbaria
226686	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2329	Herbaria
226687	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2330	Herbaria
226688	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2331	Herbaria
226689	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2332	Herbaria
226690	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2333	Herbaria
226691	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2334	Herbaria
226692	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2335	Herbaria
226693	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2336	Herbaria
226694	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2337	Herbaria
226695	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2338	Herbaria
226696	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2339	Herbaria
226697	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2340	Herbaria
226698	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2341	Herbaria
226699	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2342	Herbaria
226700	Carduus arvensis	U. S. Balle	Jul 30 1975	2343	Herbaria



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- It leaves a permanent, confirmable record in a central location
- It builds networks with professionals who will be interested in your projects



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- It increases the credibility of any study or action
- It leaves a permanent, confirmed record in a central location
- It builds networks w/ professionals who will be interested in current and future projects
- **It's an easy form of immortality**



How do you  
make a voucher?



# How do you make a voucher?

- Use a portion of the plant small enough to fit within a folded page of newsprint (~35 X 28 cm)

13"



18"



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- Use a portion of the plant small enough to fit within a folded page of newsprint (~35 X 28 cm)
- Include stems, leaves, and flowers or fruits if possible (roots are included only for small



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- Use a portion of the plant small enough to fit within a folded page of newsprint (~35 X 28 cm)
- Include stems, leaves, and flowers or fruits if possible (roots are included only for small plants)
- Place the specimen in a folded newspaper page with it



# How do you make a voucher?

- Use a portion of the plant small enough to fit within a folded page of newsprint (~35 X 28 cm)
- Include stems, leaves, and flowers or fruits if possible (roots are included only for small plants)
- Place the specimen in a folded sheet of newspaper and weigh it down

- Label  
data (n  
collect



ction  
f

# How do you make a voucher?

- Use a portion of the plant small enough to fit within a folded page of newsprint (~35 X 28 cm)
- Include stems, leaves, and flowers or fruits if possible (roots are included only for small plants)
- Place the specimen in a folded sheet of newspaper and weigh it down
- Label the newspaper margin with collection data (minimum: date, collector, place of collection)
- **Leave it in a warm place to dry**





# How do you make a voucher?

- Use a portion of the plant small enough to fit within a folded page of newsprint (~35 X 28 cm)
- Include stems, leaves, and flowers or fruits if possible (roots are included only for small plants)
- Place the specimen in a folded sheet of newspaper and weigh it down
- Label the newspaper margin with collection data (minimum: date, collector, place of collection)
- Leave it in a warm place to dry
- **Special equipment (e.g., a plant press) is useful for larger collections, but not necessary**



# How much should I collect?

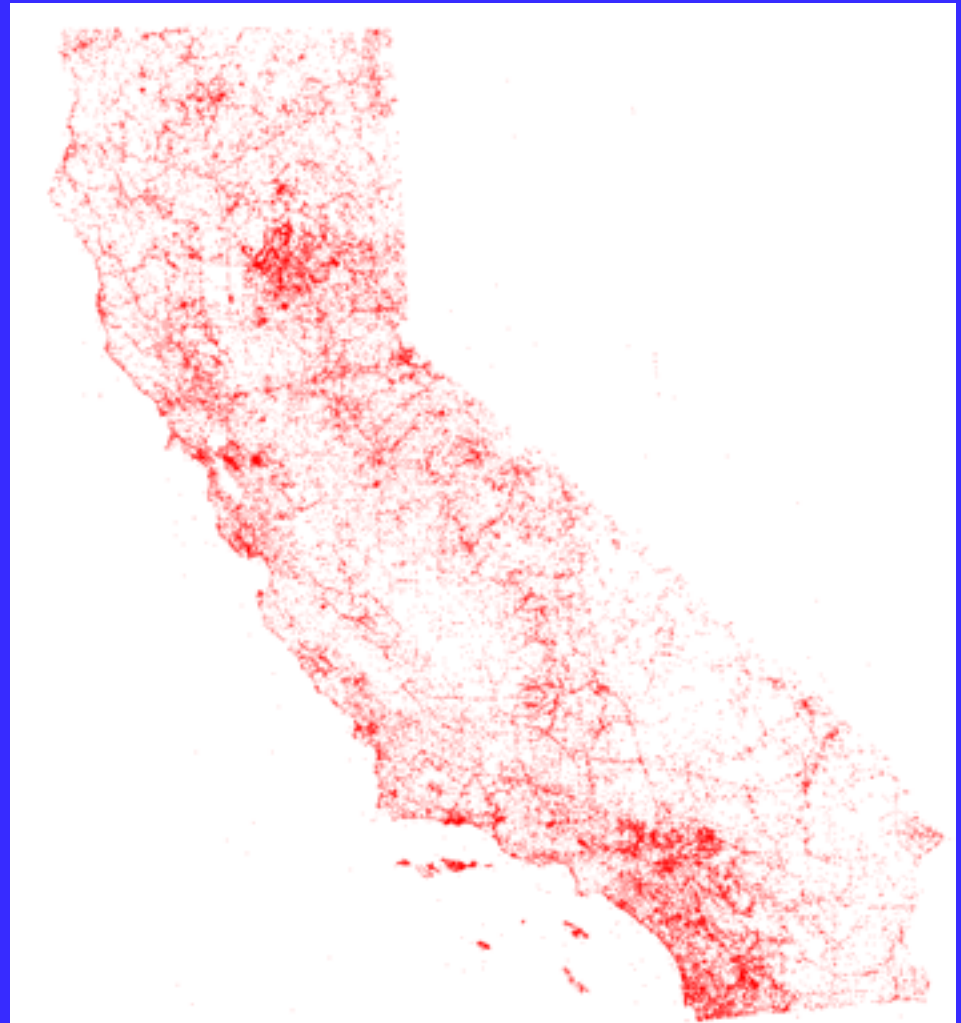
- We're suggesting that active resource managers collect at least 12 specimens each year

# What should I collect?

- Weeds to be targeted for control
- New plants showing up in an area
- Hosts of pests or diseases
- Any unusual plants
- Unknown plants

# Where should I collect?

- Anywhere
- Almost all weed species are undercollected



# To whom should we send it?

- Many herbaria will accept labeled, unmounted specimens. CDA specializes in weeds.
- Place the specimen or specimens (in their newspapers) between 2 sheets of cardboard
- Do not tape or staple the specimens, but you may tie the bundle with string if necessary
- Make sure the collection data is included w/ each specimen and include your contact info (including email)
- Mail it in an envelope (or box)

# Send plant specimens to:

- Botany Lab
- Department of Food and Agriculture
- 3294 Meadowview Rd
- Sacramento, CA
- 95832-1448