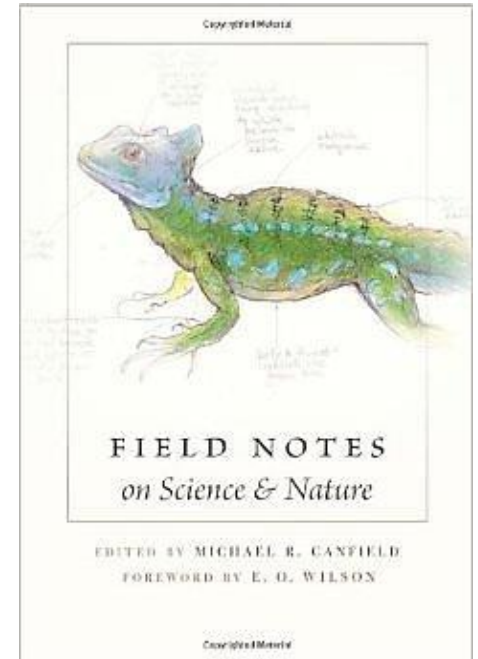


Field Journals in Science

- A personal record observations of nature
- observations enhance learning and idea generation
- observations may be linked to or inform 'hard data'
- widely used in biology, paleontology, archaeology, social sciences



Your Field Notebook: What to include?

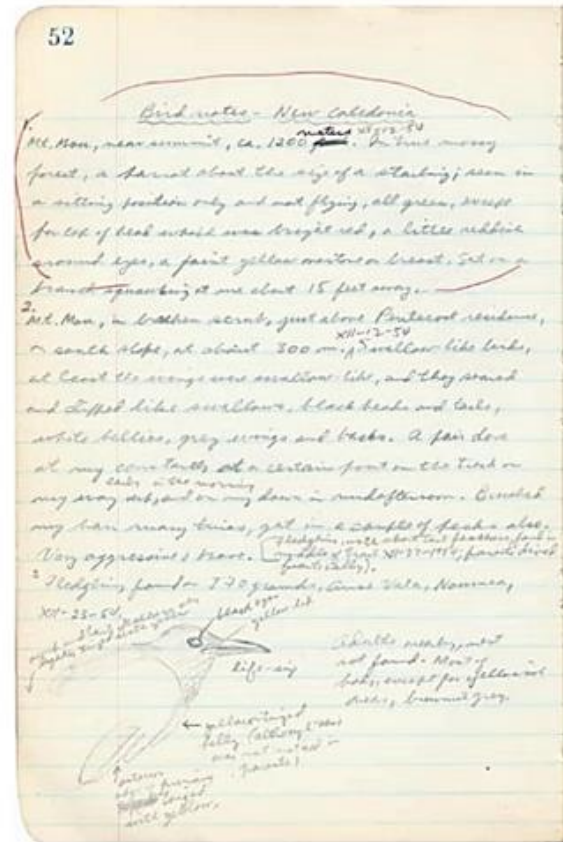
Outdoor field lab entries should include:

- date and time
- weather (temp., cloud cover, precipitation, wind speed, wind direction)
- specific location (lat/long; written description, a sketched map)
- description of habitats, general landscape

Field Notes in Science

- Many biologists make field notes a 'habit'
- Much important information buried in field notes of leading scientists
- important for historical scientific record

