

Virtual Herbaria

<http://herbarium.univie.ac.at/database/search.php>

A common initiative of the herbaria

GJO Landesmuseum Joanneum Graz
GZU Karl-Franzes-University of Graz
JE Haussknecht Herbarium Jena
W Naturhistorisches Museum Wien
WU Universität Wien, Faculty Center Botany (former Institute of Botany)

These collections are extremely rich of old and rare specimens. The institutions together hold c. 12.000.000 specimens, of which probably more than 500.000 are types. The databasing was started in 2004 and at the moment for c. 100.000 specimens the data are available, of these more than 10.000 types, most of them with a scanned picture.

The database has standardised fields for taxa (genera / epithets / authors), collectors, countries and provinces. It is possible to search for each of these fields or combining them, or for continents. For geo-referenced specimens it is possible to get a map or satellit photo of the area. It is also possible to create a map for a selected list of specimens.

The data are entered directly online and are stored for each instution separately.

Any instiution which wants to join this initiative, is welcome.

For testing the database you may use *Briza media* with as reasonable number of geo-referenced specimens and the Bromeliaceae or Africa with many scanned types.

contact: heimo.rainer@univie.ac.at
ernst.vitek@nhm-wien.ac.at