

Sampling Guidelines:

This guide will contain photographs of a systematic sampling of feathers from the bird's body. At a minimum we would like to include in each species photograph: three primaries, three secondaries, four tail feathers, and contour feathers from the breast, belly, nape, mantle, and rump.

For ease of study and photographing we are asking that all body contour feather clumps be separated and labeled. We are also requesting that primary and secondary wing feathers be separated as well.

Please include for each species: All of the flight feathers from one wing, all tail feathers, and at minimum, contour feathers from the breast, belly, nape, mantle and rump. When the data is available we are also requesting that each species be accompanied by the *location or general area where it was obtained*, and the approximate date that it was killed or found.

If the specimen is not going through skeletal prep or being shipped whole we would prefer that body contour feathers be accompanied by an intact clipped wing and tail.

We will also gladly accept shipment of frozen whole specimens.

The sampling guidelines above are intended to serve as a minimum sampling guideline only.

We would like the guide to include any distinct markings present on each individual species and will therefore leave to the sampler the discretion of additional sampling. Examples of species that might require additional sampling are: scapulars of a Red-shouldered Hawk, crown feathers from a Ruby-crowned Kinglet, and throat and flank feathers from a Bay-breasted Warbler.