

Memorandum

To: Dale Krueger
From: Clarence Lehman
Subject: Signposts for experiments
CC: David Tilman
Date: November 18, 1999

Cedar Creek written procedures call for permanent signs marking every project, including every experiment, but those procedures do not specify the contents of the signs. This is an addendum to those procedures to state that the signs are to contain at least the following information:

1. The project number (assigned after the project is approved)
2. The date the project was established, in the format yyyy/mm/dd.
3. The name of the principal investigator, using initials and last name.

The signs are to be rectangular, 2 inches high by 3 inches wide (5.08×7.62 cm), and made of non-rusting metal, such as aluminum, at least 1/16 inch (1.5 mm) thick. Corners of the signs are to be slightly rounded to reduce chance of injury by accidental contact, and any burrs on the edges of the metal are to be removed for the same reason. Labelling is to be permanently stamped into the metal sign. Posts are to be permanent metal fixtures rising approximately 48 inches (120 cm) above the ground, driven deeply enough to discourage removal by vandals, and the signs are to be permanently attached with rivets or other vandal-resistant fasteners such as uni-directional screws. The reason for such permanence is that some projects, such as periodic vegetation surveys, may be resampled only once every few dozen years. The reason for uniform size and height above the ground is so that the signs may be easily recognized.

If a single project involves several sites, there is to be a separate sign for each site, with a suffix letter identifying the site. For example, suppose project 021 appears in four different fields. Then there would be four distinct signs labelled P021-A, P021-B, P021-C, and P021-D, plus the investigator's name and date of establishment. Labelling of individual plots within the site is the responsibility of the principal investigator, who is also responsible for providing Cedar Creek with a map of the plots, oriented with respect to the main signpost, as part of the project description.

[Actual Size]

