**Documentation of Nature’s Notebook v2.6**

(1/17/2018 to 2/4/2019)

*Updated 2/19/2020 by Ellen Denny*

The documentation files in this packet are organized as follows:

**Monitoring guidelines** folder includes a few new materials that were released in 2018:

* Some text was changed in “Nature’s Notebook Nugget #5” (Dashing through the snow…) in October 2017, rescinding the recommendation to report “yes” to the “Flowers or flower buds” phenophase in the case of resting or “waiting” buds
* This year we began to provide “Phenophase Photo Guides” for selected individual species. The guides, which provide photo illustration of selected phenophases for a species, are developed by staff members or local phenology leaders, and are vetted to ensure that the photos correctly represent the phenophase and that the official phenophase definitions have not been altered. Two example guides are included in this packet.

“Basic Botany and Intensity Estimation” slideshow and scripted video quizzes , Section 1 of the “Phenophase Primer”, Nature’s Notebook Nuggets 9-11, and the “Frequently Asked Questions” webpage did not change since Nature’s Notebook v2.5; “Learn How to Observe with a Group” webpages and Nature’s Notebook Nuggets 6-8 did not change since Nature’s Notebook v2.4; “Learn How to Observe” training videos, the Botany Primer and Nature’s Notebook Nuggets 1-4 did not change since Nature’s Notebook v2.3; training materials for group sites (formerly called “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 v2.6 documentation archive (but can be found in the v2.1, v2.2, v2.3, v2.4 and v2.5 documentation).

**Species** folder includes a list of all species available for monitoring. The format of the species search page and species profile pages changed slightly from Nature’s Notebook v2.1 (see v2.1 documentation). Example screen captures are included in this v2.6 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 v2.6 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 v2.6 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 v2.6 documentation archive.

Details of what was new in Spring 2018 were outlined on the Frequently Asked Questions page and are included here:

WHAT'S NEW FOR SPRING 2018?

We have added several new plant and animal species to *Nature’s Notebook*, and created new protocols for semi-evergreen forbs and two insect groups—subterranean termites and adelgids. All the other species and phenophases you are accustomed to are still here, unchanged, and waiting to be observed!