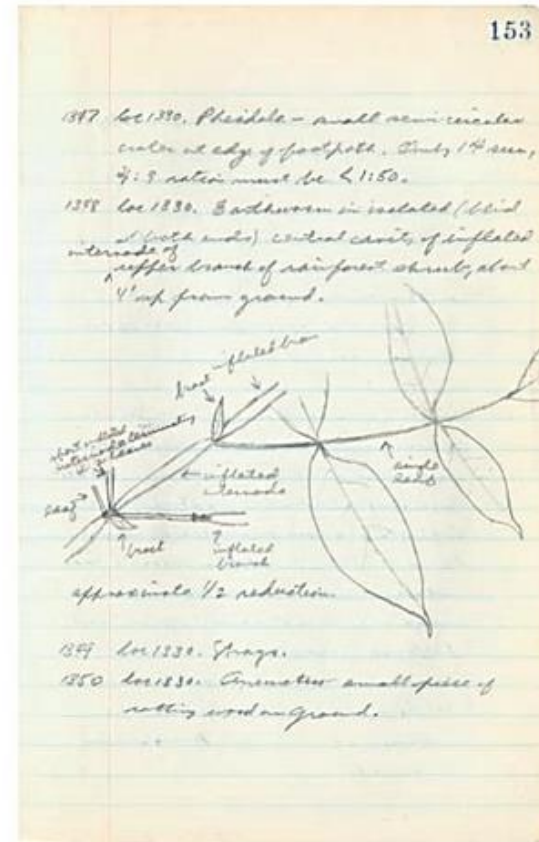
EDWARD O. WILSON



Along with copious notes on ants, my notebooks contain natural history observations such as these notes on birds from New Caledonia, taken in July 1954.

Field Notes in Science

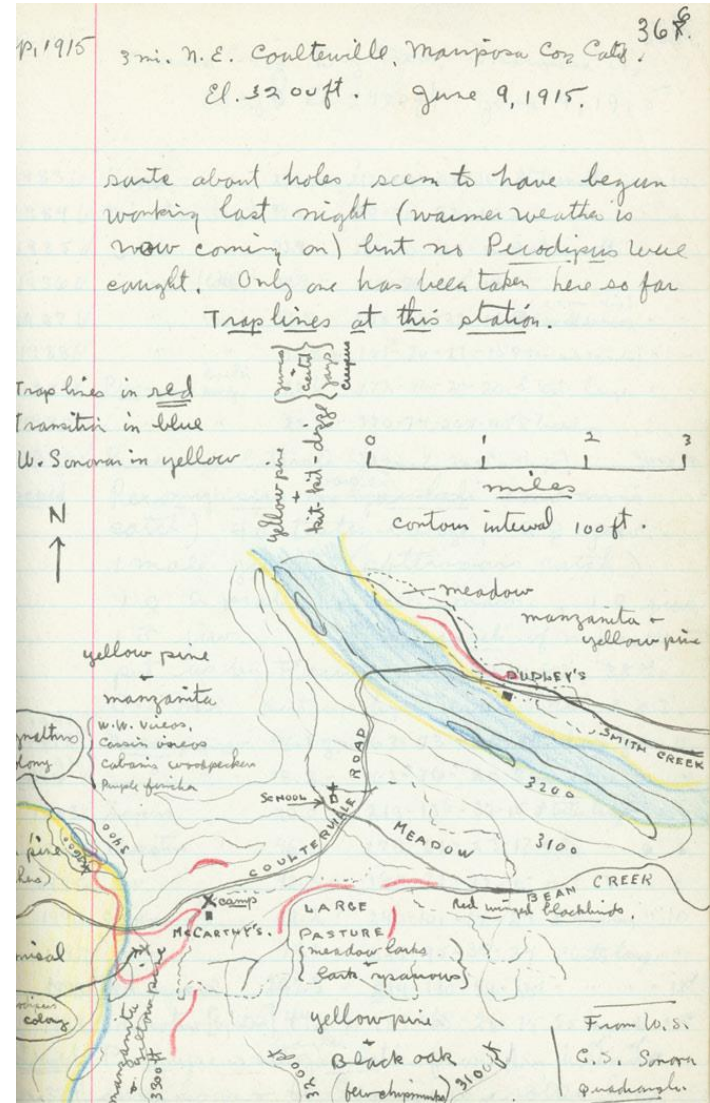
- sketches are important



This notebook page documents collections of *Pheidole* ants, an arboreal earthworm found in the inflated internode of a rain forest shrub, as well as *Aneuretus* ants, the elusive group I sought in Sri Lanka in 1955.

Field Notes in Science

- maps and other site details are essential!



Field Notebooks

A full-semester activity with entries for:

- each field lab (not required for indoor labs)
- research project activities
- miscellaneous observations

Field Notebooks: the Process

- Take quick notes in field
- Complete notes at home (same day if possible)
 - transfer to new notebook if needed
 - use voice to text on smartphone?
 - 'apps' for note keeping
 - field time should *focus on making observations*
- Sketches will be part of your notebooks

Field Notebooks: Grading

- 10% of grade (significant)
- Should be clear that effort/time was involved
 - 1 entry for each lab (more if >1 location/activity)
 - research project & misc. observations
 - details of time, location, site, weather
 - content of entries (observations)
 - neatness, legibility