

HOW TO



PREPARE BIRD SPECIMENS

Part 14 – Labelling: the most important step





The Migratory Bird Conventions Act regulates the take and possession of birds in Canada. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act regulates the take and possession of birds in the United States. In addition, the provinces (in Canada) and the states (in the United States) also require permits. For some species SARA, ESA, or CITES permits may be required.

Always check the laws of your country and obtain the proper permits; failure to do so may result in civil and/or criminal penalties.

When handling dead birds, it is probably impossible to tell if a bird is infected with a pathogen that may cause human illness even if you know the cause of death to be a wound or an injury. Take reasonable precautions to protect yourself. The Ornithological Council offers a peer-reviewed fact sheet on avian zoonotic disease and safety precautions for those who handle birds in the field and in the lab.

<http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/documents/WNV&H5N1-FactSheet.pdf>



Are these Northern Cardinals all the same sex?



5
testis 1 mm
skull unossified
tarsus and feet gray brown
mouth and maxilla dark brown
base of beak
nested in second year
no molt
light fat

2602

What sex is this Northern Cardinal partial albino?



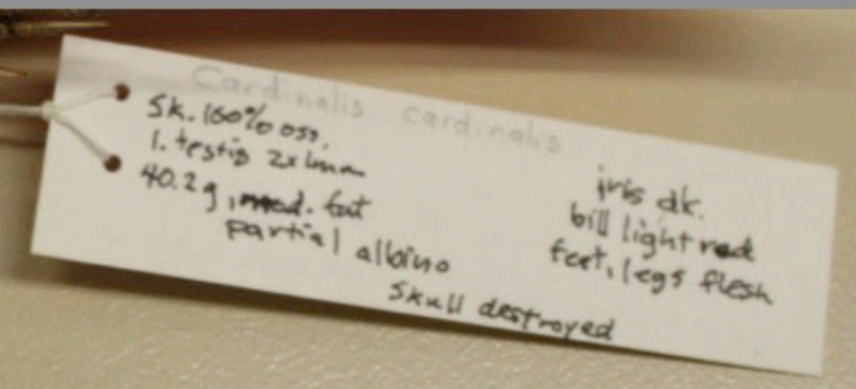
Photo taken at the Louisiana State University Museum of Natural Science

At a bare minimum, a label has the name of the museum or private collection which currently owns the specimen, a unique catalogue number, the location and date where the bird died, and who collected it.



Some labels include the preparator's name and his or her prep number.

Internal body condition and organ measurements are obtained during the skinning process. The safest place to record this data is on the prep label.



The value of a study skin is a combination of its rarity and the associated data. An unusual bird with no data is more of a curio than a research tool.



Photos taken at the Louisiana State University Museum of Natural Science

Did these aberrant females lay eggs and pass on their melanistic (top) or dilute (bottom) plumage ?



No, this oviduct is
"smooth" (see Part 6).

Junco hyemalis
• ovary 3x1.5 mm - smooth;
skull 50% oss.; no molt;
17.5g; light pale yellow
• oily fat; stomach - small
crushed seeds; shot in
coastal hackberry chenier woods

iris dark brown; mand.
pink w/ dark tip; max. -
nares + tip blackish; rest
pink; tarsi + feet dark
horn brown

Junco hyemalis
• ovary 3x1.5 mm - smooth;
skull 75% oss.; no molt;
18.6g; light pale yellow oily
fat; stomach - small crushed
seeds; shot in coastal hack-
berry chenier woods

iris dark brown; mand.
pink w/ dark tip; max. -
nares + tip blackish; rest
pink; tarsi light horn
brown; feet dark horn
brown

Junco hyemalis

Ovaries

moderately fat.

Unknown.

Oviduct information
not recorded.



87098

♀ Ovary: 19 x 14 mm, finely granular, follicles < 0.5 mm, right gonad not evident, though area is clear and undisturbed; oviduct 7 mm at cloaca, convoluted; no penis; bursa: none, not even a shallow pit

WASHINGTON: Grant County; Royal City, 6 mi S, 10 mi E;
Lower Crab Creek

Prep: C. S. Wood 7236; Coll: S. A. Rohwer
1333 gm (1/08), moderate fat

30 NOVEMBER 2007

With Mallards and other birds that can be sexed by plumage, not collecting gonad information is short shifting the specimen.

The label notation that the gonad identification was confirmed by a 2nd person and photographed is unusual. The convoluted oviduct confirms that the Mallard in the next slide has laid eggs at least once.

University of Washington Burke Museum

Anas platyrhynchos

Molt: heavy on head and neck, some on flanks and near tail; Misc: shot; wingspan 91 cm; gonads confirmed by S. A. Rohwer and photographed (see accession file); flushed last in a group of five mallards, not paired

87098

round/wing



Without gonad information, this female Mallard might be assumed to be an odd male coming out of eclipse.



The default plumage in ducks is male. When females cease to produce estragon during moult, they revert to male plumage.



Photos taken at the University of Washington Burke Museum



Odd birds should be sexed carefully and, if required, a second opinion obtained.

This American Coot exhibits spotting factor (extensive asymmetrical white feathers). Is this condition sex linked?





Is this aberrant plumage another example of spotting factor or something else?

50% skull pneumatisation tells us this Northwestern Crow is a juvenile.

Will this odd plumage be retained in the adult?



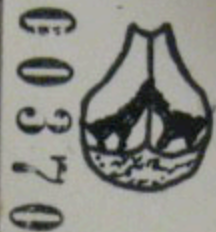
Some labels are works of art.
These skull pneumatisation drawings are
hand drawn as is the sketch of the bursa.



00370
Graisses: 0
Mandibule: brun
Maxille: brun
Tarse: olive
Doigts: olives
Iris: brun foncé
L.T.: 26.80



00372
Graisses: 0
Mandibule: noir
Maxille: noir
Tarse: olive
Doigts: olive
Iris: Brun foncé
L.T.: 27.1 mm
Poids: 95.2 gr
E. Col

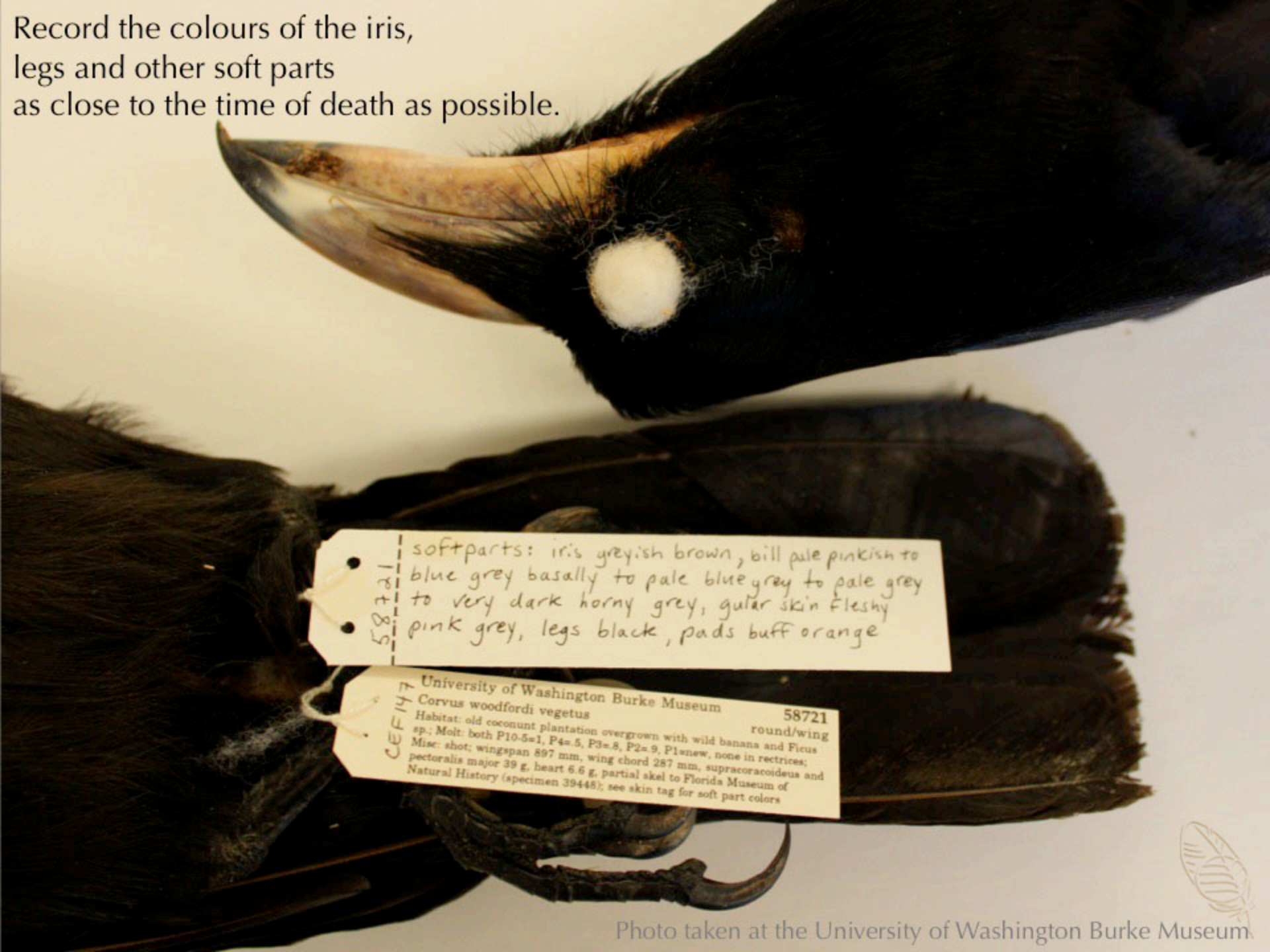


00370
Graisses: /
Mandibule: brun
Maxille: brun
Tarse: olive
Doigts: olives
Iris: brun foncé
L.T.: 27.1
Poids: 95.2 gr



00371
Graisses: 0
Mandibule: brun
Maxille: brun
Tarse: olive
Doigts: olives
Iris: brun foncé
L.T.: 26.7 cm
Poids: 97.5 gr
8 de F
52

Record the colours of the iris,
legs and other soft parts
as close to the time of death as possible.



