

Examples of Herbarium Specimens



Herbarium specimen of *Penstemon oklahomensis* (Oklahoma beardtongue) with label, accession number, annotation label, and bar code reference

Specimen label with data on location, complete scientific name, habitat, collectors, collection number, and date of collection



Herbarium specimen of the lichen *Parmelia reticulata* in a packet with cardstock backing and label on the outside flap

Robert Bebb

In 1942, the Herbarium was named to honor Robert Bebb, a Muskogee floral company owner and amateur botanist. His personal collection of more than 30,000 specimens was donated to the University of Oklahoma upon his death.



George Goodman

George J. Goodman served as curator from 1933 to 1936 and again from 1945 to 1975. Dr. Goodman added thousands of specimens to the Bebb Herbarium. In 1975, the OU Board of Regents named the Herbarium foyer in his honor.



The Bebb Herbarium is maintained by the Department of Botany and Microbiology and the Oklahoma Biological Survey. Tours can be arranged.



Solanum elaeagnifolium

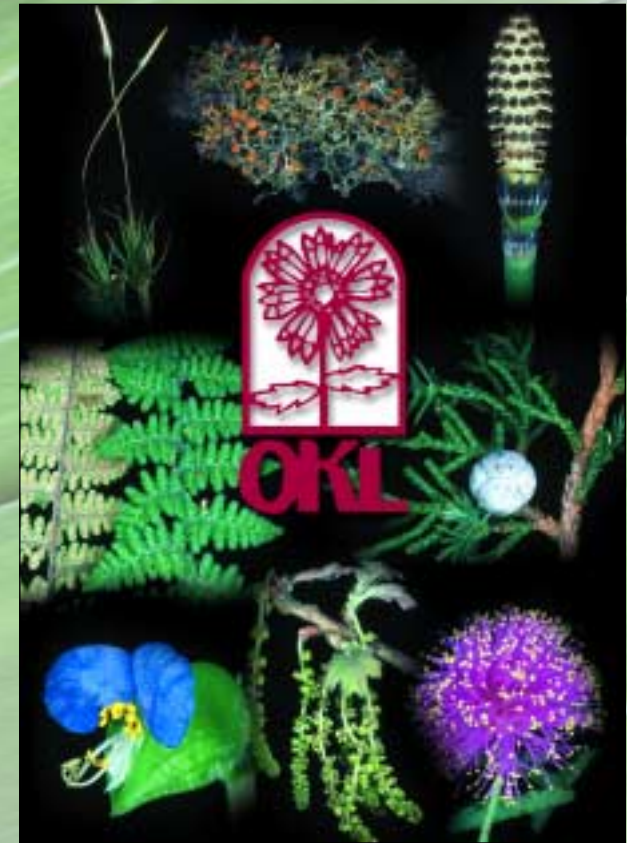
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<http://www.biosurvey.ou.edu/bebb/bebbhome.html>

Cover photographs (clockwise): *Polytrichum commune* (hair cap moss), *Teloschistes chrysophthalmus* (gold eye lichen), *Equisetum hyemale* (common scouring rush), *Juniperus virginiana* (eastern red cedar), *Mimosa quadrivalvis* (catclaw sensitive briar), *Quercus stellata* (post oak), *Commelina erecta* (erect dayflower), *Cheilanthes lanosa* (hairy lip fern). Photograph credits: All photographs by Wayne Elisens

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University of Oklahoma Robert Bebb HERBARIUM (OKL)



Documenting plant diversity in Oklahoma and the world



What is the Bebb Herbarium?

The Robert Bebb Herbarium is a collection of plant specimens that have been pressed, dried, and stored in packets or mounted on paper of archival quality. Each specimen includes a label with information on the plant's identity, geographic location, ecological data, and morphology.

A herbarium serves as a resource for documenting plant diversity and as a research tool for scientists, educators, resource managers, and the public. The Bebb Herbarium is maintained jointly by the Department of Botany and Microbiology and the Oklahoma Biological Survey in the University of Oklahoma College of Arts and Sciences.

Significance of the Collections

- 210,000 vascular plant specimens
- 2,300 moss and lichen specimens
- 220 "type" specimens
- Largest herbarium in Oklahoma
- World's largest collection of Oklahoma plants



Erodium texanum

Goals

To promote understanding of and to document plant diversity in the state of Oklahoma and adjacent regions.

- Research
- Service
- Education
- Outreach

Oklahoma Plant Diversity

The vascular flora of Oklahoma comprises more than 2500 plant species, which reflect the diversity of ecological regions in the state.

- 173 families
- 868 genera
- 2,540 species

Eighty six percent of the flora is native.

Largest Plant Families in Oklahoma

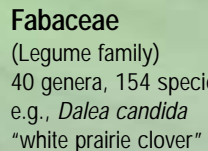
Asteraceae

(Sunflower family)
105 genera, 351 species
e.g., *Hymenoxys scaposa*
"bitterweed"



Poaceae

(Grass family)
96 genera, 305 species
e.g., *Buchloe dactyloides*
"buffalo grass"



Fabaceae

(Legume family)
40 genera, 154 species
e.g., *Dalea candida*
"white prairie clover"



Cyperaceae

(Sedge family)
14 genera, 155 species
e.g., *Cyperus strigosus*
"false nut grass"



Facilities of the Bebb Herbarium



Vascular plant collections



Type specimens



Bryophyte collections



George J.
Goodman
Foyer



Library