



Resin-embedded Plant Specimens and Their Creator



國立臺灣博物館
National Taiwan Museum



Required Tools and Materials



- ① Thread for fixing specimen in place
- ② Paper towels
- ③ Stockings for filtering out bubbles
- ④ Stirring rods
- ⑤ Paper cups
- ⑥ Quick-drying glue
- ⑦ General purpose scissors
- ⑧ Rubber bands
- ⑨ Utility knife
- ⑩ Sticks for hanging specimens
- ⑪ Watercolor brushes for applying resin
- ⑫ Tweezers
- ⑬ Small scissors
- ⑭ Masking tape
- ⑮ Calculator
- ⑯ Scrap paper



- ⑰ Epoxy resin: Agent A (main agent; right); Agent B (hardener; left)



- ⑳ Desiccant



- ⑱ Electronic scale



- ⑲ Acrylic binder



- ㉑ Drying box lined with desiccant

Steps 1, 2, 3



1. Dry specimen

Cover the specimen in desiccant for at least one day. The amount of time depends on the specimen's moisture content.

Once dry, preserve the specimen in a drying box that has been lined with desiccant.

2. Mix epoxy resin

According to the properties of agents A and B, pour them separately into a paper cup in the proper proportions and stir until uniform and transparent. Then, filter the mixture through a stocking to remove bubbles.

Caution: Too much resin can result in violent reactions, yellowing during heat generation, large bubbles, or rapid hardening.



3. Moisture-proof specimen

To keep the specimen from absorbing moisture during the production process, apply a thin layer of resin over it and allow to air dry.

Steps 4, 5, 6



4. Hang specimen in the mold

Make a suitable mold. Hang the specimen inside, upside down, and fix in place.



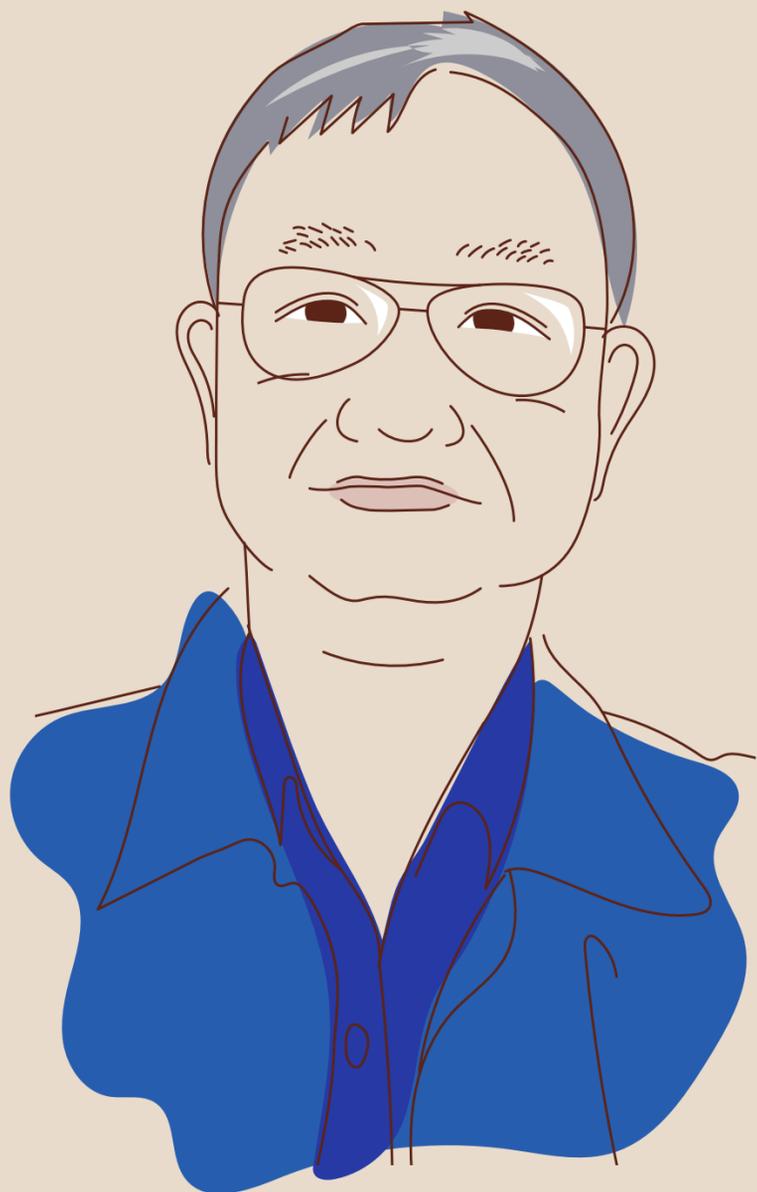
5. Add epoxy resin

Slowly add the hot epoxy resin mixture to the mold, dividing it into at least three portions. Be sure to divide the mixture and add each portion separately and slowly to avoid introducing air bubbles.



6. Wait

When the resin is completely dry, the process is complete.



Resin-embedded Plant Specimen Creator

Brother Turtle

His real name is Xu Jin-Hong. He can be said to be a gardener who maintains the ecology of the National Taiwan Museum's Nanmen Park, recording every organism in it. Nothing escapes his keen eye or his camera. Actually, he is a museum security guard. Stationed in this park for a long time and with outstanding observational skills and a passion for nature, he has come to understand the flowers, trees, insects, and birds here better than anyone. He is the best example of a citizen scientist!

In addition to photographing plant and animal life in an urban setting, Brother Turtle is adept at preparing plant specimens. He collects and dries plant materials, then applies his chemical engineering expertise to embed them in resin. These transparent blocks with plant materials preserved inside are displayed in the illustration experiential area. Aren't they beautiful?

Become a “citizen scientist for a day” through activities such as observation, recording, and scientific illustration.



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