58721
soft parts: iris greyish brown, bill pale pinkish to
blue grey basally to pale blue grey to pale grey
to very dark horny grey, gular skin fleshy
pink grey, legs black, pads buff orange

58721
University of Washington Burke Museum
Corvus woodfordi vegetus
Habitat: old coconut plantation overgrown with wild banana and Ficus
sp.; Molt: both P10-5=1, P4=5, P3=8, P2=9, P1=new, none in rectrices;
Misc: shot; wingspan 897 mm, wing chord 287 mm, supracoracoideus and
pectoralis major 39 g, heart 6.6 g, partial skel to Florida Museum of
Natural History (specimen 39448); see skin tag for soft part colors

58721

round/wing

Field images are invaluable.

Sketch, paint, or use a camera
to document soft tissue colours.

Background photo taken
at The Field Museum



Bottom photos taken at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University

Did this yellow Acadian Flycatcher have normal eyes?
A researcher doing DNA work might need to know.



Data recorded on a well written labels answers this and many other questions, enlarging a researchers understanding of the specimen.

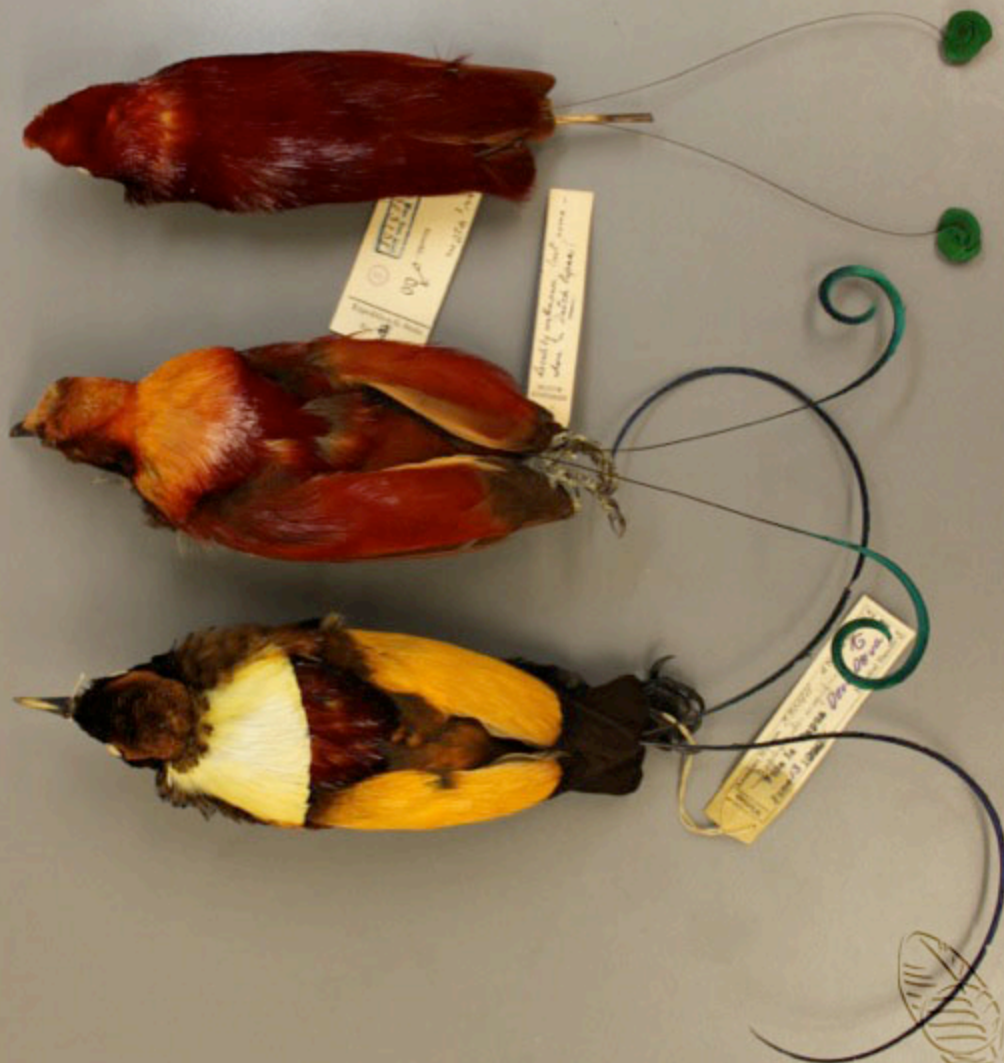
Reading labels can help to find and identify trends.



ROTHSCHILD
MUSEUM.

locality unknown but some-
where in Dutch Papua!

Or cause frustration
about where to look for a
convergence zone for this
hybrid Bird-of-Paradise.



Photos taken at the American Museum of Natural History



Dealer labels often have little or no collection data.
Correspondence or ledger entries may help trace the
origin of these birds.



Abessinisk hornkory
Bucorax abyssinicus

Bahr el Abiad.

vet.

Frieske 1862.

Av. Ex. 13642.

All information on this specimen has been lost except for the display label. Fortunately it included the year collected and an expedition number.

An inviolable rule is: NEVER REMOVE LABELS FOR DISPLAY
OR ANY OTHER PURPOSE.





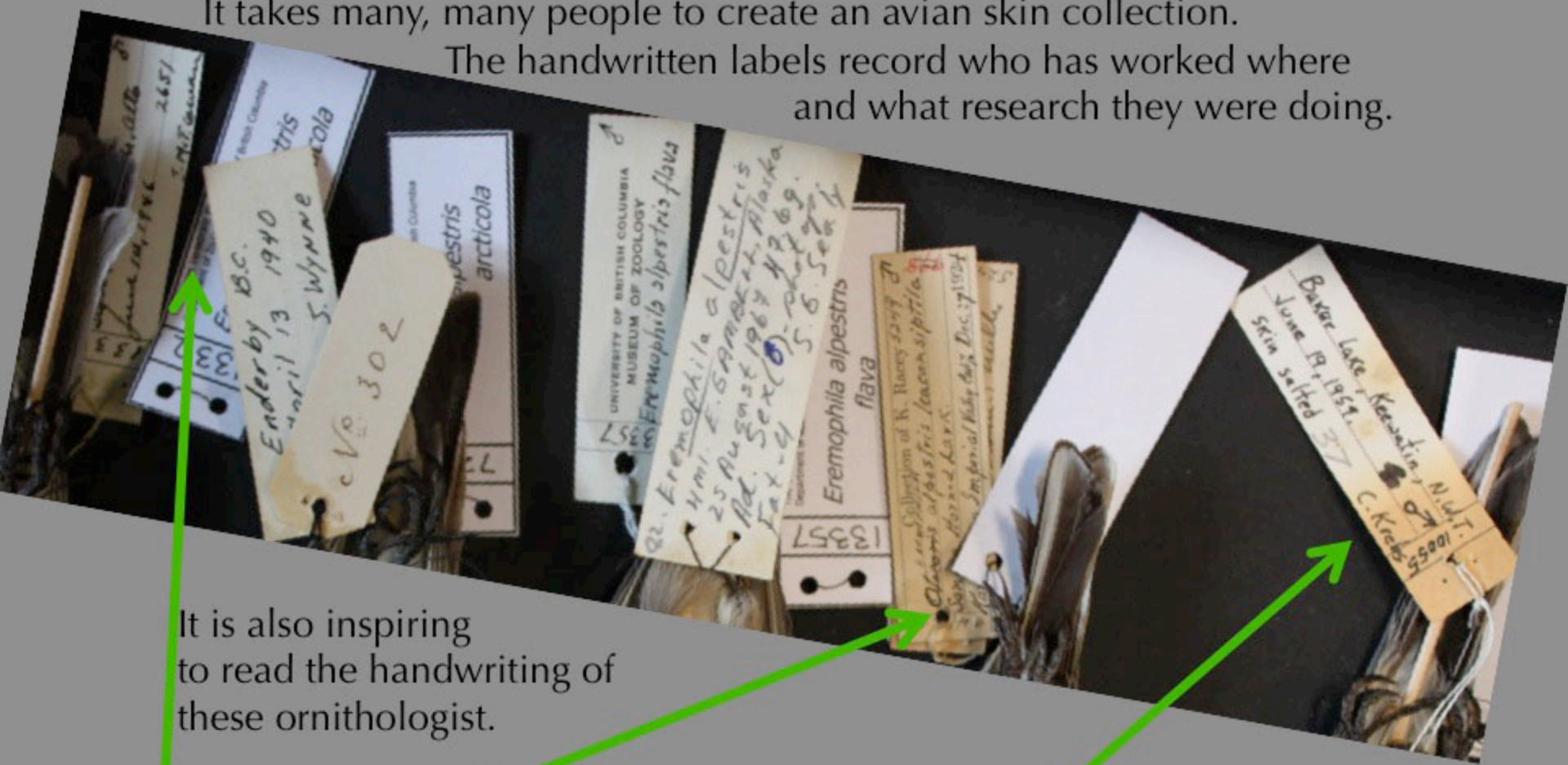
Labels are a living history of the the bird specimen history:

- Inventory label added prior to the incorporation of the Cowan Vertebrate Museum into the Beaty Biodiversity Museum
- Accession label. This was the 12,091 specimen added to the UBC Museum of Zoology
- Preparation label
- Original label from when this specimen was part of a private collection in South Africa



It takes many, many people to create an avian skin collection.

