

# SUBMITTING PLANTS FOR IDENTIFICATION

## To submit a plant by mail:

### Mail specimens to Richard Old PO Box 272, Pullman, WA 99163

- Enclose in a sealed plastic bag with a DRY paper towel
- Be sure to include all the parts. Fruits and flowers are particularly important.
- Refrigerate until sending
- Mail early in the week
- Be sure to include your name, email address and phone number
- See other info below\*

## Digital images:

### Email images to [ericksonweedid@uidaho.edu](mailto:ericksonweedid@uidaho.edu)

### Using a camera to submit plant images for identification:

- Use your "macro" setting for all close-ups.
- Stand with the light to your back
- Isolate the plant from the background by holding it at arm's length in front of something far away (a clear sky is best)
- Try to photograph all of the pertinent features (fruits, flowers, leaves, stem, root, growth habit, habitat, etc.)
- See other info below\*

### Using a scanner to submit plant images for identification:

- Arrange the plant in the scanner to best show all of the features.
- Be sure to include all the parts. Fruits and flowers are particularly important.
- If you have more than one stage of growth (flowers from this year, skeleton from last year) make more than one scan.
- Add something (like a coin or ruler) for scale.
- Close the lid to the scanner.

- If the plant is bulky and light is entering the scanner from the sides, place something (like a coat or towel) over it.
- Set the scanner to 150 DPI
- Save file as .jpg format.
- Attach the image to email
- Be sure to include any information not available in the scan in your email.
- See other info below\*

\* Information that should be included with any submission for ID includes:

- Geographic location where the plant was collected.
- Site conditions (swamp, wheat crop, rocky cliff, roadside, flower garden, etc.).
- Reason for concern.
- Plant size and growth habit.
- Milky juice, aroma, texture, etc.
- Associated plant species.
- Anything else that might be helpful!!!!

## COMPUTER AIDED PLANT IDENTIFICATION

Computer aided plant identification offers many advantages over traditional methods. The program contains an interactive key, interactive illustrated glossary of botanical terminology, and extensive bibliography.

- It allows the user to quickly reduce the possible species to a small number by entering a few simple characteristics of their choice.

For example, to identify dandelion:

Flower color > yellow: reduces the remaining species from 1,000 to 385

Milky juice > yes: reduces the remaining species from 385 to 44

Plant height > 2 - 4 inches: reduces the remaining species from 44 to 8

- If at any point the user is unsure what characteristic to select, the program can provide guidance based on the best characteristics to reduce the particular group of remaining species. In the dandelion example above, the next best characteristic is “Leaves all basal”.
- For each species in the database, the user is provided with color photos, county level distribution maps, the entire set of morphological data, and page numbers in all of the commonly used weed reference books.

- Not only does the digital approach allow for a more efficient identification process, it allows the reference material to be more portable, less expensive and more easily updated than traditional hardcopy references.

### **1,200 Weeds of the 48 States and Adjacent Canada on DVD.**

The most comprehensive weed identification reference ever published!

Available from [www.xidservices.com](http://www.xidservices.com)

For more information: Phone 800 872 2943 Email: [info@xidservices.com](mailto:info@xidservices.com)

### **1,000 Non-grasslike Weeds of North America for Android.**

All the features of the DVD, but now it can be loaded on your Android phone for use in the field (no phone service required).

Available on the Android Market <https://market.android.com/details?id=com.xidservices.xid> (search "broadleaf").

For more information: Phone 800 872 2943 Email: [info@xidservices.com](mailto:info@xidservices.com)