

# How to make herbarium? - instruction for the student

## 1. What is the purpose of herbarium?

Implementation of the Herbarium is aimed at acquiring the ability to recognize the types and species of plants, to know the habitats in which they occur.

## 2. What theme to choose?

Every good herbarium should have a subject placed on the title page. The more interesting the topic, the more interesting herbarium, e.g. "Plants of aquatic and marshy environments", "Herbaceous plants of my backyard", "Herbarium of autumn leaves of trees and shrubs". In addition to the title on the title page should be the name and surname of the person who made the herbarium and the class to which he goes.

## 3. What plants to collect and how to recognize them?

Plants must match the subject. Do not put protected plants in the herbarium! In order to collect the right plants and recognize them properly, the species should be pre-determined in the field on the basis of an illustrated guide. This should be done before harvesting the plant - this avoids breaking the protected plant. Let's try to determine exactly the name of the plant - it should be two-part, eg black alder, field maple.

## 4. How to dry plants?

Plants are dried by inserting them between 3-4 pages of a daily newspaper (a newspaper with slippery paper, chalk paper, etc. is not suitable). A newspaper with plants should be pressed with a few heavy books. Do not put plants in between the pages of books, because they can bend and stain with plant juice. If necessary, the newspapers can be replaced during drying. The root (and the entire plant) should be cleaned from the ground. If the plant is large, you can dry its typical parts or bend the shoots.

## 5. What should a card from a herbarium look like?

In the middle of the A-4 page, stick the plant with a "goose skin" tape or another. In the lower right corner, we place a record on which we will write the basic data about the plant. The sample label looks like this:

**Species: Lesser Celandine**

**Place of finding a plant: a garden at ul. Słoneczna in Wrocław**

**Collection date: 12/09/2008**

**Collected and marked: Kasia Zielinska**

Put all herbar cards loosely into a briefcase tied to a string or make holes in them and tie them with a ribbon. You can also put them in plastic shirts and fasten together. There is no need to describe the plants on your computer - you can do it manually. It is better that the herbarium cards are not fastened permanently, eg a stapler, because the most beautiful ones are displayed in the school, eg hanging on a wall newspaper.

## What are the most common mistakes made when establishing a herbarium?

- no topic
- incorrect recognition of the plant
- placing protected plants
- folk names instead of professional ones
- badly dried plants (bent, dirty, moldy)