

**Mid-Atlantic Megalopolis TCN
Quarterly Progress Report¹
February 2019 – April 2020**



Progress in Digitization Efforts: Figure 1 shows progress over time for the MAM Project by changes in the number of both specimens entered into workflow and completely digitized specimens (= imaged + transcribed + georeferenced) against the number of specimens promised to NSF for the project. The current numbers for progress of digitization efforts by specimen category for each herbarium² are shown in Table 1 and Figure 2.

Share and Identify Best Practices and Standards: Nothing to report.

Identify Gaps in Digitization Areas and Technology: Nothing to report.

Share and Identify Opportunities to Enhance Training Efforts: Nothing to report.

Share and Identify Collaborations with other TCNs, Institutions, and Organizations: Nothing to report.

Share and Identify Opportunities and Strategies for Sustainability: Nothing to report.

Share and Identify Education and Outreach Activities: Students in Dr. Hong-Wa's Systematic Botany course at Delaware State University transcribed 1,790 DOV records this semester. Dr. Jordan Teisher (Collections Manager, PH) organized and ran an online transcription training session for members of The Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia on 22 April 2020.

Other Progress: Nothing to report.

COVID-19 update: Many MAM herbaria were closed due to coronavirus lockdowns at some point in the last months (typically March), ending access to physical specimens for the time being. Obviously, this has halted any barcoding or imaging that was in progress, as well as various other tasks related to the sheets themselves (e.g., adding barcodes for multiple specimen sheets, refiling, re-imaging, consulting sheets to resolve issues highlighted during online work). As a result, herbaria have shifted to, or continued with, remote digitization work (e.g., image upload, transcription, georeferencing, proofreading/reviewing), some developing new institutional-specific protocols in the process (see uploaded CHRБ document). Some herbaria have had staff furloughed as a result of budget restrictions due to shutdowns. Some herbaria have reported an increase in interest in volunteer transcription because of the stay-at-home orders, while others have had their volunteer labor dry up completely.

¹ Throughout this report, herbaria are referred to by their Index Herbariorum acronyms, which correspond to institutional names as follows: BALT = Towson University, CHRБ = Rutgers University, CM = Carnegie Museum, DOV = Delaware State University, HUDC = Howard University, MARY = University of Maryland, MCA = Muhlenberg College, MOAR = Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania, NY = New York Botanical Garden, PAC = Pennsylvania State University, PH = The Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University, SIM = Staten Island Museum, TAWES = Maryland Department of Natural Resources

² Although updated progress for HUDC and NY are no longer included in these reports as they closed their NSF grants on the MAM Project as of 31 August 2019, their total numbers of specimens completed in the MAM Project to that date are still reported in Figure 1 and Table 1 in the interest of showing project totals.

Figure 1. Progress over time for MAM Project.