The handwritten labels record who has worked where and what research they were doing.



It is also inspiring to read the handwriting of these ornithologist.

Charlie Krebs salted this skin which suggest that it was skinned in the field.

Ian McTaggart-Cowan and his father-in-law, Ken Racey, collected and prepared skins to found the avian collection at the University of British Columbia.



It would be a shame if the work of this researcher was lost
due to a label being removed or using poor materials.

567/63

in
S
+
=

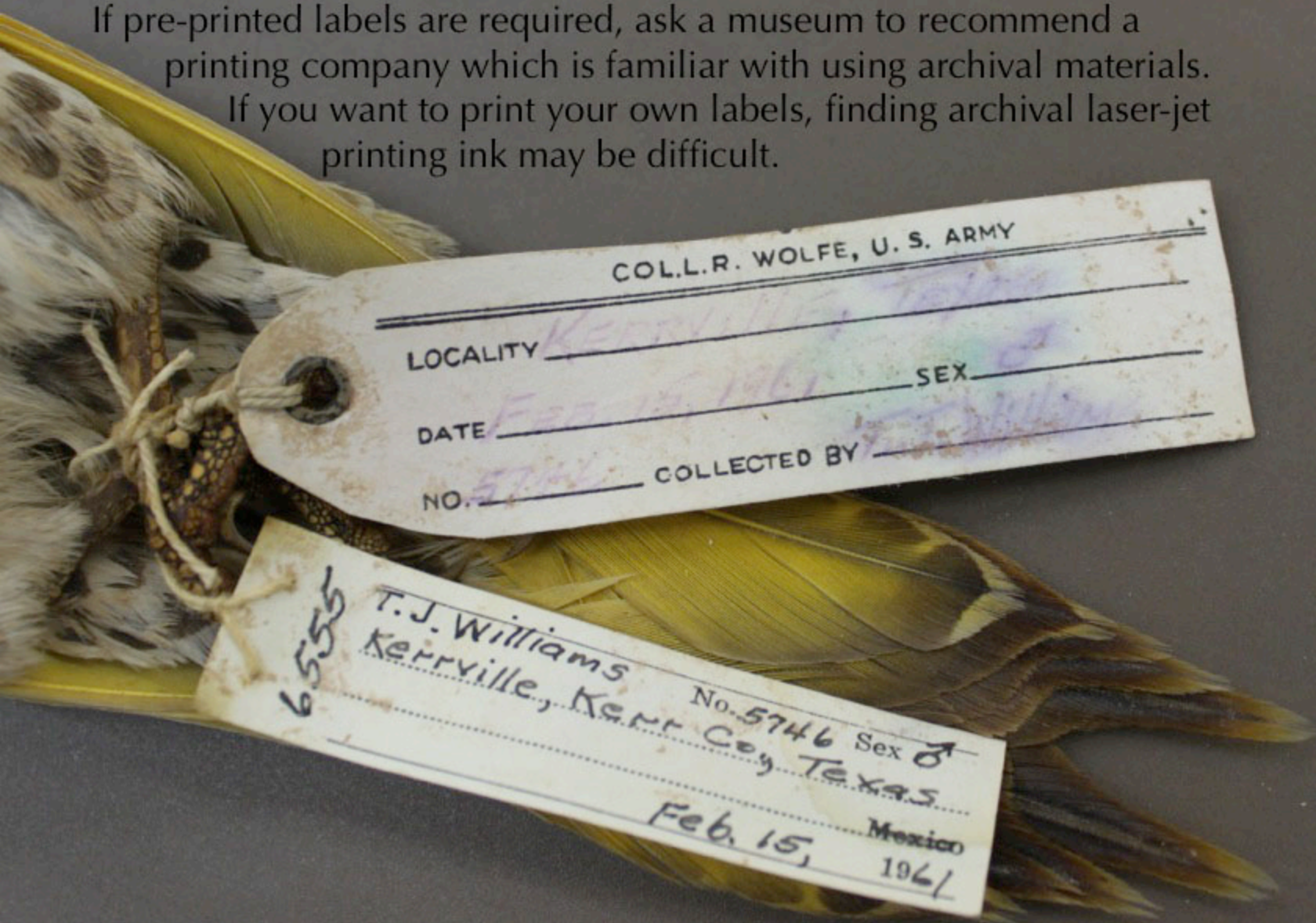
Maria Magdalena, Tres Marias Is.,
Nay., Mexico 24 JUNE 1963
Testis 0.7 cm.
Fat 5 WT. 20.9g P. R. GRANT

Never use a ballpoint pen.
If you do not have an archival pen, use a pencil.

Contact a museum in your area and ask where they obtain archival paper and pens.

If pre-printed labels are required, ask a museum to recommend a printing company which is familiar with using archival materials.

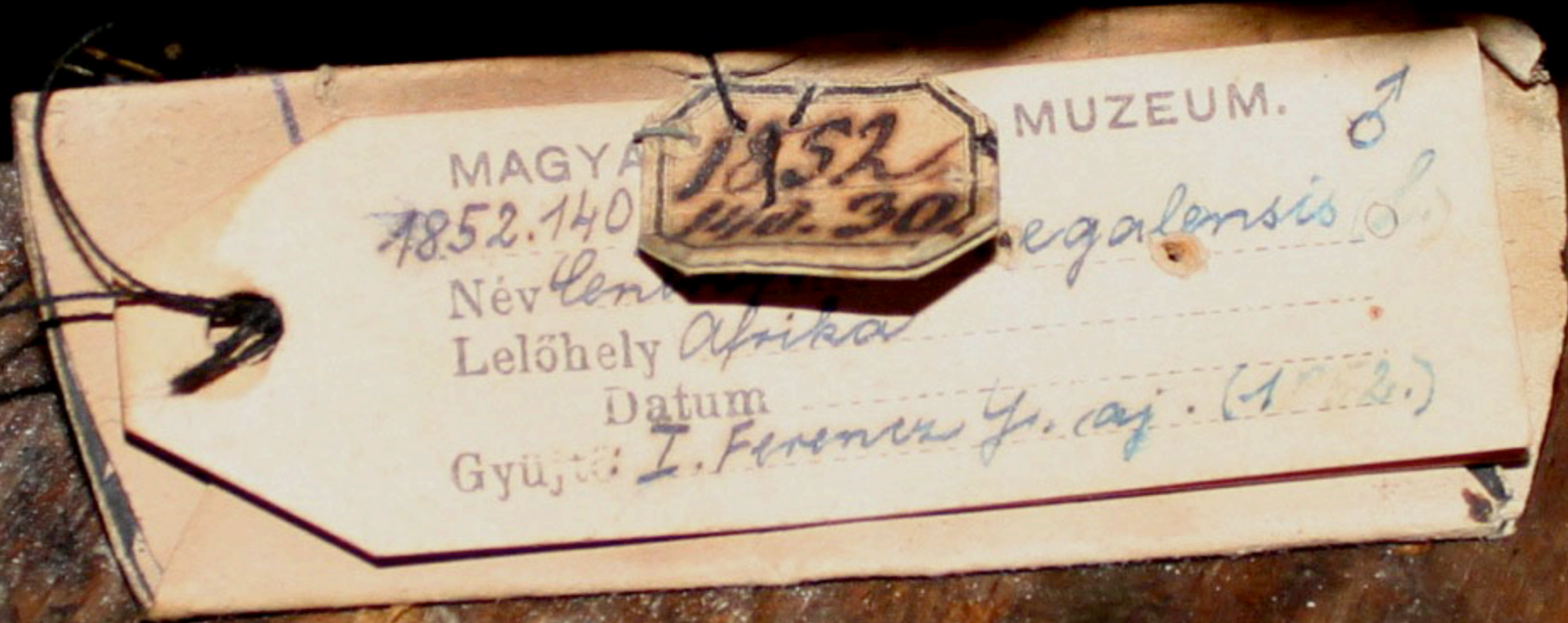
If you want to print your own labels, finding archival laser-jet printing ink may be difficult.



Here is an unusual problem with a specimen collected by an Emperor.

The original label was folded in four, trimmed to form this octagon, and, many years later, sewn onto another label without transcribing the information inside.

Will detaching the label and unfolding it cause the paper to shatter?



A similar problem could occur here. The encoding system on this label may become obsolete and barcodes readers unavailable.



These labels combine readable information with QR codes. When QR codes are obsolete, the words will still be readable.

