



LINNE

Legacy Infrastructure Network
for Natural Environments

A NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR
SYSTEMATICS AND BIOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS
THAT WILL TRANSFORM BIOLOGY

*Seldom has it been possible to
have such a profound and positive
influence on the accessibility of a
scientific resource that is vital to
our nation's future.*

This brochure has been prepared by the systematics community,
with support from the U.S National Science Foundation.

For more information about LINNE, and about
the LINNE Workshops, see
http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/taxonomy_workshop/impact.htm.

LINNE

What is LINNE?

BIOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS plus:

- Systematics Data Archives
- Digital Instrumentation Technology
- Computational Resources for Systematics
- Researchers and Curators
- Technical Staff
- Cyberinfrastructure and Informatics



Why LINNE?

- To rapidly access information on the identification and geographic distribution of organisms
- To answer questions of fundamental biological importance
- To realize enormous societal benefits
- To increase national awareness of the importance of systematics and biological collections
- To accelerate taxonomic research and the growth of taxonomic knowledge
- To provide open and complete access to taxonomic knowledge for researchers and the public
- To assist with our nation's homeland security



Where is LINNE?

- Collections are distributed in every state in the nation
- Expertise is found in universities, museums, and government
- Linked by cyberinfrastructure, these resources will be virtually everywhere

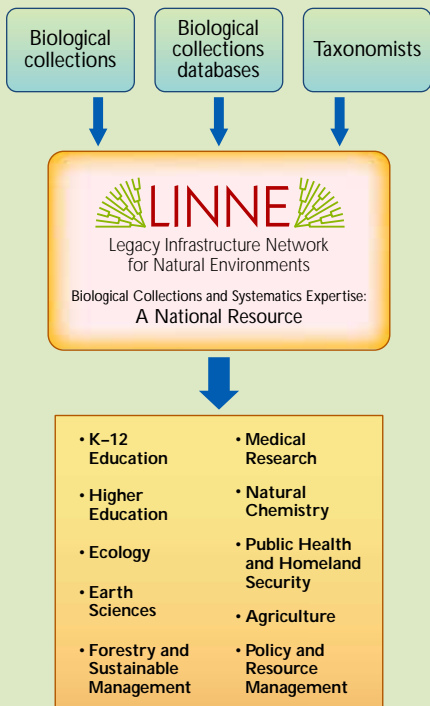
What are LINNE's nodes?

- Biological Collections
- Systematics Data Archives
- Systematics Research Facilities
- Computational Resources for Systematics
- Resources for Systematics Education





LINNE STRUCTURE & FUNCTIONS



LINNE will be a virtual taxonomic research tool linking biological collections, research facilities, experts, and instruments for efficient species discovery, description, and classification. LINNE will make information on biological diversity easily accessible and transform the science of taxonomy. LINNE will become a vital resource for researchers, educators, and decision-makers who depend upon knowledge of the world's species.

Our generation is the first to comprehend the threat of the biodiversity crisis. We may be among the last with the ability to document the complete diversity of species on our planet.

We can vastly increase our knowledge with LINNE.

Biological collections document the identities, habitats, histories, and spatial distributions of the roughly 1.75 million species known to science. They provide a fundamental resource by which systematists will discern the estimated tens of millions of species that remain to be discovered.

Collections research is central to systematics.

Biological collections are fundamental to LINNE.

LINNE is central to America's biological and economic security.



The concept for LINNE was developed by participants at two workshops funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation:

A Workshop to Produce a Decadal Vision for Taxonomy and Natural History Collections
held at Florida Museum of Natural History,
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL,
10–12 November 2003.

See: Report to the U.S. National Science Foundation
Biodiversity Surveys and Inventories Program at
www.nsf.gov.

A Workshop on Development of a National Systematics Infrastructure:

A Virtual Instrument for the 21st Century
held at The New York Botanical Garden
Bronx, NY, 11–13 December 2003

The LINNE Web site at FLMNH
http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/taxonomy_workshop/impact.htm

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