**Documentation of Nature’s Notebook v2.8**

(2/17/2020 to 1/31/2021)

*Updated 2/9/2021 by Ellen Denny*

The documentation files in this packet are organized as follows:

**Monitoring guidelines** did not change from Nature’s Notebook v2.7, except that a data entry field for site visit comments was created in August 2019 to better document site conditions at the time of the visit that could potentially affect all of the monitored species at the site (e.g. weather conditions). Previously, comments during a site visit could only be made for each individual plant or animal species.

The Observer Certification Course did not change since Nature’s Notebook v2.7; 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 v2.8 documentation archive (but can be found in the v2.1, v2.2, v2.3, v2.4, v2.5, v2.6 and v2.7 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 v2.8 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 v2.8 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 v2.8 documentation archive.

**Mobile apps** did not change from Nature’s Notebook v2.7 (see the v2.7 documentation) and thus are not included again in this v2.8 documentation archive.

Details of what was new in Spring 2020 were outlined on the Frequently Asked Questions page and are included here:

WHAT'S NEW FOR SPRING 2020?

We have added several new plant and animal species to *Nature’s Notebook*, and updated protocols for butterflies and grasshoppers. These insect groups now include phenophases for egg laying, eggs and pupae for species where these stages might be visible to a careful observer. All the other species and phenophases you are accustomed to are still here, unchanged, and waiting to be observed!