



CITIZEN SCIENCE Invitation

Collect Butterflies for Science!

Submit between 4/20/23-11/1/23

Mail in deceased butterflies, moths, and skippers and help United States Geological Survey (USGS) scientists establish a Lepidoptera Research Collection (LRC). Specimens will help USGS scientists identify contaminants and environmental factors which may be contributing to the decline of insect populations. Your participation will ensure enough specimens throughout the nation are available to answer research questions. The pilot study for this citizen science invitation includes six states: Alabama, Georgia, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas. Thank you for your consideration in participating!

Collection Requirements

- **Insects must already be dead and may not be collected alive.**
- Insects must be larger than 2 inches. See below to measure 2 inches.
- We do not accept specimens that are protected under the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Endangered Species Act or listed as threatened or endangered under State Law. In the six states within the pilot, the Mitchell's satyr Butterfly is currently the only protected species and is found in Alabama. Scan the QR code for more information on protected species in your state.



Collection Instructions

- Put dead butterflies, moths, and/or skippers inside a resealable plastic bag. It is okay to combine and send damaged or not fully intact specimens.
- Freeze if not shipped within 3 days to aid in preservation.
- Place specimens inside sealed envelope with proper postage affixed and place in USPS mailbox or deliver in person to the address below. To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, it is not necessary to include a return address label or any other information.



USGS LRC
1217 Biltmore Drive
Lawrence, KS 66049

Learn more about the USGS LRC and insect research currently underway:


USGS Ecosystems Mission Area Environmental Health Program
<https://www.usgs.gov/programs/environmental-health-program/science>



Questions? Contact Julie Dietze: juliec@usgs.gov

U.S. Department of the Interior
 U.S. Geological Survey

Must be at least 2 Inches



2 inches is equivalent to 2 quarters side by side