AVERY®

L7167™

Jam-Free™ Lasershipping

199.06 x 289.1 mm x 1

NCB Naturalis - Leiden

RMNH.MAM.45525.a

***Cheirogaleus medius* É. Geoffroy, 1812**

Voy. van Dam

col.: Dam, van

dat.: 00-00-1870

loc.: Madagascar

Mouroundava



NCB Naturalis - Leiden

RMNH.MAM.45525.b

***Cheirogaleus medius* É. Geoffroy, 1812**

Voy. van Dam

col.: Dam, van

dat.: 00-00-1870

loc.: Madagascar

Mouroundava



NCB Naturalis - Leiden

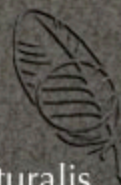
RMNH.MAM.45526

***Bubalus depressicornis* C. H. Smith, 1827**

col.: Diard

dat.: 00-0000-1864

loc.: Indonesië Celebes



Database design for avian collections is beyond the scope of this series.
Note that both the specimen and the label are photographically archived.

NWO aves

File Edit View Data Entry Thumbnails Data

RMNH_AVES_27109a.jpg RMNH_AVES_27109b.jpg

Hypothymis azurea styani
149.005.001



Hume Cat. No. F. B. I. No. 601.
Sex ♂
Hypothymis azurea
The Black-headed Blue Flycatcher
A. M. Primrose, Boma, T. Z.
1911, Lullupore Valley, S. Sylhet, Assam

RIJSMUSEUM
VAN
NATUURLIJKE
HISTORIE
LEIDEN
Hypothymis azurea styani Sexe ♂
(Oehl.)
Loc. Assam
Dat.

Base information Secondary label information

Register Number RMNH.AVES.27109

Other numbers

number type	Number

Collection H.J.V. Sody

Genus *Hypothymis*

Species *azurea*

Subspecies *styani*

Author (Hartlaub, 1898)

Sex male Age

Preservation dry skin

Collector Primrose, A.M.

Collection date 00-00-1901

Donor Sody-Cohen, F.

Acquisition date 20-03-1959

Country

Region Rima T.E.

Locality S. Sylhet, Luckerpore Valley

From Captivity

Remarks

recorded by thomassen on 16-12-2005
changed by meij on 10-10-2011

Delete Cancel Save

The original data is as important as the specimen which is why both sides of the label are documented.

NW0 aves

Data Entry | Thumbnails | Data

RMNH_AVES_27109a.jpg RMNH_AVES_27109b.jpg

Hypothymis azurea styani
149.005.001



approx
L. 5.8 & 6.4
W. 2.8
T. 2.55 & 3
Tars. 0.7
B. at base 0.55
Exp. 0.7
Colours Bill
dark blue
Edges of legs
black
Edges of legs
dark
Edges of legs
black
1177

Coll. H. J. V. Dordy Cat. no.
Don.
Aank.
Ingekomen 20-3-1959 Reg. no. -27109-

Base information Secondary label information

Additional names

RMNH AVES 27109

nr	Genus	Species	subspec.	Author
1	Hypothymis	azurea		

Numbers

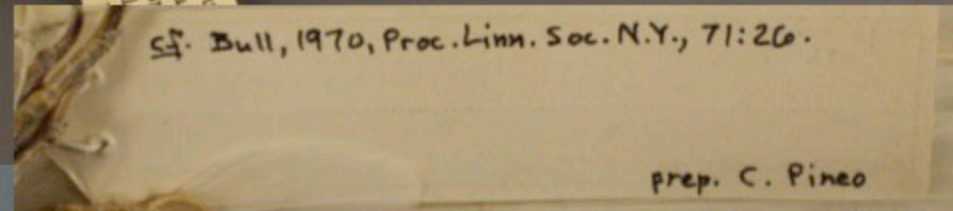
nr	Number Type	Number
1	unknown	F.B.I. No 601
1	unknown	1177

Additional information

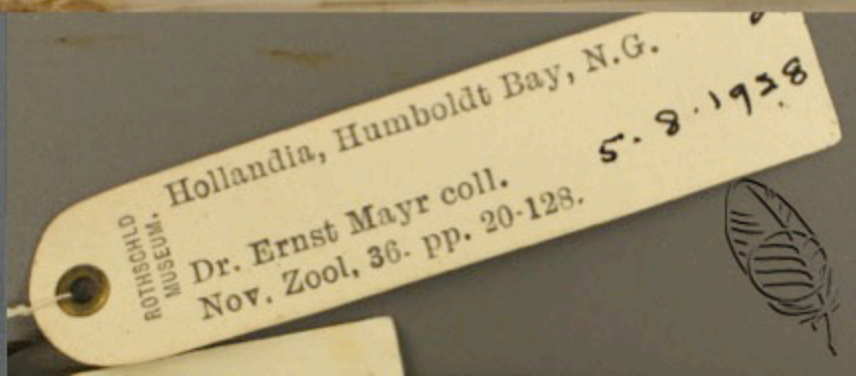
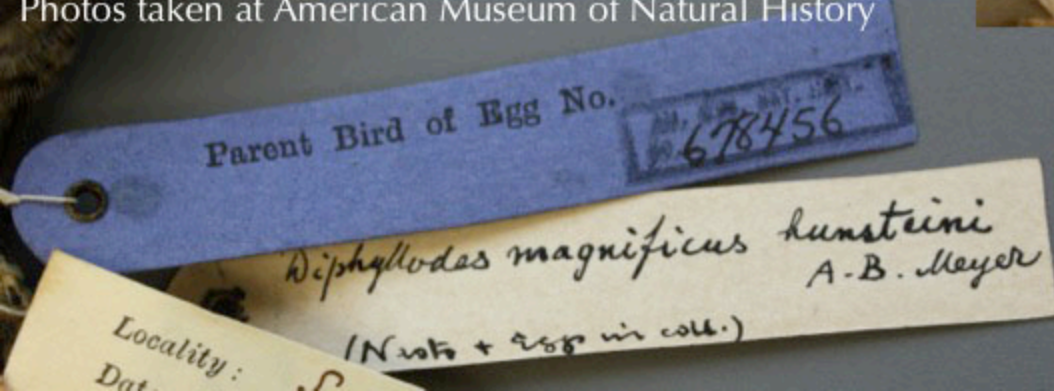
nr	Add. Info	Value
1	name	The Black naped Blue Flycatcher
1	unknown	Size 1.2
1	size	approx.: L. 5.8 & 6.4; W. 2.8; T. 2.55 & 3; Tars
1	bill	dark blue edges + tip black
1	legs	plumbers
1	iris	dark brown edges of eyelids blue

Any analytical technique used (DNA, stable isotope, spectrometric, etc.) increases the research value of a round study skin. All raw data from the test listed above or new test techniques yet to be developed should be archived.

This includes citations for reports or papers that mention a museum specimen.



Photos taken at American Museum of Natural History



Washing methods could affect test results.
Record chemicals used on the label.

Limnodromus griseus

Ovary 8x4 mm, largest ova 1.5 mm, Tissue saved.
No molt, trace fat. found dead on beach.
Stomach + intestines saved in EtOH.
Soaked in Stoddard solvent, washed in Dawn

Wt. 80.4g (22 Feb 2011) prep. J. Woods



How the date is written is critical:

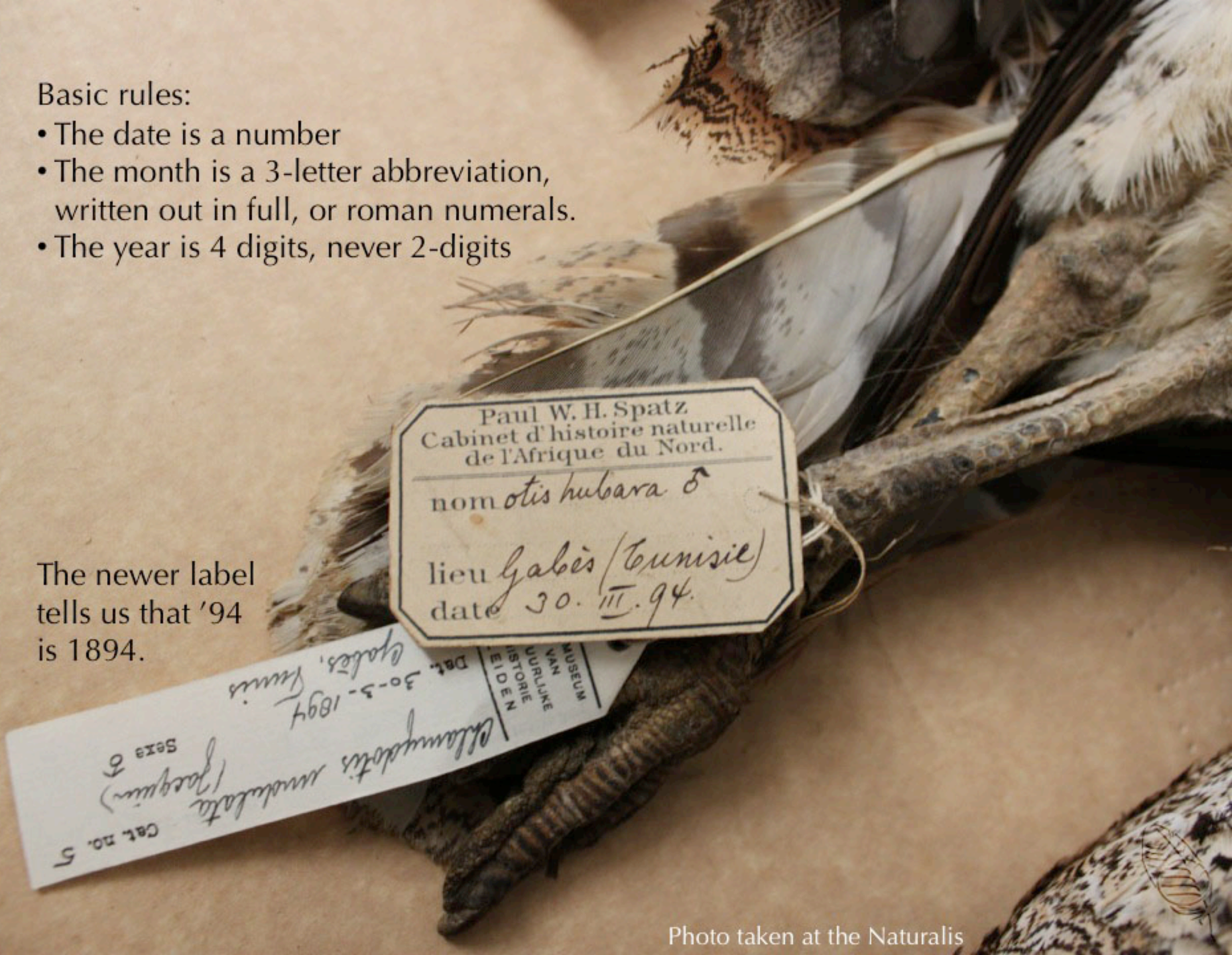
The "13" on both these labels make it easy.
Imagine if it had been "7/5" or "7-5".



