the annual total amount of new biodiversity data is staggering. The collections not only document the past, but also provide a continuous record of the contemporary status of biodiversity (*1*). Data preserved in these collections can be used effectively only if fully cataloged, as elegantly mandated by Edward O. Wilson in his Editorial in the special issue (29 Sept., p. 2279).

CREDIT: CHIP CLARK, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

A glimpse of some of the plant specimens catalogued at the National Museum of Natural History.

In their letter (15 Dec., p. 2073), Andrew Smith and colleagues correctly praise the new Species Information Service of the IUCN–World Conservation Union that is intended to provide conservationists with continuously updated biodiversity data supplied by "species specialists" and "experts." However, most of these specialists are housed in museums around the world and derive their expertise from studying the historical and contemporary collections in these very institutions. The value and multiple uses of voucher specimens (which serve to verify the geographic distribution of species) are often overlooked (*2*).

It is time that conservationists become committed partners with museum scientists to provide the most reliable, verifiable, and accurate data for making conservation decisions. Natural history research based on documented collections provides the type of good science from which conservation activities will greatly benefit.

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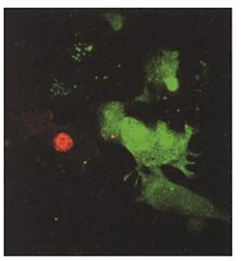
References and Notes

1. H. B. Shaffer, R. N. Fisher, C. Davidson, *Trends Ecol. Evol.* **13**, 27 (1998).
2. L. A. Ruedas J. Salazar-Bravo, J. W. Dragoo, T. L. Yate, *Molec. Phylogenet. Evol.* **17**, 129 (2000); M. de L. Brooke, *Trends Ecol. Evol.* **15**, 136 (2000).

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

THIS WEEK IN SCIENCE: "Breaking and entering" (5 Jan., p. 11). The image that accompanied this description of research by M. M. Mota *et al.* was incorrect. A correct one, showing evidence of a malarial sporozoite having wounded a host cell membrane, is presented here. The image in the 5 January issue was of migrating border cells in *Drosophilia*, associated with the research of P. Duchek and P. Rørth described in the same issue under the item "A migration signal."



NETWATCH: "A century of ecology journals and *Science*" (15 Dec., p. 2027). The JSTOR online archive of *Science* goes back to the first issue of *Science*, which was published in 1880, not 1895 as stated.

NEWS FOCUS: "'Sir Mammoth' leads charge to uncover ice age fossils" by R. Stone (15 Dec., p. 2063). In this profile of Dirk Jan Mol, he was incorrectly described as the oldest of nine children. He is the eighth of nine children.