



Do you have a project? We have millions of data to offer you!

For the fourth year Les Herbonautes is launching its call for projects to contribute to your research programs!

To date, almost **10 million herbarium specimens** have been digitized and made disposable by the RECOLNAT research infrastructure (recolnat.org). Covering 350 years of harvests on all continents, these herbarium collections constitute an exceptional source of historical and current data on the world's biodiversity. The information on these plates is used by scientific projects ranging from taxonomy to studies on the evolution of habitats and species related to climate change to the history of science, palaeobotany, medicine etc.

A large image bank and citizen science made disposable to build your dataset!

Since its creation in 2012, Les Herbonautes (lesherbonautes.mnhn.fr) has computerized more than 350,000 specimens accounting for more than 4.5 million contributions. Following the e-ReColNat digitization program (ANR-11-INBS-0004), images from part of the collections of 44 herbarium-holding institutions are accessible for research. About 60% held in France are now accessible online.

Les Herbonautes platform proposes to transcribe the information contained on the labels of these herbaria in order to constitute data sets for your research work .

All themes can be addressed (systematics, ecology, history, geography, chemistry, etc). They will be examined by the scientific committee of the infrastructure. All winning projects will benefit from the citizen redocumentation and an expert community over the past 7 years.

Your project, at the heart of a mission on Les Herbonautes

The winners of the call will be able to present one or more "missions". Indeed, the images submitted for transcription are grouped together in the form of thematic missions regrouping between 1 000 and 6 000 images.



A mission has:

- a **popularized presentation text** that explains the theme of the mission and the research program that will use the data.
- a **set of images**: to constitute this set we have a search by taxonomy, by continent and possibly by OCR. This set can be made up with images from one or more institutions.
- a **model of questions for data acquisition**: the information contained on a herbarium label is diverse, on Les Herbonautes we have a basic model that can include the fields country, region, collector, determiner, locality, geolocation, harvest number, herbarium owner. We can also create custom questions according to your needs.

It is also possible to create several successive missions in order to refine the data sought: a first mission can sort, for example, by country, harvester, period etc. and a second will allow the desired information to be transcribed from a targeted set of images. But the best way to understand how the site works is to register and start participating in one of the missions..

Terms and conditions of participation

Please send your project **before March 31 2020** to contact@recolnat.org with the subject "LesHerbonautes2020". It must contain:

- a presentation of your project (PDF) describing your project, the data you are looking for (taxonomy, geography, history, etc.); if you need to create new fields, specify which ones, and how the LesHerbonautes platform could be useful to you.
- a text of presentation for the general public to be broadcast on the platform (PDF) accompanied by photographs illustrating your topic
- a proposed timetable for the conduct of the mission.

The candidate whose project is selected commits:

- to follow the progress of his mission on the platform lesherbonautes.mnhn.fr
- to inform the Herbonautes team of the use of any data from the program: publications, communications, etc.,
- to mention the acronym of the program "E-RECOLNAT-ANR-11-INBS-0004" in all publications and communication supports produced from the data collected through Les Herbonautes.

The platform commits:

- to accompany the candidate to the taking in hand of the platform
- to set the mission up and to animate the community of Herbonautes
- to send the candidate an export file (csv format) of the data entered by Les Herbonautes.

The selection criteria are:

- the relevance of the topic
- the feasibility in terms of the data sought and timing.

Once the laureates have been selected by the scientific committee of the infrastructure, a timetable will be defined for a harmonious programming of the missions according to the different subjects proposed.



Spécimen de Pulsatilla vernalis de l'herbier du Conservatoire Botanique national Alpin

About us

The RECOLNAT research infrastructure

The RECOLNAT (Naturalist Collections Network) Research Infrastructure is the extension of the e-ReColNat AIP (Future Investment Program). RECOLNAT gathered a national consortium of institutional and professional partners. It aims to gather all the data on naturalist collections, to make them accessible on an online platform and to develop associated services. Tools have been created and made available for research and expertise for the study of biodiversity. Among these RECOLNAT tools, one is dedicated to the transcription of herbarium labels by a community of citizens: Les Herbonautes program.



Les Herbonautes : crowdsourcing of herbarium labels

The Les Herbonautes platform accompanies the participants in the discovery of the concepts specific to naturalist samples and their assimilation thanks to progressive levels, quizzes and explanations. In order to obtain reliable data, images are submitted to several participants and become validated when they have entered the same information. The LesHerbonautes platform benefits from international collaboration with other naturalist specimen crowdsourcing programs.



Spécimen de *Pulsatilla vernalis* de l'herbier du Conservatoire Botanique national Alpin

For more information

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Find all you need to know on:
[lesherbonautes.mnhn.fr/
contents/appelaprojets](https://lesherbonautes.mnhn.fr/contents/appelaprojets)