Basic rules:

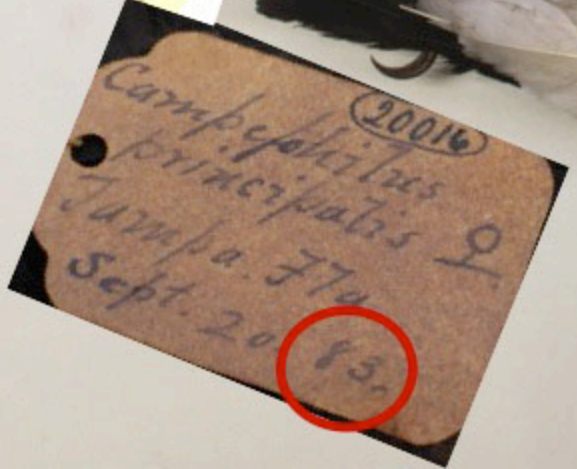
- The date is a number
- The month is a 3-letter abbreviation, written out in full, or roman numerals.
- The year is 4 digits, never 2-digits

The newer label tells us that '94 is 1894.



Label all birds with care. It is hard to predict which birds will be of special interest in the future.

Knowing which century these woodpeckers were collected is of paramount importance.





If your collection does not have established protocols for writing labels, LSUSMNS's guidelines are available as a pdf in the Resources Section of this website:

<http://www.beatymuseum.ubc.ca/research/birds>

Louisiana State University Museum of Natural Science

BIRD CURATORIAL MANUAL
APPENDIX 1. Procedure for Filling Out LSUMNS
Bird Labels

By Steven W. Cardiff, J. V. Remsen,
and Donna L. Dittmann

(Revised 12 May 2011)

Note that the preparator has NOT written the species name on the prep labels. Using a pencil, the species and subspecies will be added by the Curator or Collection Manager during the acquisition process.

Pinning a label next to a specimen is second best. If possible, attach the label to the specimen before leaving it to dry.

Acad. Nat. Sci.

Philadelphia

USA: Pennsylvania; Somerset Co, Quemahoning Reservoir, 3mi E of Boswell
25 December 2007 Dana Stettin Cohen 347

♂ Anthony Marich-collector 2 testes 8x3mm Skull ossified
1470g Very heavy fat. No bursa Stomach: green vegetable
matter & pebbles Irides burnt sienna Tarsi Ocre/orange
Max bright yellowgreen. Mand. Yellow green → tan
No molt on wing, tail or body.

VIREO
Tissue
28967



The optimum length between the leg and a label is 2 cm to 2.5 cm.

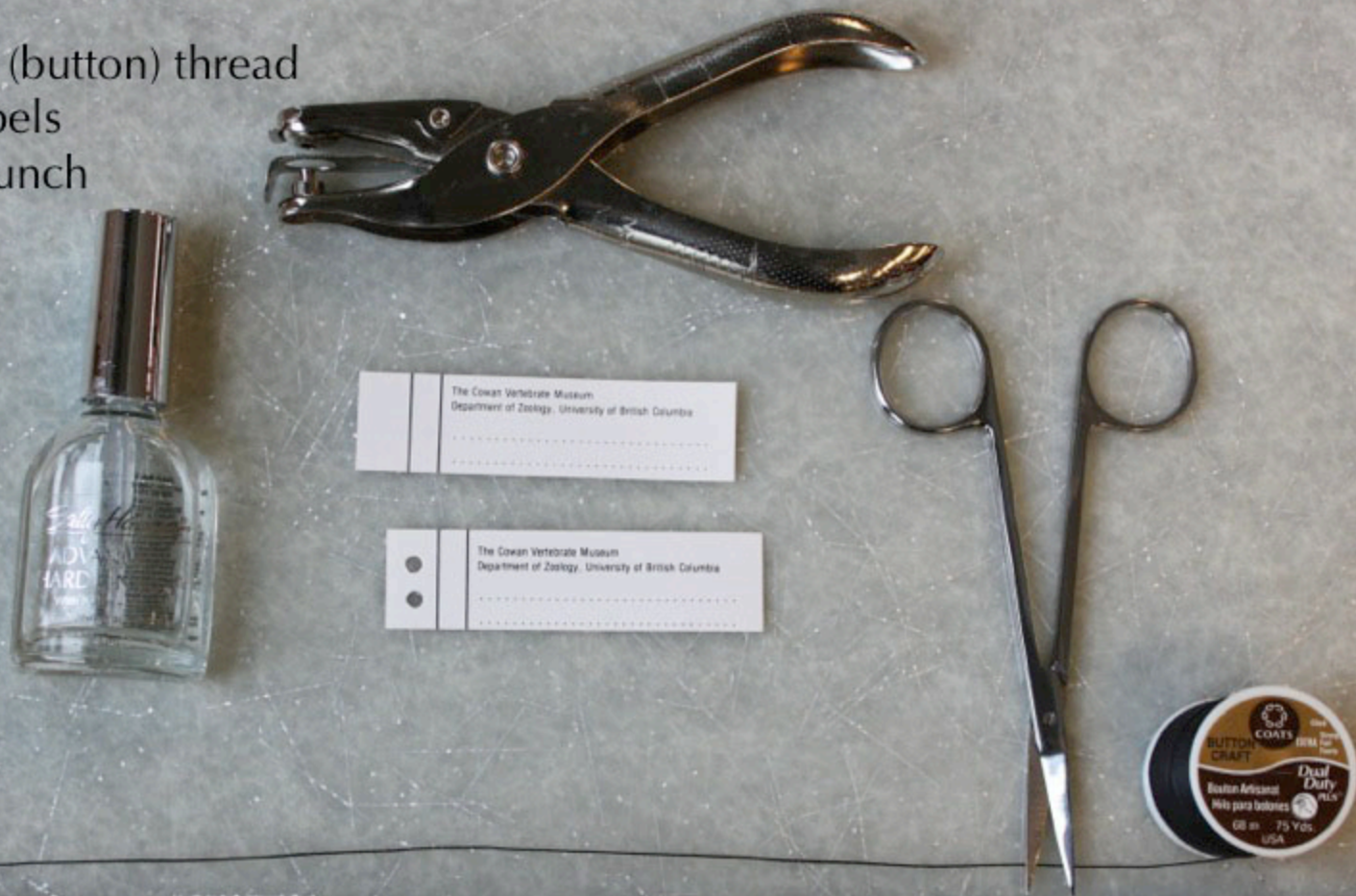
- Long label strings become tangled and may damage the toes.
- Tight labels obscure the specimen and if rotated tug on the legs and tear the skin.
- Large labels on small birds may break legs.



