Great Smokies ATBI
LESSONS LEARNED

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LESSON 1

- START WITH A CHECKLIST
  - COMPILED BY MYCOLOGIST(S) OR
  - COMPILED FROM HERBARIUM RECORDS
  - VOUCHER COLLECTIONS CITED
LESSON 2

- ESTABLISH A DATABASE
  - USE PRECEDING MODELS
  - START FROM SCRATCH
  - INTER-DATABASE COMMUNICATION
  - EXCEL, ACCESS OR ANY OTHER PLATFORM
LESSON 3

- CHOOSE YOUR EXPERTS CAREFULLY
  - PROMISORY NOTES ARE ONLY PROMISES
  - UNIDENTIFIED COLLECTIONS REMAIN
    - UNIDENTIFIED
    - SCATTERED COLLECTIONS
    - NEW TAXA – THEIRS, OURS OR BOTH
LESSON 4

- DEFINE SCOPE AND DEPTH
  - “HAY-BAILING”
  - MATCHING DATA TO SURROUNDING DATA SOURCES (I.E. NATIONAL PARK)
  - PARALLEL STUDIES; OTHER FUNGI, OTHER WORKERS
LESSON 5

- AN INVENTORY IS NOT A SERIES OF MONOGRAPHS
  - IT CAN BE AN ANNOTATED CHECKLIST
  - AN INVENTORY MAY DEPEND ON A SERIES OF MONOGRAPHS
LESSON 6

THE VALUE OF A NAME

CONFIDENCE VALUE

- WHO FURNISHED THE NAME
- WHEN WAS THE NAME ADDED TO THE LIST
- IS THE NAME VOUCHERED (AND WHERE)
- ARE SEQUENCES AVAILABLE
LESSON 7

- TAXONOMIC SYNONYMS HAVE NO PLACE IN AN INVENTORY
  - NOR IN A DATABASE
  - THEY ARE THE JOB OF THE MONOGRAPHER
  - THEY ARE CONCLUSIONS, NOT DATA
CONCLUSIONS

- INVENTORIES ARE NOT CASUAL SIGHTINGS

- INVENTORIES SHOULD BE VOUCHERED WITH ALL AVAILABLE DATA (SPECIMENS, NOTES, PHOTOS, SEQUENCES)

- INVENTORIES SHOULD BE DEFINED IN SCOPE AND REAL ESTATE
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