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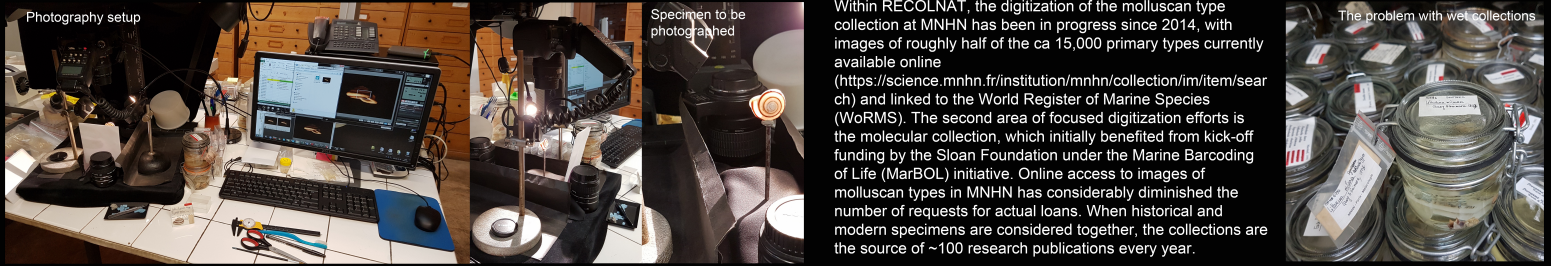
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The Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle (MNHN), founded in 1793 by the French Revolution, was the first public institution specifically established to conserve natural history specimens, and Lamarck was among its first appointed professors. Although little of the pre-Revolution royal specimens remain, the collections go back to pre-Linnean author Michel Adanson and his *Histoire naturelle du Sénégal* (1757). Other collections with considerable historical and cultural heritage value include the specimens from Napoleon's Egyptian Expedition, and the collections made during the early voyages of exploration on board the ships *Astrolabe* and *Zélee*. From the mid-19th to the mid-20th century the growth of the collections was pulled by colonial expansion in Africa, Madagascar, Indochina and Oceania - but also included the landmark *Mission scientifique au Mexique ou de Morgan's explorations in the Kingdom of Perak and in Persia*. Current growth is driven by the *Tropical Deep-Sea Benthos* and *Our Planet Reviewed* programs, and has fully embraced the molecular revolution.



The RECOLNAT Program (ANR-11-INBS-0004) is a country-wide project to digitize all the natural collections in France and make them publicly available on the internet. As a result of this effort, 7.7 million specimens of all phyla have been digitized to date, and 6.7 million images created (<https://explore.recolnat.org/>).



Within RECOLNAT, the digitization of the molluscan type collection at MNHN has been in progress since 2014, with images of roughly half of the ca 15,000 primary types currently available online (<https://science.mnhn.fr/institution/mnhn/collection/im/item/search>) and linked to the *World Register of Marine Species* (WoRMS). The second area of focused digitization efforts is the molecular collection, which initially benefited from kick-off funding by the Sloan Foundation under the *Marine Barcoding of Life* (MarBOL) initiative. Online access to images of molluscan types in MNHN has considerably diminished the number of requests for actual loans. When historical and modern specimens are considered together, the collections are the source of ~100 research publications every year.

Species basic sheet including: references, geographic informations, images, etc.

High quality open access images of the types

<https://explore.recolnat.org/search/zoologie?type=index>  
<https://science.mnhn.fr/institution/mnhn/collection/im/item/search>

WoRMS World Register of Marine Species

Scaphopoda

Living gastropods

Preserved specimens

Gastropods

Polyplocophora

Vouchers barcoding collections

Historical collections

Bivalvia