**Documentation of Nature’s Notebook v2.7**

(2/5/2019 to 2/16/2020)

*Updated 2/25/2020 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 2019:

* The first module of an online Observer Certification Course was deployed using information from the existing Learn How to Observe materials. The course will be expanded into several modules for next year. Observers who complete this course will be flagged as “certified observers” in the database.

Phenophase Photo Guide format and Nature’s Notebook Nugget 5 did not change since Nature’s Notebook v2.6; “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 v2.7 documentation archive (but can be found in the v2.1, v2.2, v2.3, v2.4, v2.5 and v2.6 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 v2.6 (see v2.6 documentation) and thus example screen captures are not included again in this v2.7 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 v2.7 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 v2.7 documentation archive.

**Mobile apps** folder includes screen captures of all the main data entry processes for the updated Nature’s Notebook mobile phone app, which was released in the spring of 2019. This updated version of the app provides more user-friendly functionality overall, and it now allows observers to conduct all data entry and data review functions on a mobile device, without ever having to use the computer interface.

Details of what was new in Spring 2019 were outlined on the Frequently Asked Questions page and are included here:

WHAT'S NEW FOR SPRING 2019?

We have added several new plant and animal species to *Nature’s Notebook*, and updated or added protocols for several insect groups—moths, beetles, aphids, scales, cicadas, true bugs and flies. These insect groups now include phenophases for egg laying, eggs and pupae for species where these stages might be visible to a careful observer. We have also included these phenophases for the monarch butterfly and will add them for our other butterfly species next spring. All the other species and phenophases you are accustomed to are still here, unchanged, and waiting to be observed!