

SOUTHWEST TRADITIONAL ETHNIC GROUP PLANT USE DATABASE: Search Guidelines

This document provides guidelines and instructions on how to search the Plant Use Database. There are two basic ways to search the records. The Quick Search function will search across all fields while the Advanced Search function will allow you to specify values for specific fields. The text below provides information on the fields in the database and information about the data that is made available online. For questions about this data, email klobrien@umich.edu.

Quick Search

You can use quotes to mark literal strings. If you enter

zea mays

As your search it will find records with the words “zea” AND “mays”, even if they do not occur together in the same field. If you search on

"zea mays"

it will search for the literal string "zea mays" in the same field. Finally, if you enter

"zea mays" Arizona

in the quick search field it will search for records with the literal string "zea mays" AND "Arizona"

Advanced Search

The following list describes the definitions to the various fields used in the database.

For fields where a drop-down control is provided, the list is exhaustive of all values that will return records from the current database.

DATABASE FIELDS

Family: Botanical family name

Generic Name: Genus name (spelling standardized)

Scientific Name: Full scientific name including author and synonyms included in original source (spelling not standardized)

Ethnic Names: Common names of plant in English and local languages. Only those names given in original source are included (e.g. a search for “corn” would not yield all “*Zea mays*” entries).

Geographic Location: Geographic information associated with the original source. As with “Ethnic Names,” this information is not universally provided.

Source: Authors of the source quoted

Publication: Bibliographic information on the source (title, publisher, page numbers)

Source Date: Date of source. For unpublished material “n.d.” is used.

Source Page: Page on which quote in description section may be found. For fieldnotes, the date is indicated.

Local Group: Specific name of the ethnic group or archaeological site

Other: Informant names, laboratory numbers, and other miscellaneous information

Description: In most cases this is a direct quote from the cited document describing a specific plant use or identification of a plant in an archaeological context.

Archaeological Group: Broad classification of archaeological sites aligned along major drainage systems. Jemez Cave and Tonto Cave are listed individually due to their frequency in the database.

Ethnographic Group: Broad classification of Southwestern Ethnographic groups based roughly on the *Handbook of North American Indians*. The categories which take the form “General Southwest:[state]” are used to mark groups described in the original sources as “Indians of [state].”

Use: Broad classification of the plant use described in the entry.