Using herbarium records to assess shifts in phenology in alpine plant communities

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DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS

Questions

- Can we detect community phenological changes through herbarium specimen data?
- Will alpine plant communities advance bloom date in response to climate change?
- Are widespread species used in phenology networks appropriate indicators for alpine habitats?

Alpine Environments









- Data portals and digitization
- Locality information: Georeferencing
- Phenology notes lowest priority



between Buffalo Meadows and Fourmile Creek. USGS 7.5' Harvard Lakes Quad. T128 R74W SEC19 NeV4. Diverse meadow with sandy-gravely soll, just above treeline. Flowers yellow. 11300 ft. Western North American distribution. With Eremogone fendleri, Pedicularis partyl, Artemisia

sergationan "Oneberora sygmana, Micraritera introntodia, Liao kotaliada, Bitot biattoridae, Packera cana, Rydebraja grandiflora, Artennaria corymtopa, A resea, A publichama, A dr. meda, Ergeno simplera cana, Participaria, A dr. meda, Ergeno simplera diperta, Pentaghyticas Brothanda, Ergeno simplera granten, Pentaghyticas Brothanda, Ergythorcom attiforum, Castiliaga occidentalia, Stellaria longipea, Trifolium dasyntylum, Peladiominum visioaum, Publicherminum, Paeudoorproptinua mentiama, Sensola publicherminum, Paeudoorproptinua mentiama, Sensola publicherminum, Paeudoorproptinua mentiama, Sensola publicherminum,

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Herbarium COLO (Boulder)

Herbaria!

Flora of the Buffalo Peaks Wilderness Area and Vicinity, COLORADO, USA

Arnica rydbergii Greene

Rydberg's Arnica

CHAFFEE COUNTY: Mosquito Range. San Isabel National Forest. Buffalo Peaks Wilderness Area. S-end of pass between Buffalo Meadows and Fourmile Creek. USGS 7.5' Harvard Lakes Quad. T12S R78W SEC19 NE¹/₄. Diverse meadow with sandy-gravelly soil; just above treeline. Flowers yellow. 11300 ft. Western North American distribution.

With Eremogone fendleri, Pedicularis parryi, Artemisia scopulorum, Oreobroma pygmaea, Micranthes rhomboidea, Lidia obtusiloba, Bistort bistortoides, Packera cana, Rydbergia grandiflora, Antennaria corymbosa, A. rosea, A. pulcherrima, A. cf. media, Erigeron simplex, Astragalus alpinus, Phleum commutatum, Poa fendleriana, Amerosedum lanceolatum, Heterotheca pumila, Pulsatilla patens, Pentaphylloides floribunda, Erythrocoma triflorum, Castilleja occidentalis, Stellaria longipes, Trifolium dasyphyllum, Polemonium viscosum, P. pulcherrimum, Pseudocymopterus montanus, Senecio pulcherrimum, Boechera drummondii, Anticlea elegans, Cerastium beeringianum, Achillea lanulosa, Vaccinium caespitosum,

11 July 1998

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Herbarium COLO (Boulder)



AST



Anisacanthus puberulus (Torr.) Henrickson & Lott

J. Wingate 4/16/1996

HERBARIUM OF HENRIETTA L. ZOBEL

FamilyAcanthaceae

Genus and Species Anisa canthus insignis LocalitAmong acacia along Gray Creek bank at Painted Gap Chisos June 10, 1937 (Mts. area Collected Warnock (Brewster County Texas

Locality: Among acacia along Oray Creek bank at Painted Cap...

Date: June 10, 1937

Climate Change

- USA National Phenology Network
- Satellite images
- Repeat photography
- Natural History Collections





Rocky Mountains





Big Data



Climate Data



http://prism.oregonstate.edu/
devtools::install_github("ropensci/prism")

1950-2011

- Average annual maximum temperature
- Average annual minimum temperature
- Average monthly precipitation

1981-2011

Daily minimum and maximum temperatures

$$\text{GDD} = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \left(\frac{T_{max} + T_{min}}{2} \right) - T_{base}$$







468 species: Advancing 8.9 days

61 Years



57 species: Advancing average of 33 days





Achillea lanulosa Nutt.: Delayed 53 days



Precipitation

1.68 mm a year



0.02 days per mm

Rain and Snow



44 species: 0.09 days per millimeter



2 species: 0.06 days per millimeter





Low Temperature

0.03°C a year



Low Temperature



74 species: 9.6 days per °C



2 species: 9.5 days per °C

Average low ° C

-5.5

-5.0

-4.5

-6.0

-7.0

-6.5



0.04 days per GDD heating unit

Growing Degree Days

10.6 heating units a year







69 species: 0.06 days per heating unit



Sambucus racemosa var. racemosa: 0.06 days per heating unit



26 species: Advancing 17.5 days

NPN species



3 species: Advancing average of 38 days







0.02 days per mm

NPN Precipitation

1.68 mm a year



NPN Rain and Snow





Erythronium grandiflorum: 0.09 days per millimeter





NPN Low Temperature

0.03°C a year



NPN: Low Temperature



6 species: 12.9 days per °C



0.04 days per GDD heating unit

NPN: Growing Degree Days

10.6 heating units a year



NPN: GDD



Zigadenus elegans Pursh: 0.05 days per heating unit

Herbaria data & Phenological monitoring

- Scale of interest
- Select monitoring species



http://www.museum.tulane.edu/geolocate/

http://www.fallingrain.com/world/index.html



Annual Average High Temperature





Advancing 4.3 days per degree



High Temperature



67 species: 10.6 days per degree increase

2 species:8.9 days per degree increase