

My herbarium

Understood as a collection of dried plants (exsiccata), every herbarium is an archive of information about the plant world.

There are several steps involved in making an herbarium:

1. the collection of plant samples out in the field
2. the arrangement of the samples
3. the drying of the samples
4. the assembly, arrangement and storage of the samples
5. the identification of the samples collected

The specimens which you want to herborize should be collected with utmost care. Protected species must be avoided at all costs (a nice photo will do just fine).

Place the plants on newspaper pages to dry them (one specimen per sheet). The sheets are then layered one on top of another to form a stack. Place a weight on top (books or something else).

Periodically check the plants to see how dry they are and change the dampened sheets of paper with fresh ones from old newspapers. After having ensured the samples are properly dried, arrange the specimens on a sheet of paper measuring 40×28 cm and secure them with strips of paper held in place with pins.

Be sure to leave the lower right corner free, because that space is reserved for the definitive identifying cards which will contain the following data:

Flora (region or province) _____

Scientific name _____

Common name _____

Name in dialect _____

Family _____

Date and place of collection _____

Name of the person who collected the sample (*legit*)
or who identified it (*determinavit*) _____

