**Documentation of Nature’s Notebook v2.3**

(3/10/2015 to 2/10/2016)

*Updated 4/6/2016 by Ellen Denny*

The documentation files in this packet are organized as follows:

**Monitoring guidelines** folder includes several new materials that were released in 2015:

* “Learn How to Observe” instruction sheet for Spanish speakers
* “Learn How to Observe” online training course consisting of a series of ten slideshows
* “Learn How to Observe” scripted training videos that replaced training slideshows from Nature’s Notebook v2.0
* “Nature’s Notebook Nugget” articles designed to elucidate some tricky issues in observing
* “Botany Primer” guide to understanding botany for Nature’s Notebook

The FAQ page and training materials for shared sites did not change since Nature’s Notebook v2.2, and the monitoring guidelines embedded in our webpages did not change appreciably since Nature’s Notebook v2.1. Thus they are not included again in this v2.3 documentation archive (but can be found in the v2.1 and v2.2 documentation).

**Species** folder includes a list of all species available for monitoring. The format of the species search page and species profile pages did not change from Nature’s Notebook v2.1 (see v2.1 documentation) and thus example screen captures are not included again in this v2.3 documentation archive. For specifics on phenophases and definitions for each species during this period, check the database output that accompanies download of Nature’s Notebook data.

**Registration forms** did not change from Nature’s Notebook v2.1—with the exception of the initial registration process which was streamlined in Nature’s Notebook v2.2. Thus example screen captures are not included again in this v2.3 documentation archive (but can be found in the v2.1 and v2.2 documentation).

**Datasheets** did not change from Nature’s Notebook v2.1 (see the v2.1 documentation) and thus are not included again in this v2.3 documentation archive.

**Mobile apps** did not change from Nature’s Notebook v2.2 (see the v2.2 documentation) and thus are not included again in this v2.3 documentation archive.

Details of what was new in Spring 2015 were outlined on the Frequently Asked Questions page and are included here:

WHAT'S NEW FOR SPRING 2015?

We have added several new plant and animal species to *Nature’s Notebook*, made some minor changes in wording to the "Young leaves" and "Leaves" phenophases for trees to reflect the fact that leaves sometimes arise from nodes and stems tips instead of a bud, and switched a few species of Artemisia and Ambrosia to a drought-deciduous protocol to better represent their phenology on the ground. Additionally, we have developed a new protocol for aphids to help in integrated pest management for the milkweed species that monarch butterflies depend upon. All the other species and phenophases you are accustomed to are still here, unchanged, and waiting to be observed!