Building the Library

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The strength of DNA barcoding lies in the ability to provide quick, accurate, and affordable specimen identification. However, producing these results requires a comprehensive DNA barcode library.

Building this library has been a key objective of the global DNA barcoding community, and BOLDsystems now contains records for over 500,000 species of animals, plants, and other organisms. Many of these barcodes came from existing natural history collections, which are a valuable resource for building this public database.

What is a DNA barcode?

Every species on the planet has its own unique barcode written in its DNA, like every product on a store shelf. And like those barcodes, this small piece of DNA can be used to identify unknown specimens.

For more information about how DNA barcoding can help advance research visit:

ibol.org
biodiversitygenomics.net

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