

Status of our collections



Rüdiger Bieler

The **Field**
Museum

We changed a lot...

“This report was prepared for the Council of Systematic Malacologists and was adopted ... in July, 1980”

Solem, A., W.K. Emerson, B. Roth and F.G. Thompson. 1981. Standards for malacological collections. *Curator* 24(1): 19-28.

Standards for Malacological Collections*

ALAN SOLEM

FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

WILLIAM K. EMERSON

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

BARRY ROTH

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

FRED G. THOMPSON

FLORIDA STATE MUSEUM

We changed a lot...

“This report was prepared for the Council of Systematic Malacologists and was adopted ... in July, 1980”

- Basic specimen data
- Need for climate control
- Proper storage (e.g. glass quality)
- Morphology-focused preservation (pre DNA sequencing)
- Locality data (marked physical maps should be deposited with the specimens)
- First hints at using computers for local data retrieval of collections data

1975 baseline data

October 1975

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THE VELIGER

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The Recent Mollusk Collection Resources of North America

A Report to the

ASSOCIATION OF SYSTEMATICS COLLECTIONS

Compiled and Written by

ALAN SOLEM

for the

COUNCIL OF SYSTEMATIC MALACOLOGISTS

Size matters

1975: 8 institutions holding ca. 80% of lots (and specimens)

1975 (>160,000 lots)	2017 (>200,000 lots)
NMNH	
ANSP	
MCZ	
UMMZ	
FMNH	
AMNH	
BPBM	
*LACM	

Size matters

1975: 8 institutions holding ca. 80% of lots (and specimens)

1975 (>160,000 lots)	2017 (>200,000 lots)
NMNH	NMNH
ANSP	ANSP
MCZ	UF
UMMZ	FMNH
FMNH	MCZ
AMNH	AMNH
BPBM	BPBM
*LACM	UMMZ
	DMNH
	*LACM

Comparison is difficult

LACM with ca. 500,000 lots of which 114,178 are catalogued

CASIZ with 92,000 lots + 280,000 lots in quality backlog

Various levels and quality of cataloging

Where/how are the others?


<http://wx.inhs.illinois.edu/collections/mollusk/links/list>

26 NA collections in Solem et al. 1975
60 in Cummings et al. 2009 >>>

80 contacted in 2017, of these:

- 73 now known/suspected to hold mollusks
 - 45 responded with questionnaire return
 - 28 with “other status”
-
- Focus on USA and Canada; Mexico needed
 - Currently 36 U.S. States

PRAIRIE RESEARCH INSTITUTE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN
Illinois Natural History Survey | Illinois State Archaeological Survey | Illinois State Geological Survey | Illinois State Water Survey | Illinois Sustainable Technology Center

 ILLINOIS NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY
PRAIRIE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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SYSTEMATIC RESEARCH COLLECTIONS

(RECENT & FOSSIL MOLLUSCA)

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The following list of mollusk collections has been compiled to aid researchers by providing a list of curators, collection managers and a description of the collection (i.e. size, geographic scope, percent computerized, etc.). Links have been added to each museum where additional information may sometimes be found. We would encourage any of the collections listed to provide a summary of their holdings or update an existing summary. We will date new entries to provide a time reference to the information. Acronyms have been added to the list and have been taken from:

Leviton, A.E., R.E. Gibbs, Jr., E. Heal, and C.E. Dawson. 1985. Standards in Herpetology and Ichthyology: Part I. Standard Symbolic Codes for Institutional Resource Collections in Herpetology and Ichthyology. *Copeia* 1985(3):802-832.

If the acronym used for your mollusk collection is different from that listed by Leviton et al., please send an update to Kevin. Please feel free to link this list to other pages on the Web and to encourage those collections not represented to send an entry. Any comments or suggestions to improve this list would be greatly appreciated.