Most museums use the following method to attach the string to a label:

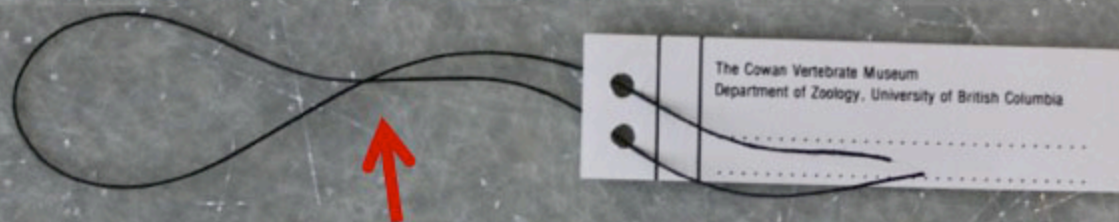
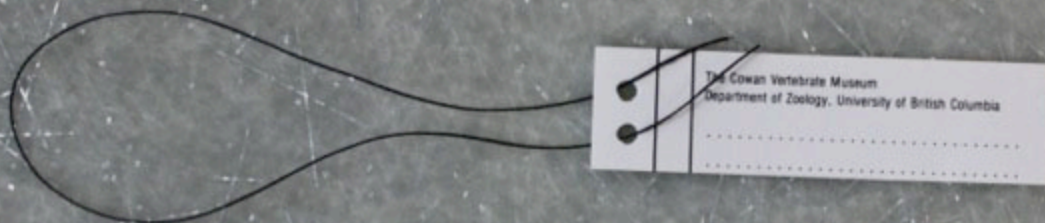
Have ready:

- heavy duty (button) thread
- archival labels
- two hole punch
- nail polish
- ruler
- scissors

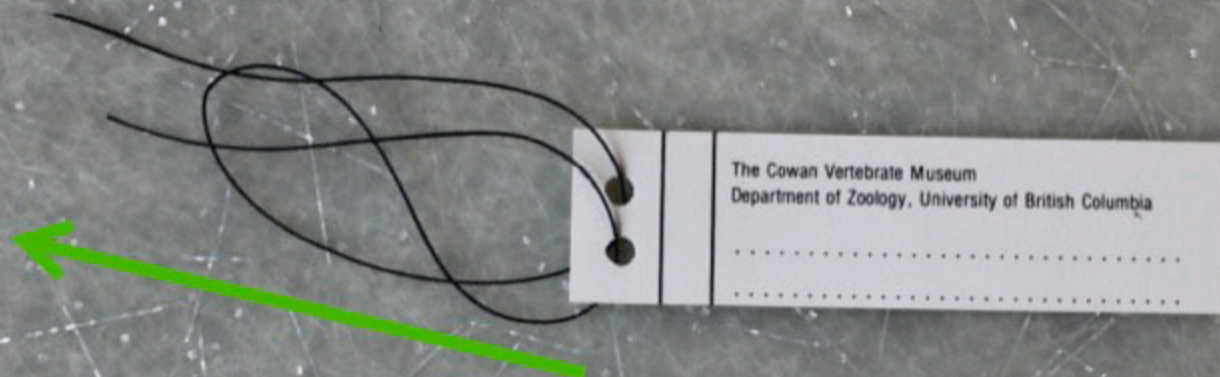


Start by cutting a length of thread that is approximately 25 cm long.
Length depends on bird leg diameter.



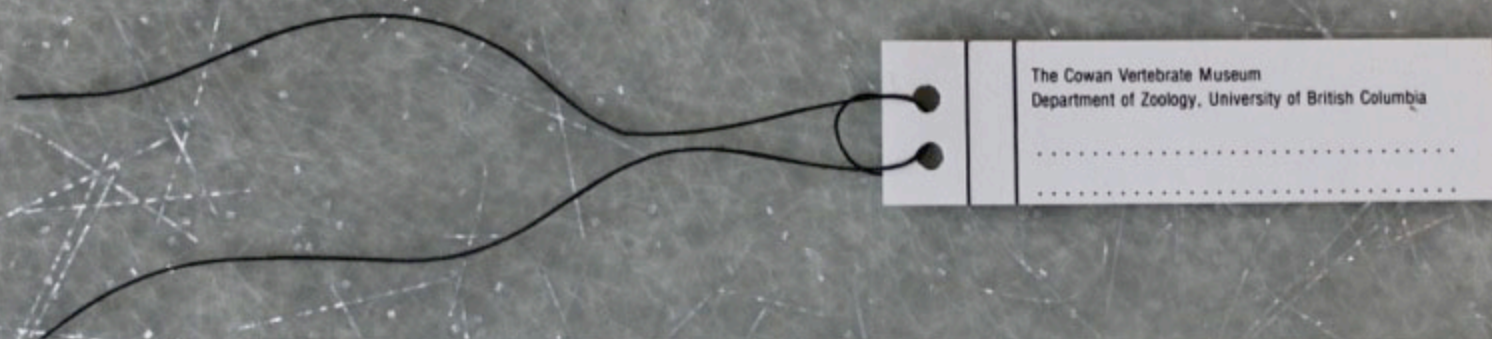


Twist the thread once.

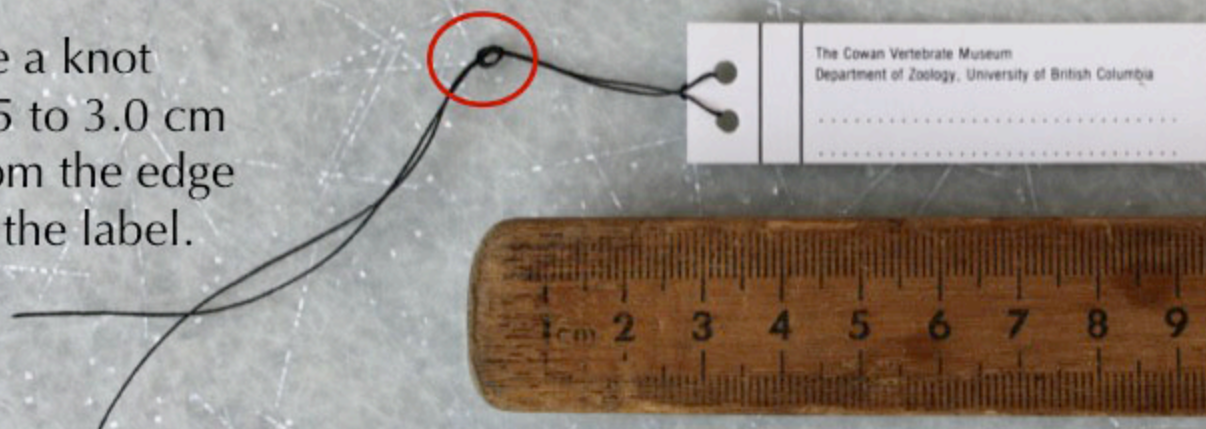


Gently pull both ends through the loop.





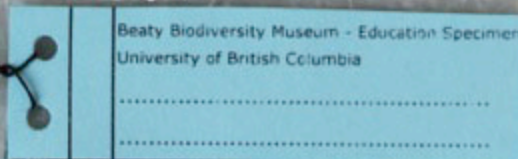
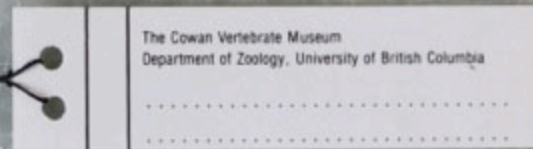
Tie a knot
2.5 to 3.0 cm
from the edge
of the label.



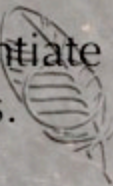


Put a small drop of nail polish on the knot.

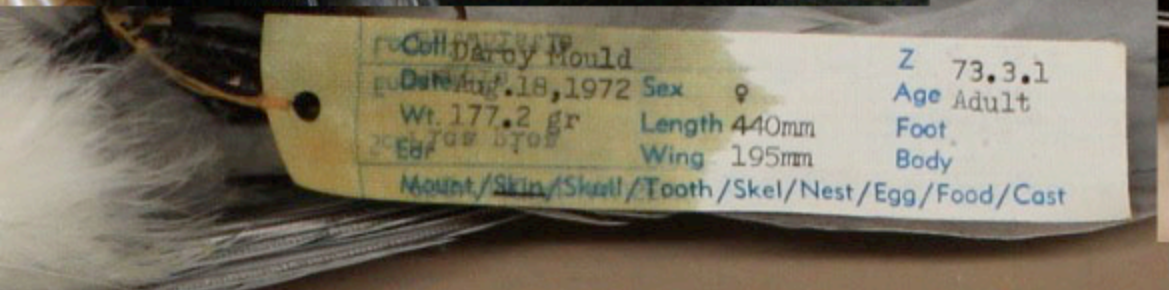
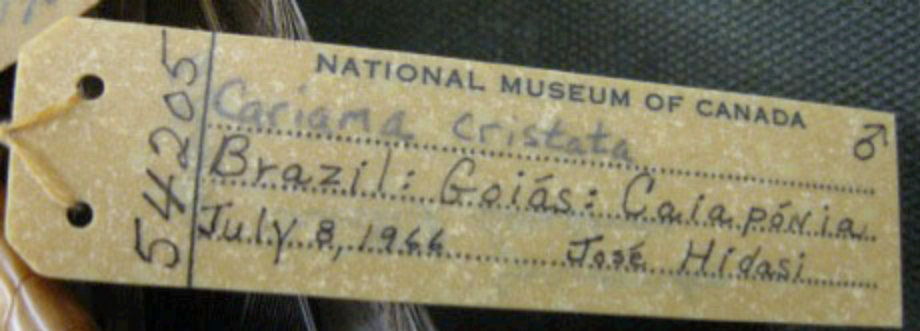
This stops oil and grease wicking from the specimen to the label.