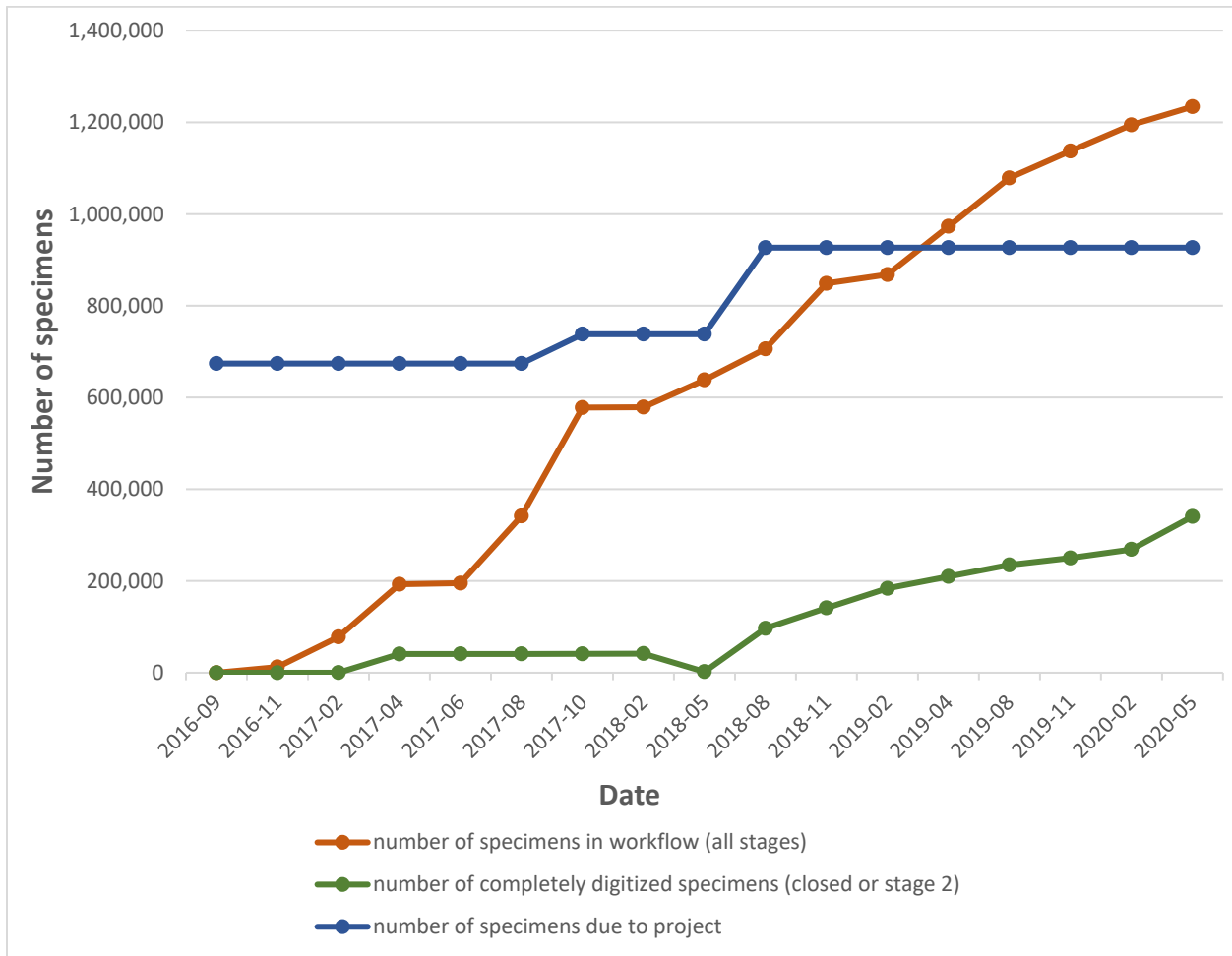


Table 1. Digitization of specimens by stage of completion and herbarium for MAM TCN.

Specimen Stage	Herbarium											Totals
	BALT	CHRB	DOV	MARY	MCA	MOAR	PH	SIM	TAWES	PAC	CM ⁷	
# specimens imaged ¹	30,000	4,702	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,167	44,869
# specimens as above and uploaded to Symbiota along with skeletal data; transcription/review may be in progress ²	6,570	54,875	8,791	4,894	0	68	218,552	0	0	57,014	0	500,525
# specimens as above + completely transcribed and transcription reviewed ³	0	23,941	40,442	3,741	0	189	189,887	1,037	2,118	17,351	5,584	342,310
# specimens as above + georeferenced ⁴	0	0	4,067	37,061	51,009	20,350	44,413	15,997	1,400	0	78,399	339,257
# specimens that need special attention, e.g. go back to sheet ⁵	127	0	0	133	2	386	343	3,857	760	0	57	5,832
# specimens imaged, uploaded, transcribed BUT not able to be georeferenced ⁶	2	0	0	105	52	43	33	848	15	0	0	1,236
Totals	36,699	83,068	53,300	45,934	51,063	21,036	453,228	21,739	4,293	74,365	94,207	1,234,029

Processing Status in the MAM Portal: ¹ No stage, not in Symbiota yet; ² Unprocessed + Expert Required + Pending Review; ³ Stage 1; ⁴ Stage 2; ⁵ Stage 3; ⁶ Closed
⁷ CM also has 103,725 specimens that have been georeferenced and were previously transcribed, but are not yet imaged.

Figure 2. Percentage of specimens by stage of completion and herbarium for MAM TCN. With this presentation of digitization progress, the final goal for each institution is to have a mostly green column above the X axis (could potentially have orange up to roughly 10%). Specimens not yet in workflow are set as negative numbers.

