INTRODUCTION

Collecting data for research on insects can be a tedious process. To gather data from a specimen, one must contact people who might have access to the desired species, and if they do, it must be picked up or shipped under careful conditions. Creating an online database of useful information from specimens would significantly improve the data collecting procedure of new research. Insects are classified by Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, and Species. Ichneumonidae is one of the most species-rich families of insects, so it is a good family to start the database with because having this data easily accessible could be useful for many projects. Researchers, individuals interested in entomology, companies and organizations could benefit from this. This database could be used for research on conservation, ecology, pest control, the ecological history of a location, and many other topics. We hope to find that our specimens are diverse and have a lot of information so that the database can be useful to many research projects.

OBJECTIVE

Create an online database of the Ichneumonidae specimens available at the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology

METHODS

- 1. Carefully remove specimen from unit tray
- 2. Use tweezers to take off labels
- 3. Pin specimen into foam perpendicular to table
- 4. Arrange labels next to specimen so they fit in the frame of the picture
- 5. Add QR code label
- 6. Adjust exposure setting on camera if needed
- 7. Put all labels back onto pin including the new QR label



Figure 1. Labeled diagram of what information is present on the labels of the specimens



Figure 2. Spreadsheet of the species and their authority

Figure 3. Spreadsheet of each specimen and the information on their labels

- 602 total specimens transcribed
- 16 genera transcribed
- Transcribed specimens span 10 countries
 - US, Germany, Honduras, Mexico, Japan, Argentina, Myanmar/Burma, Brazil, Chile



Figure 4. Distribution of specimens found in the north-east of the US

Figure 5. Worldwide distribution of specimens

CONCLUSION

Our data represent a wide variety of specimens. Most of the specimens transcribed were from the US, however our data also includes specimens from 9 other countries, spanning 4 continents. We have many specimens from certain genera such as Cryptus and Cratichneumon allowing for research in specific genera. However our database includes 16 genera in total, also allowing for research comparing genera. The diversity of specimens that we were able to become universally available enables researchers all around the world to easily collect essential data for all kinds of research. This database is a small portion of the specimens available at the museum. In the future, we will continue transcribing and uploading data from the specimen at the museum until the database is complete. The data will be available on the following websites:

https://quod.lib.umich.edu/i/insect2ic

https://www.gbif.org/occurrence/search?dataset_key=13e7869e-0c76-473a-a227-53d6e3d6fbf2

https://scan-bugs.org/portal/collections/harvestparams.php

https://www.idigbio.org/portal/search

Having this database online allows it to be used for research on important issues such as climate change, biodiversity, and much more.