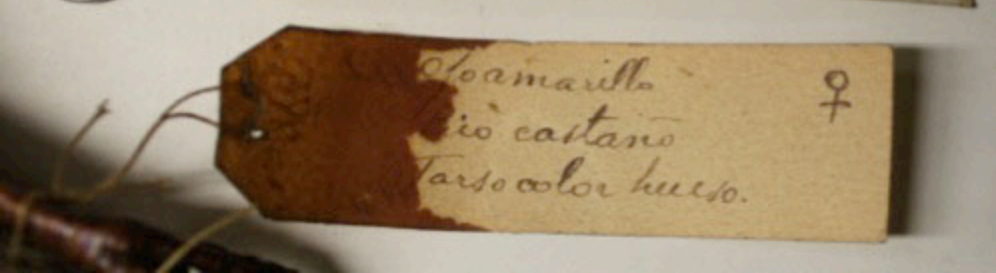
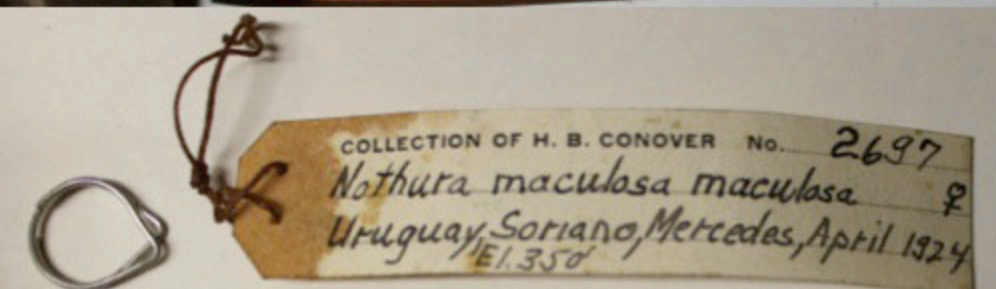
Different colour labels make it easy to differentiate between research and educational collections.



Examples of oil damage



In the bottom photographs, a detached label is clipped onto an existing one.



Clockwise from top right: photos taken at the Canadian Museum of Nature, Naturalis, Field Museum, Hungarian Museum of Natural History, and Royal Alberta Museum





Apparently pulled from *Dendroica tigrina* tray. There is one missing *D. tigrina* (41547). However, this bird is a female *Dendroica caerulescens*. There are two missing *D. caerulescens*, 31 & 19292. No. 31 is a 12 July 1953 male from Pennsylvania. No. 19292 is an 8 Dec 1953 immature female from New Mexico. This last entry does not make sense as this species is not known to occur in NM. Given that the specimen has DMNH tag of the oldest variety I suspect this is No. 31.

Detail notes will help match these birds to their labels when additional birds or labels are found.

This is a problem drawer.



Apparently pulled from *Dendroica townsendii* tray. No loose tag was found during the move. There are no *D. townsendii* in the MissingCatNumbersWithSpecies-NotFound Access query. This bird is *Dendroica tigrina*. There is one *D. tigrina* listed in the above query, No. 41547. Because of the way this bird is prepped & its condition compared to the *D. tigrina* in this series (including one collected at the same place & date) I do not believe this is the missing bird.

A preparator's "signature" is a combination of the shape and quality of the skin, of the skin, the label style, and the handwriting.



Tangara chilensis from the office of Mel R. Carriker following his death. (U of D. Marine Studies)
Received from Dr. Charles Epifanio on ¹² July 2007 (via. Dr. Liz Shea)

Note - ~~Elements + Moore both list range as Brazil~~
~~but tag given on tag is Bolivia near Lake Titicaca~~
Tag lists as Siete Colores (Tanager) but really Paradise Tanager
seven-colored





Appendix:

Photo taken at the Naturalis

Labels used by different museums



Appendix to Part 12:

The following collection of labels is included to help you design labels that match your requirements.

Styles vary from free form, fill in the blanks, to computer generated.



AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM

May 1903

Falco hypoleucos

NSW: Condobolin

0

coll. A.P. Cox; presented G.C. Driffeld

0.13172

Labels can be any colour except red.
Red is reserved for type specimens.

American Museum of Natural History
831719
of *Icterus pustulatus dickermani* ♀
Phillips
Joluchuca, SE Petatlán

Little fat. No molt.

Collection of Allan R. Phillips ♀ [im.?] type

Icterus pustulatus dickermani

Joluchuca, 17° 21 1/2' N. 101° 12 1/2' W., S. E. of
Petatlán, SW'n Guerrero; Santos Farfán E.

91.5 - 81.4 C56, 20.5

Type of
Described in

28/10/89
El Encino
Farfán-27

The above label has three kinds of writing:

- Pre-printed
- Rubber stamps
- Hand written notations



Field No.

PROVINCIAL MUSEUM OF ALBERTA

204.5.11

Sp. *Corvus brachyrhynchos*Loc. *Powaka, Powaka County,**Alberta, Canada*Lat. *52° 42' 00" N*Long. *113° 35' 00" W*Coll'r. *Fisher Wildlife*Date *25 Sept. 2004*Age *Imm.*Sex *Undet.*Wt. *166.1 g*Length *355 mm*

Wing C.

260 mm

Bill L.

39.2 mm

Tail

142 mm

Cul. Nost.

26.8 mm

Gonads

*-*Prep. *Erickson, G.M.*Tarsus *45.4* mm

Remarks

*Pyle - HY*Photos taken at the
Royal Alberta Museum

18285

University of Nebraska State Museum - Ornithology

18285

*Nyctea scandiaca*Snowy Owl
Molt: No Molt

Skin / Partial Skeleton

SEX

♂

NO. WJM #1084 COLL. & PREP. W.J. MOLLHOFF

NEBRASKA: HAMILTON CO.; 2 mi. N. AURORA
T11N, R 6 W, SEC. 22
ON HWY #14.
NO FAT. NO MOLT. ROADKILL.

ZM

TL

T

WT.

E

FA

WT

TMD-TEST.

DATE

1030g

L-2x6
R-2x614 JAN.
2006

Coll Darcy Mould
 Date Aug. 18, 1972 Sex ♀ Z 73.3.1
 Wt. 177.2 gr Length 440mm Age Adult
 Ear Tag bro's Foot
 Wing 195mm Body
 Mount/Skin/Skull/Tooth/Skel/Nest/Egg/Food/Cast



PROVINCIAL MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES OF ALBERTA
 Sci. Pica pica Z 73.3.1
 Eng. Magpie Fam. Corvidae
 Loc. Entwistle L. 53° 36' N
 L. 114° 55' W



Texas Cooperative Wildlife Collection
S.N.O. legs pink, iris blue-grey
8628 fuscus

8628 H.M. Ohlendorf No. 1166 Sex ♂
Texas: Jeff Davis Co. 12 mi
W.S.W. Ft. Davis; Point of Rocks
29 July 1970
48 gm.

8628 Texas Cooperative Wildlife Collection
S.N.O. legs pink, iris blue-grey
Pipilo fuscus





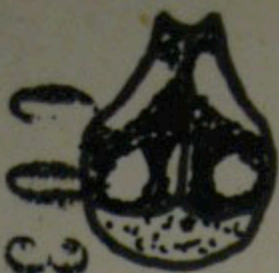
Eye medium brown no fat
Bill black probable mate of JWF
Feet gray collected 10 min before
voice tape at same site

FIELD MUSEUM 310652
Cercomacra manu
NATURAL HISTORY ♂
Peru: dept. Madre de Dios; about 12 river km downstream from
Shintuya along left bank, Alto R. Madre de Dios
J.W. Fitzpatrick coll. Alt. 420 m 17 Aug. 1980

Eye medium brown seen with, Wt. 17.7 g shot while foraging
Bill black probable mate and at 12-18' in dense
Feet gray of, JWF 80-224, Skull fully pneumatic small-leaf bamboo
collected 10 min before about 1/2 km
at same site from river
Gon. ♂ both testes 3x2 mm
voice tape-recorded before collecting by JWF

No. 80-223
JWF





60371
Grassies: 0

Mandibule: brun

Maxille: brun

Tarse: olive.

Doigts: olives

Iris: brun foncé

L.T.: 26.7 cm

Poids: 97.3 gr

B de F

52

Département des Sciences Biologiques, Université de Montréal, Montréal

574
Capella gallinago
Monte-au-Loup Îles de la Madeleine
Alan Burton 22 août 1969

dim 0



Iris deep brown
Bill blackish to
black grayish
black on
lower half.
Gape pale

MOLT
Traces
Medium
Heavy

ECOLOGY
Shot in
lower
tree tops
of mt.
forest.

FOOD
S.C.
small
insect!

Weight 58
Time 5 am
Skull hard

Mt Mt
Total 192
Tail
Wing
Tarsus

NATIVE NAME
Blau Rotan

Iris blackish
Bill blackish
Feet pale
Cobalt blue
Naked areas of
head grayish

MOLT
Traces
Medium
Heavy

ECOLOGY
S.C. Two
very large
hand
seeds

FOOD
Solitary. Shot
in a lone tree
of second story
of mt. forest.
Weight 59 Gm
Time 11 am
Skull hard

Mt Mt
Total 180
Tail
Wing
Tarsus

NATIVE NAME
Belah Rotan

Iris deep brown
Bill blackish
Feet to dark blue
grayish top
Feet cobalt
blue

MOLT
Traces
Medium
Heavy

ECOLOGY
Shot 15 feet
up in lone
of tall mt.
forest.