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

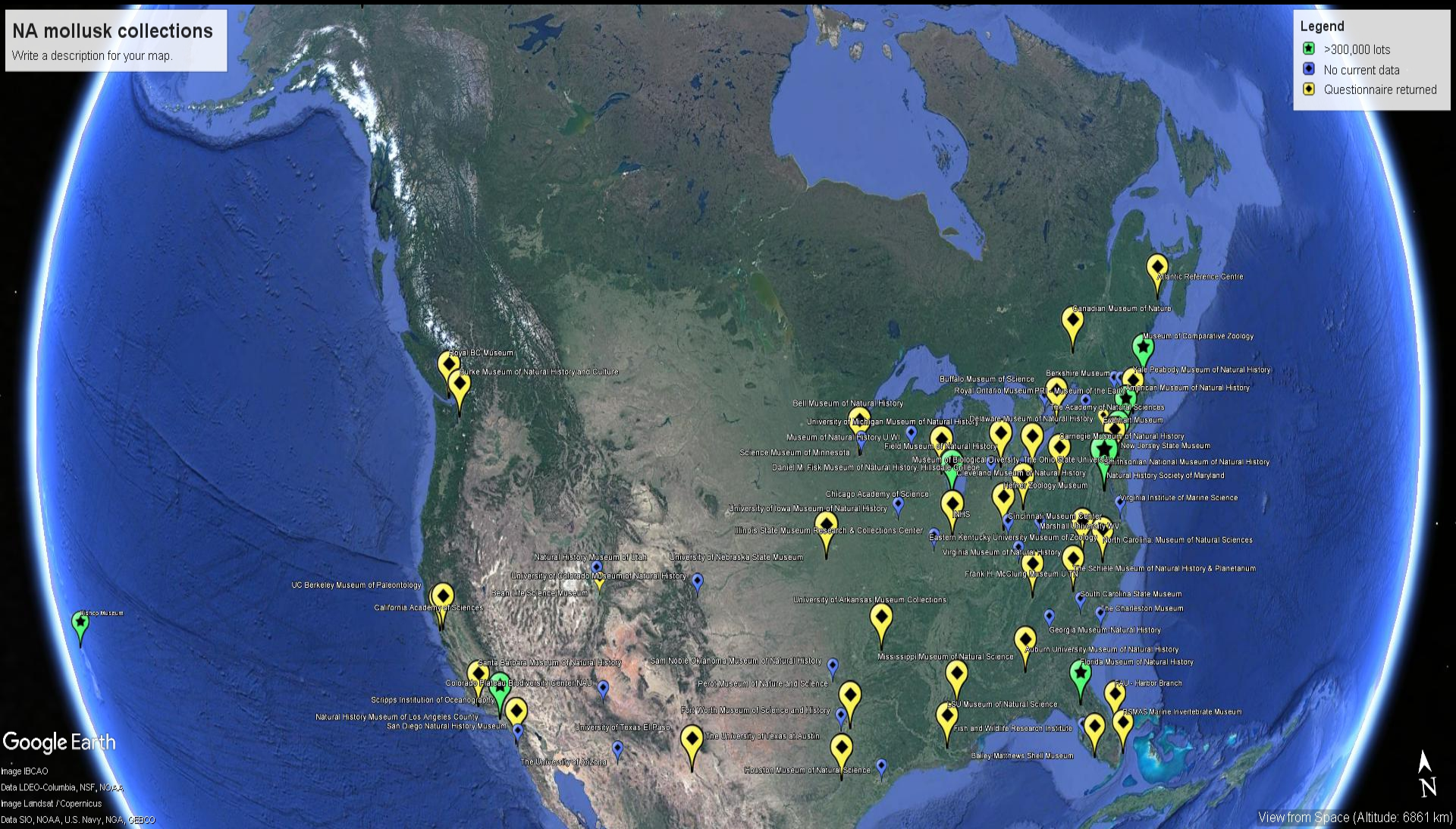
RECENT	FOSSIL
North America	North America
South America	South America
Europe	Europe
Asia	Asia
Africa	Africa
Australia and Pacific	Australia and Pacific

NA mollusk collections

Write a description for your map.

