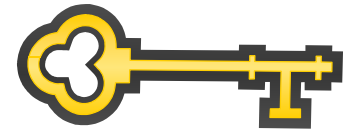


- The identification key in a flora or fauna is akin to what the internet age would call a “**portal site**”
- Most information on organisms is stored by name (literature as well as databases).
- Identification is the key to information retrieval!
- Identification is the key to biodiversity!



- Biodiversity informatics has a vision for the future of biological identification that is feasible, but requires continuation of funding for
  - optimization of identification tools
  - further development of integrated information systems
  - to do this in close cooperation with original research
- GBIF concentrates on name and collection data
- Identification projects are endangered species!

# Why care?

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Biodiversity has many uses for humans

- agriculture
- biotechnology (organism and genes!)
- new medicinal substances
- etc.

*We fundamentally* depend on the fabric of life.  
The research program of exploring this fabric  
is as old as human life on earth.

# Why care?

● ● ●  
Known species

● ● ●  
Unknown species