FOOD
S.C.
orange
yellow
tree fruits
Weight 62 Gm
Time 10 am
Skull hard

Mt Mt
Total 188 mm
Tail
Wing
Tarsus

NATIVE NAME
Belah Rotan

Iris dusky brown
Bill black
Feet pale cobalt
blue.
Naked areas of
head grayish

MOLT
Traces
Medium
Heavy

ECOLOGY
One of a small
group of bird
60 feet up in
mt. rain forest

FOOD
S.C. Two
large blue
black tree
fruits

Weight 65 Gm
Time 10 am
Skull hard

Mt Mt
Total 180 mm
Tail
Wing
Tarsus

NATIVE NAME
BELAH ROTAN

Iris deep brown
Bill black
Feet pale cobalt
blue.
Naked areas of
head grayish

MOLT
Traces
Medium
Heavy

ECOLOGY
Found alone
in top of
mt. forest
(70 feet up).
Total

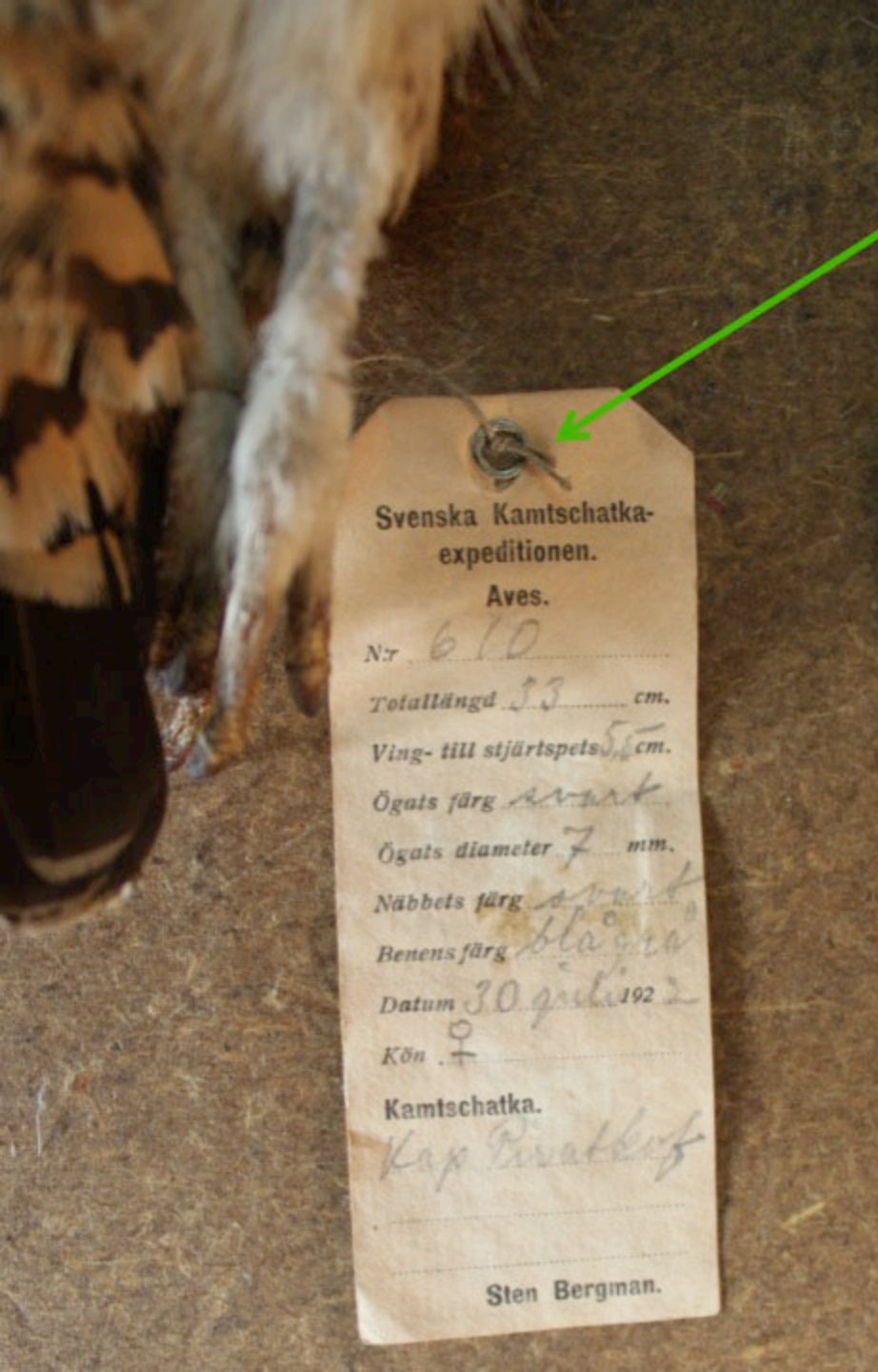
FOOD
S.C. Two
large blue
black tree
fruits

Weight 52 Gm
Time 10 am
Skull hard

Mt Mt
Total 177 mm
Tail
Wing
Tarsus

NATIVE NAME
Blau Rotan

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
808908
OR NATURAL HISTORY
Gould
E. T. Gillard
Date June 29, 1964
Loc 3000
Black
Blau Rotan, above Waialeale Village,
Baker Island, West Irian



Note the metal grommet
on the expedition label.

Svenska Kamtschatka-
expeditionen.

Aves.

Nr 610

Totallängd 33 cm.

Ving- till stjärtspets 5 cm.

Ögats färg svart

Ögats diameter 7 mm.

Näbbets färg svart

Benens färg blågrå

Datum 30 juli 1922

Kön ♀

Kamtschatka.

Kap Piratkov

Sten Bergman.



Art Av. 786022 Corvus corone cornix

AMD 1977.12.27 TNR Samt B. Lindlöf

Land Lskp Vs. Plats I Grind, Fänstätt

Magyar Természettudományi Múzeum

Species

Grus grus

Localitas

Örménykút

Datum

2005. III. 29.

No.

Collector

Bankovics

Attila

2007.5.1.

The folded end of this label reinforces the string hole.

Sex:

Kor:

Tömeg: 4,6 kg

Hossz: 102

Szárny:

Farok:

Csüd:

Csőr (culmen):

(gape):

mérgezés

Habitat:

hely: Róza Róza



60793

♂ Testes: L: 3 x 3, R: 3 x 2.5 mm, white, seminal vesicles 2.5 x 1 mm, tubules not visible; skull: 100 % pneumatized

AUSTRALIA: Northern Territory; Douglas Hot Springs, Ceres Downs Station; 13°44'S 131°26'E

Prep: P. L. Gibert 231; Coll: S. V. Edwards

8.5 gm (fresh), little fat

9 AUGUST 1997



PLS 246

University of Washington Burke Museum

60808

Poephila bichenovii

round/wing

Habitat: river bank with Pandanus, river red gum; Molt: none; Misc: netted; wingspan 174 mm; legs and bill blue-gray, iris dark brown

=*Taeniopygia*

The spread wing of specimen #60808 is stored in a separate sleeve.



60808

University of Washington Burke Museum

Poephila bichenovii

♂

round/wing

19 AUGUST 1997

AUSTRALIA: Northern Territory; Kalkarindji, 44 km N, 50 km E; Camfield Station, Camfield River; 17°02'S 131°17'E; 115 m

Testes: L: 4 x 3.5, R: 4 x 3 mm, beige, seminal vesicles 2.5 x 1.0 mm, tubules visible; skull: 100 % pneumatized
9.3 gm (fresh), no fat; Habitat: river bank with Pandanus, river red gum; Molt: none; Misc: netted; wingspan 174 mm; legs and bill blue-gray, iris dark brown
Prep: P. L. Gibert 246; Coll: C. M. Hess



Having labelled sleeves for spread wings facilitates storage and retrieval when they are stored in a separated section of the collection.



Some museums use a different strategy. Before preparation, a small label is attached with the preparator's number or a numeric code.

Collection and prep notes are recorded in a field log or catalogue. Later, this information is entered into a database and a detailed label is printed and attached to the specimen. A danger is if the field log is lost, all the data may be gone.

	+	GWS 3395
● GWS 3375	+	GWS 3396
● GWS 3375	+	GWS 3396
● GWS 3376	+	GWS 3397
● GWS 3376	+	GWS 3397
● GWS 3377	+	GWS 3398

Agelaius phoeniceus

PSM 23814



round/wing

21 NOVEMBER 2005

WASHINGTON: King County, Vashon, 0.5 mi W, 10925 SW Bank Rd

Testes: L 1.5 x 1, R 1 x 1 mm

Skull: 100 % pneumatized

66.5 gm (fresh), no fat; Molt: none; Misc: dead on road, transient flock of 50 at feeder then in road

prep: R. E. Delles 08, salv: G. W. Shugart

Slater Museum, University of Puget Sound

Note that salvaged is used rather than collected.

Always respect the work that went into
collecting and preparing specimens.
Do not assume that archival materials
were used.

Make sure your hands
are clean and dry
before touching labels.



OTHER



PRESENTATIONS IN THIS SERIES

Introduction: The look of the bird & A few things to look for

Part 1 - Spread wings, a good way to start

Part 2 - Skinning your first bird

Part 3 - Other skinning methods

Part 4 - Stuffing your first bird

Part 5 - Other stuffing and pinning methods & Bird parts

Part 6 - Sexing birds using gonads (includes 2 quizzes with answer sheets)

Part 7 - Determining skull pneumatization & Skeleton preparation

Part 8 - DNA tissue sampling & Gut analysis

Part 9 - Washing skins for ectoparasites & Drying washed skins

Part 10 - Recording fat levels & Cleaning fatty or stinky skins

Part 11 - Flat skins, shmoos, and other types of study skins

Part 12 - Preserving eggs and shell fragments (in prep)

Part 13 - Determining cause of death (in prep)

Part 14 - Labelling: the most important step

To download another PowerPoint presentation in this series go to:

<http://www.beatymuseum.ubc.ca/research/birds>



IN MEMORIAM



DR. REX KENNER

Former Curator of the Cowan Tetrapod Collection who encouraged me to begin this project.

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Unless otherwise indicted, all pictures were taken by the author at the Cowan Tetrapod Collection, University of British Columbia Beaty Biodiversity Museum.