Legend

-  >300,000 lots
-  No current data
-  Questionnaire returned

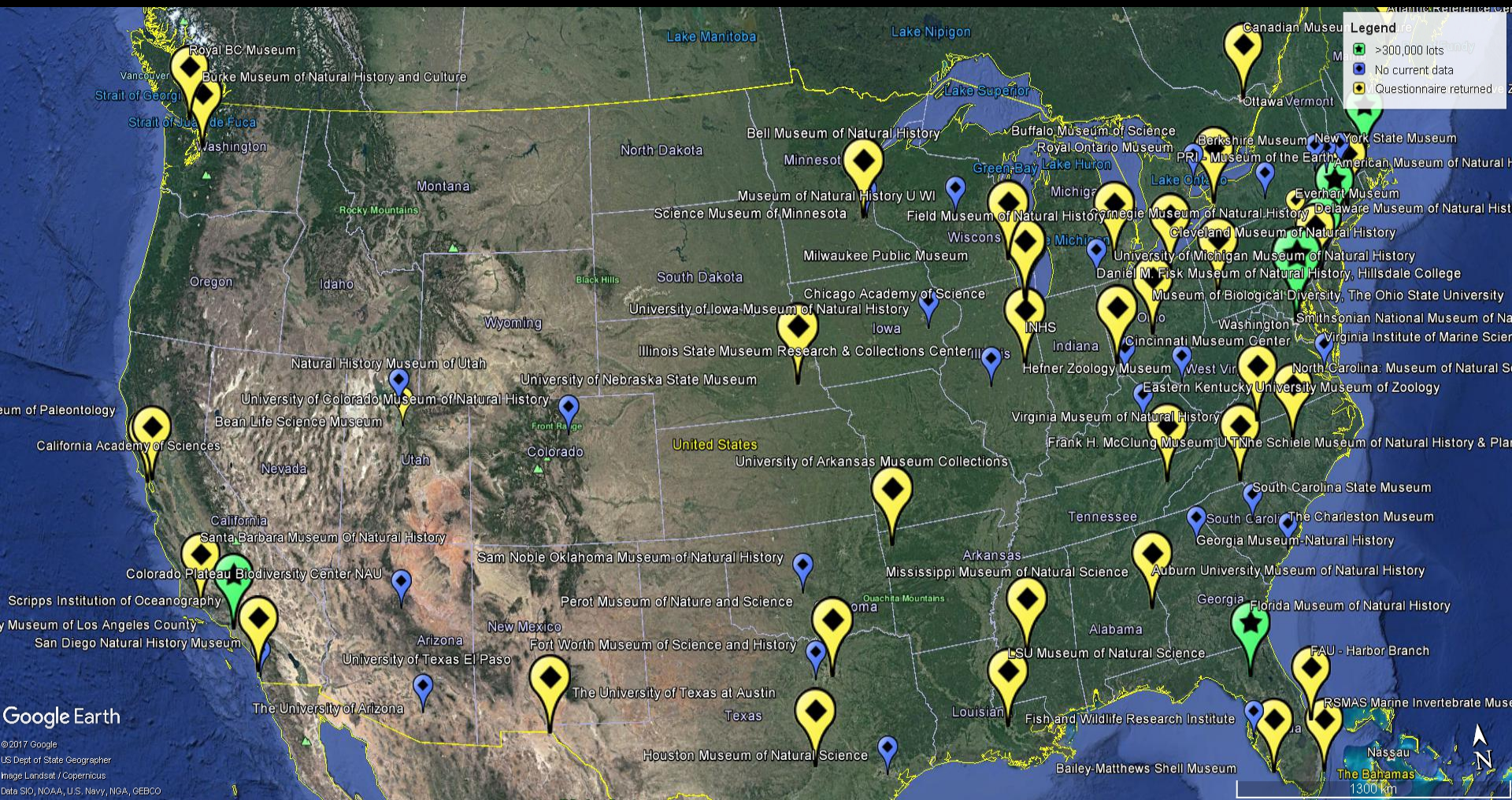


Google Earth

Image © ICAO
Data LDEO-Columbia, NSF, NOAA
Image Landsat / Copernicus
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

