**Forbs**

**Directions:** Fill in the date and time in the top rows and circle the appropriate letter in the column below.

| Species: | Taraxacum officinale |
| Common Name: | common dandelion |
| Nickname: | |
| Site: | |
| Year: | |
| Observer: | |

Do not circle anything if you did not check for the phenophase. In the adjacent blank, write in the appropriate measure of intensity or abundance for this phenophase.

### Species: Taraxacum officinale

| Common Name: common dandelion |

| Nickname: | |

**Common Dandelion Phenophase Datasheet**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do you see...</th>
<th>Time:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date:</td>
<td>Time:</td>
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<td>Date:</td>
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<td>Date:</td>
<td>Time:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date:</td>
<td>Time:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Initial growth**
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___

- **Leaves**
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___

- **Flowers or flower buds**
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___

- **Open flowers**
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___

- **Fruits**
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___

- **Ripe fruits**
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___

- **Recent fruit or seed drop**
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___
  - y n ? ___

**Check when data entered online:**

| Date: | Time: |
| Date: | Time: |
| Date: | Time: |
| Date: | Time: |
| Date: | Time: |
| Date: | Time: |

**Comments:**

- Taraxacum officinale
- Fruits
- Do you see
- Recent fruit or seed drop
- Open flowers
- Flowers or flower buds
- Leaves
- Initial growth

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**Plant Phenophase Datasheet**

**Taking the Pulse of Our Planet**

Contact: nco@usanpn.org | More information: www.usanpn.org/how-observe

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Common Dandelion
(Taraxacum officinale)

Phenophase Definitions

**Directions:**
As you report on phenophase status (Y, N or ?) on the datasheets, refer to the definitions on this sheet to find out what you should look for, for each phenophase in each species. To report the intensity of the phenophase, choose the best answer to the question below the phenophase, if one is included. Feel free not to report on phenophases or intensity questions that seem too difficult or time-consuming.

### Leaves

**Initial growth**
New growth of the plant is visible after a period of no growth (winter or drought), either from above-ground buds with green tips, or new green or white shoots breaking through the soil surface. Growth is considered "initial" on each bud or shoot until the first leaf has fully unfolded. For seedlings, "initial" growth includes the presence of the one or two small, round or elongated leaves (cotyledons) before the first true leaf has unfolded.

**Leaves**
One or more live, fully unfolded leaves are visible on the plant. For seedlings, consider only true leaves and do not count the one or two small, round or elongated leaves (cotyledons) that are found on the stem almost immediately after the seedling germinates. Do not include fully dried or dead leaves.

### Flowers

**Flowers or flower buds**
One or more fresh open or unopened flowers or flower buds are visible on the plant. Include flower buds or inflorescences that are swelling or expanding, but do not include those that are tightly closed and not actively growing (dormant). Also do not include wilted or dried flowers.

How many flowers and flower buds are present? For species in which individual flowers are clustered in flower heads, spikes or catkins (inflorescences), simply estimate the number of flower heads, spikes or catkins and not the number of individual flowers.

- Less than 3; 3 to 10; 11 to 100; 101 to 1,000; More than 1,000;

**Open flowers**
One or more open, fresh flowers are visible on the plant. Flowers are considered "open" when the reproductive parts (male stamens or female pistils) are visible between or within unfolded or open flower parts (petals, floral tubes or sepals). Do not include wilted or dried flowers.

What percentage of all fresh flowers (buds plus unopened plus open) on the plant are open? For species in which individual flowers are clustered in flower heads, spikes or catkins (inflorescences), estimate the percentage of all
individual flowers that are open.
  Less than 5%; 5-24%; 25-49%; 50-74%; 75-94%; 95% or more;

**Fruits**

**Fruits**
One or more fruits are visible on the plant. For *Taraxacum officinale*, the fruit is very tiny and seed-like and is crowded into a spent flower head. The seed-like fruit has a tuft of white fluff and changes from yellow-green to light brown, and drops or is blown from the plant after the spent flower head reopens. Do not include empty flower heads that have already dropped all of their fruits.

How many fruits are present?
  Less than 3; 3 to 10; 11 to 100; 101 to 1,000; More than 1,000;

**Ripe fruits**
One or more ripe fruits are visible on the plant. For *Taraxacum officinale*, a fruit is considered ripe when it has turned light brown and readily drops or is blown from the reopened flower head when touched. Do not include empty flower heads that have already dropped all of their fruits.

What percentage of all fruits (unripe plus ripe) on the plant are ripe?
  Less than 5%; 5-24%; 25-49%; 50-74%; 75-94%; 95% or more;

**Recent fruit or seed drop**
One or more mature fruits or seeds have dropped or been removed from the plant since your last visit. Do not include obviously immature fruits that have dropped before ripening, such as in a heavy rain or wind, or empty fruits that had long ago dropped all of their seeds but remained on the plant.

How many mature fruits have dropped seeds or have completely dropped or been removed from the plant since your last visit?
  Less than 3; 3 to 10; 11 to 100; 101 to 1,000; More than 1,000;