



STATE ARBORETUM
of VIRGINIA
BLANDY
EXPERIMENTAL FARM



The NYSSA Project Seed Collection Data Sheet

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Collector's Name: _____ Date of Collection: _____

Collector's Organization (if applicable): _____

Location Information

State: _____

Town: _____

Property Type (circle/ highlight one): public private

Property Name (if applicable): _____

Property Steward/ "Owner" (if applicable): _____

Collection Habitat/ Site Description

Estimated population size at this site (check one): ____ 1, ____ 2 to 20, ____ 21 to 50, ____ 51 +

Site type (check one): ____ upland, ____ wetland, ____ aquatic

Light (check one): ____ full sun, ____ partial shade, ____ full shade

Frequent tree species growing in association (list max of 5, comm or sci name):

_____, _____, _____,
_____, _____

Individual Tree & Seed Information

Diameter (centimeters): _____

Tree GPS coordinates: lat _____, long _____

Number of fruit/ seed collected (aim for at least 50, no more than 100): _____

Please label plastic baggies with seed with:

"Nyssa sylvatica, Collector Name, Collection Date, and Tree Coordinates"

Additional Notes:

Please include this form when mailing the seeds back to Ethan.



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The NYSSA Project
**Instructions on Completing
Seed Collection Form**

This datasheet is for collection of black tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica*) for Ethan Skuches, graduate student at the University of Virginia. This datasheet is based largely on the USDA National Seed Laboratory G1 & G2 Seed Collection Form.

Please fill out the datasheet in either pencil or non-bleeding pen. Sheets are printed on rite in the rain waterproof paper. Please ensure to fill out the entire datasheet, as seed without complete data is not usable. Please submit a new datasheet for each individual tree from which seed was collected.

Collector's Name: Your full name

Date of Collection: Date the seed is actually taken from the plant/ ground.

Collector's Organization: The organization you (the collector) are affiliated with

Location Information: Please fill out to the best of your knowledge. Please collect from sites where permission is granted.

Collection Habitat/ Site Description: Estimate the total population size of black tupelo (*N. sylvatica*) in the area/ site, not the population size of those that are fruit-bearing. Use your discretion for site type and light availability. For frequent tree species growing in the associated area, please list scientific names if possible (though common names are alright too).

Individual Tree/ Seed Information: You will need a DBH tape for this form in order to record the diameter at breast height of each individual tree. Please ensure that it is recording in centimeters, or denote if the tape is in different units.

Additional Notes: Anything additional pertaining to the tree health, site location, etc.

Collection and Shipping Instructions: Please try to collect between 50 and 100 seeds per individual.

Collect seeds in the provided Whirl-Pak. Avoid crushing or squishing the seeds (this will make a mess of the collection & your bag!). Store the collected fruit/ seed in room temperature, open air conditions.

Black tupelo seeds are orthodox, so it's alright if they dry out a bit. Please plan to ship the seeds the same day/ night of collection, and avoid shipping on Fridays or weekends as it may delay the shipping process.

Please label the Whip-Pak with a sharpie with the following metric:

“NYSY, Collector Name, Collection Date, and Tree Coordinates”

If you have any questions regarding the project, or any protocol/ practicalities of collection, don't hesitate to reach out to Ethan at skuches@virginia.edu.



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Hi! Thanks so much for helping out with this effort, it truly means the world to me. This is a bit more of a simplified version of what I'm asking you to do, what you'll need,, and the back page goes into lots more detail.

Necessary Supplies: (please see handout if you're not sure what is what!)

Provided	Not provided
- Whip-Pak x2 - Sharpie - Return envelope (with label printed and adhered) - Data collection form	- DBH tape

Here's a good process/ general steps sort of thing:

1. Identify your tree(s) for fruit collection.
 - a. An eligible tree is one that you have access to and one that is **wild/ naturally occurring, and is fruiting**. For the context of this work and for fruit collection, these trees cannot be planted/ ornamental trees.
 - b. Fruit should begin to ripen around September- October depending on your location, but they can be found on the ground as late as November- December. Fruits are ripe when they have turned a deep blue color. Another good metric for this is if the fruits are blue and on the ground, or if they're a bit squishy. I'd recommend checking your tree(s) around mid-late August/ early September and then going from there. Feel free to text me (Ethan) at 203-530-9430 if you have any questions about ripeness.
2. Collect your fruit and measure your tree(s)!
 - a. Collect 50-100 fruit/ seeds per individual. You'll have threeish bags in your package. One to two trees in your area would be great, but if you come across three or more let me know and we'll see what we can work out!
 - b. Please measure the diameter of the tree at breast height (1.37m/ 4.5ft) with a DBH tape. If you don't have a DBH tape, measure the circumference and denote this on the data sheet (units as well).
 - c. Once you've collected your fruit, please try to mail them out the same day using the return envelope. If you aren't able to ship day of, or are expecting to collect from multiple trees, please keep the seeds in a room temp area. Avoid a fridge or cooler to avoid trigger cold stratification!

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to text me at 203-530-9430