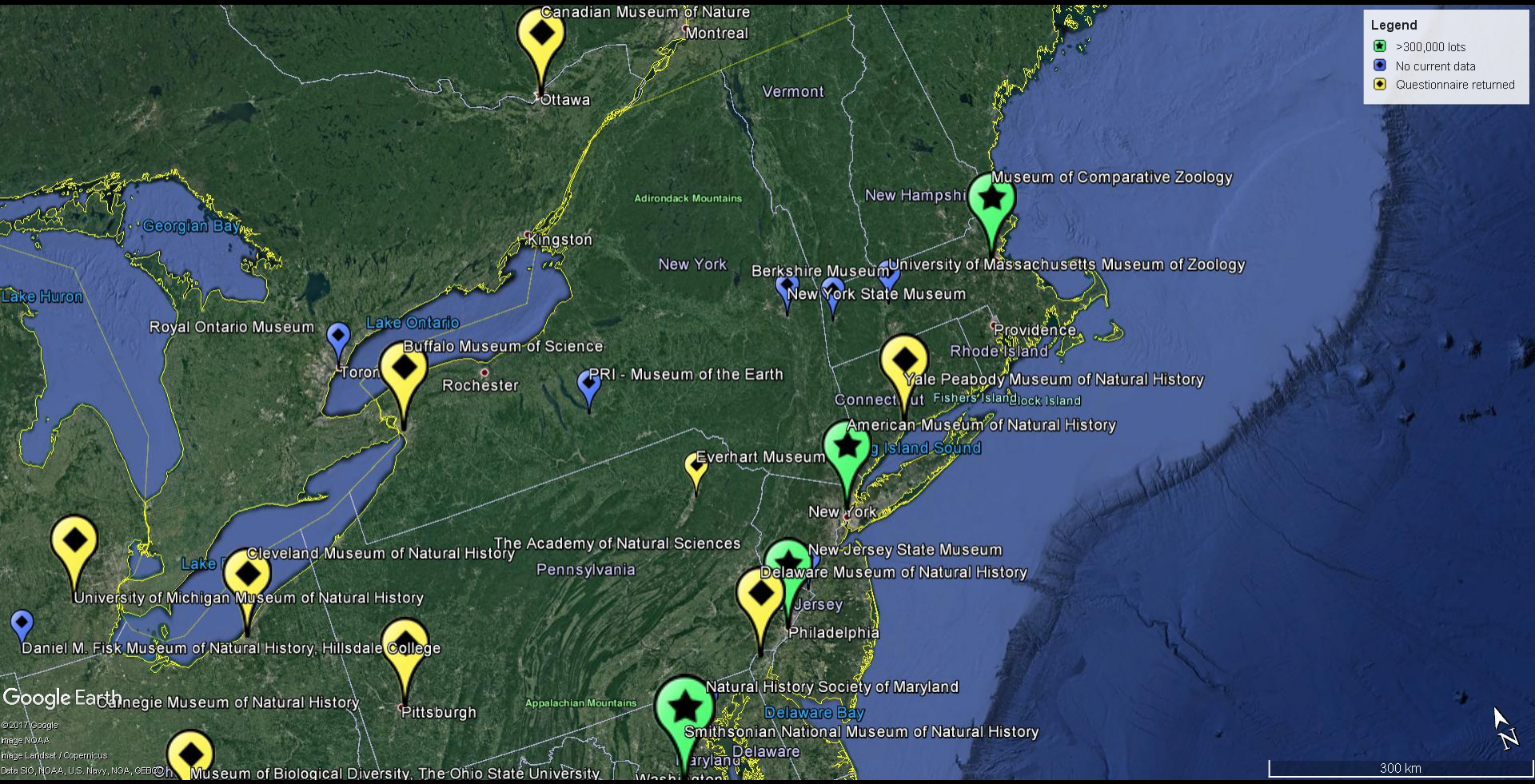


View from Space (Altitude: 6861 km)



