

# Adhesives for specimens in entomology

A brief survey of Entomological Collections Network members for information regarding adhesives used to prepare specimens (e.g., in point mounts or specimen repair). Administered June 2018; results to be presented November 2018 at ECN.

\* Required

1. Approximately how many point- or card-mounted specimens do you or your collection staff prepare every year? \*

---

2. How would you rank the following properties of a specimen adhesive, from highest to lowest? Select one rank for each row. \*

Mark only one oval per row.

	1 highest	2 high	3 medium	4 low	5 lowest
reversible (can be dissolved away for observation or remounting)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
inexpensive	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
easy to prepare and use (e.g., no exotic solvents, stable for extended time)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
safe (no special PPE required)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
archival (won't degrade specimen, leach acid, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. Are there any important properties not listed above? If so describe the property and its relative rank (1-5)

---



---



---



---



---

**4. Which adhesives are used currently in your collection for specimen mounting? \***

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Hide glue (e.g., Titebond or Behlen)
- ☐ White glue (casein)
- ☐ clear nail polish (nitrocellulose formulation)
- ☐ Paraloid B-72
- ☐ White glue (emulsion of polyvinyl acetate (PVAc), like Elmer's, Jade, or Weldbond)
- ☐ Hot-melt adhesive (hot glue)
- ☐ Shellac gel (e.g., product #1160 from BioQuip or homemade from flakes)
- ☐ Polyvinyl acetate (PVAc) beads (e.g., Gelva) dissolved in ethanol or acetone
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**5. (optional) Of the options above which is the best and why?**

---

---

---

---

---

**6. Are you satisfied with the current knowledge of adhesives that are appropriate for insect specimens? \***

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes - We have sufficient long-term experience and science-based examination of adhesive properties
- ☐ No - We need more research on adhesives used in this context

**7. Do you make your own unit trays? If so which adhesive(s) do you use? If not check "other" and write "not made". \***

Check all that apply.

- ☐ White glue (emulsion of polyvinyl acetate (PVAc), like Elmer's, Jade, or Weldbond)
- ☐ Hot-melt adhesive (hot glue)
- ☐ Paraloid B-72
- ☐ White glue (casein)
- ☐ clear nail polish (nitrocellulose formulation)
- ☐ Polyvinyl acetate (PVAc) beads (e.g., Gelva) dissolved in ethanol or acetone
- ☐ Shellac gel (e.g., product #1160 from BioQuip or homemade from flakes)
- ☐ Hide glue (e.g., Titebond or Behlen)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**8. (optional) Feel free to add your name, email, and any parting comments below, in case you'd like to pursue these issues further. Thanks!**

---

---

---

---

---

---

Powered by

