

Citizens Restoring American Chestnuts (CRAC) Datasheet Instructions



Thank you for participating in this citizen science project! After planting your seedlings and/or seeds, please use these datasheets to record your observations every spring and fall. Just follow the directions below.

1. Please always include the tree ID number with your observations. You will find these on the aluminum tree tags and plant stakes. Keep these tags and stakes on or near your plants. We also recommend you draw a map of the location of your seedlings and seeds, and label each with the appropriate tree ID. You can refer to this drawing if you lose any plant tags or stakes.
2. Complete the *Participant and Site Datasheet*. Then, use the *Online Chestnut Map Instructions* (separate document) to add your data to our online Chestnut Map. If you cannot enter the data online, simply mail the datasheet to us. Note that you only have to complete the *Participant and Site Datasheet* **once** for all of your trees (i.e., you do not need to create a new site for each seed/seedling – they will each be entered as individual observations at this one site).

CRAC Project – c/o Cassie Doty
UMCES Appalachian Laboratory
301 Braddock Road
Frostburg MD 21532.

3. Observe your trees during spring (April to May). Once most of the spring leaves are out for a tree, record data for that tree on a *Spring/Fall Tree Datasheet*. Repeat this for all your trees. Note that each tree may leaf out on a different date, so you will need to observe and record their data individually. Use a second copy of the datasheet if necessary. If you missed the period when most spring leaves have come out (for example, you just got your seedlings in May), then simply write, “I missed it” on the datasheet. After you complete this for all your trees and seeds in the spring, follow the *Online Chestnut Map Instructions* to add your data to our online Chestnut Map. If you cannot enter the data online, simply mail the datasheet(s) to us at the above address.
4. Observe your trees during fall (September to October). Once most of a tree’s leaves are in fall color (turn from green to yellow or brown), record data for that tree on a *Spring/Fall Tree Datasheet*. Repeat this for all your trees. Note that each tree may change color on a different date, so you will need to observe and record their data individually. Use a second copy of the datasheet if necessary. If you missed the period when these leaves changed color, then simply write, “I missed it” on the datasheet. After you complete this for all your trees and seeds in the fall, follow the *Online Chestnut Map Instructions* to add your data to our online Chestnut Map. If you cannot enter the data online, simply mail the datasheet(s) to us at the above address.
5. Continue making and recording your observations and entering your data in the online map (or mailing it to us if necessary) every spring and fall.
6. If you have any questions or need any help, please contact Cassie Doty at 301-689-7134 or email chestnuts@al.umces.edu.

Participant and Site Datasheet

Please complete this datasheet for the site where you planted your seedlings and/or seeds. Then, follow the *Online Chestnut Map Instructions* (separate document) to add your data to our online Chestnut Map. If you cannot enter the data online, simply mail the datasheet to us. Note that you only have to complete this datasheet **once** for all of your trees (i.e., you do not need to create a new site for each seed/seedling – they will each be entered as individual observations at this one site).

1. Name: _____
2. County where planting: _____
3. State where planting (circle one): Maryland, West Virginia, Pennsylvania
4. Number of seedlings planted (circle one): 0 1 2 3 4
5. Number of seeds planted (circle one): 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
6. How much light does the site get (circle one)? full shade partial shade full sun
7. Is land flat or sloped (circle one)? flat sloped
8. If it's sloped, what direction does land face (circle one)? N S W E
9. How would you describe the soil (circle one)? rocky sandy clayey
10. How wet is the soil on a typical day (circle one)? dry moist wet
11. How would you describe the surrounding land (circle one)? bare mowed-lawn field forest
12. Other comments about the site? _____

Spring/Fall Tree Datasheet*

Observe your trees during the spring (April to May) and fall (September to October). Use copies of this datasheet to record your observations. After you complete this for **all** your trees in the **spring**, follow the *Online Chestnut Map Instructions* to add your data to our online Chestnut Map. If you cannot enter the data online, simply mail the datasheet(s) to us. Do the same after you complete **all** your **fall** observations.

Your Name: _____

Did you enter these data on FieldScope? (circle one) Yes No

If no, write the nearest address to the location where you planted your trees/seeds. _____

Observation date** Enter month/day/year	Tree ID Number† Enter number from plant tag/stake	Leaf Phase Enter "Most spring leaves out" or "Most leaves in fall colors" or "I missed it"	Height Enter to nearest inch, such as 36 inches

*Included are four copies for two years of spring and fall observations. Make and use additional copies if you have more than 8 trees/seeds.

**Each tree may leaf out or change color on different dates, so you will need to observe and record their data individually.

†Please only enter what is written on the tag or stake.

If one or more of your trees died (that is, it didn't produce any green leaves by summer), write the Tree ID # and possible cause of death for each one. Cause of death could be deer browsing, vole damage, blight, transplant shock, or something else. Or write "not sure why."

Other comments (note the Tree ID #)? _____

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