Legend

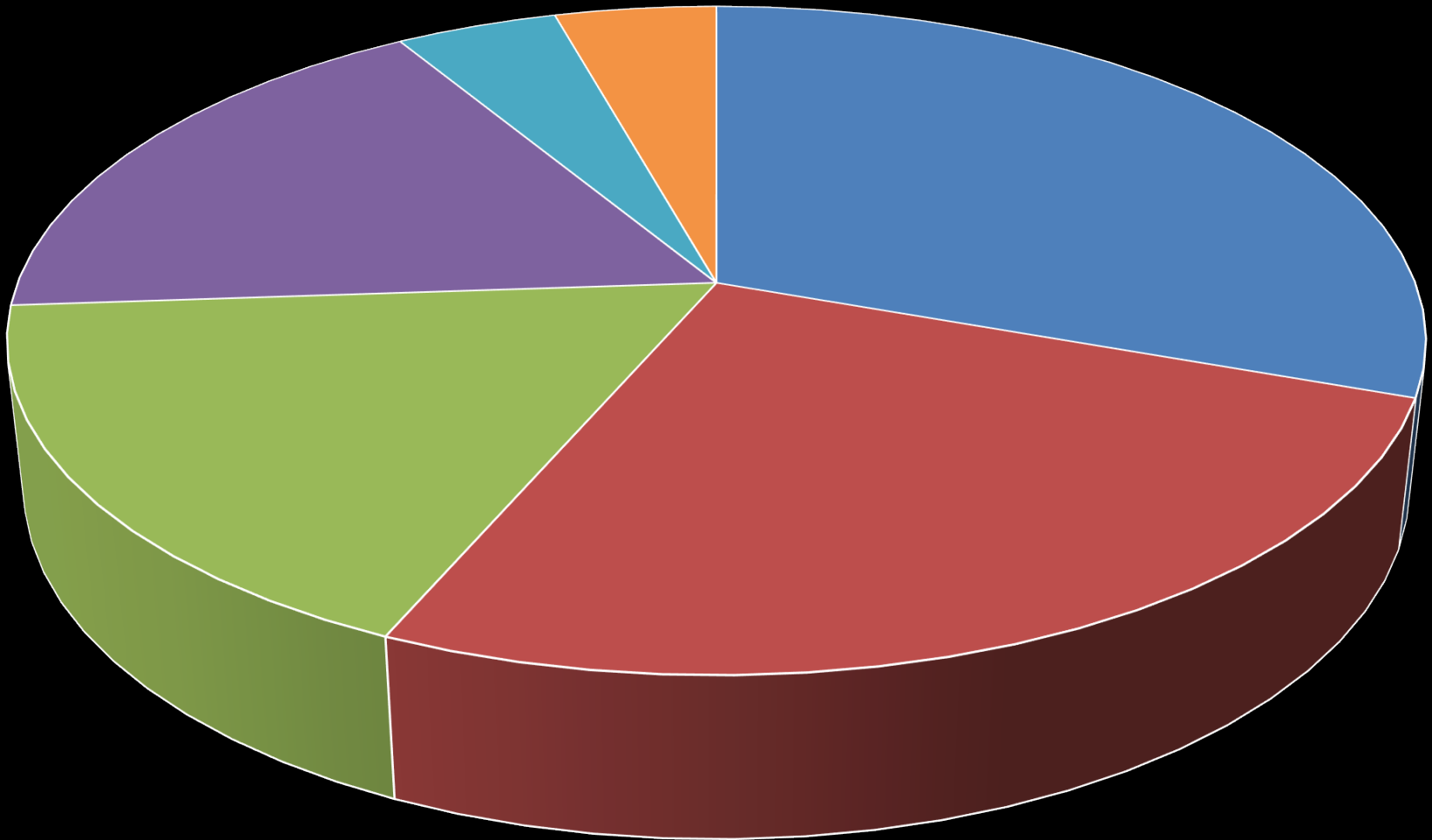
- ★ >300,000 lots
- 📍 No current data
- 📍 Questionnaire returned



Legend

- >300,000 lots
- No current data
- Questionnaire returned

Database Systems



■ Kemu ■ Specify ■ Arctos ■ MS Access ■ Symbiota ■ Paradox ■ other

Digitization Status

None	3	
10-20%	4	AMNH LACM
21-30%	2	
31-50%	4	
51-80%	6	USNM ANSP
90-99%	10	FMNH

ID level of catalogued material

< 30%	3
30-50%	4
51-80%	8
81-100%	23

Backlog size

large	9
medium	7
small	9
none	2

Uncertainty about quality and quantity

Status of our collections



Rüdiger Bieler

The **Field**
Museum