

Instructions for the HIPS PBF Survey

Please contact the PBF Survey Coordinator at pbfsurvey@historicism.org for any comments or questions. We are here to help! The page address for the PCT Project / PBF Survey webpage is: <https://historicism.org/programs/pbf-research/>

We have created a survey fill-out form that you can use in the field and for reporting. Download links are provided on the PCT Project webpage. Available in MS Excel, MS Word and PDF formats.

- The observation window is the iris' spring bloom period.
- If you want to submit observations of PBF or other PCT outside the spring bloom period please submit as a separate report. These are welcome but still do try to make spring bloom your top priority.
- If your time is limited but you want to participate then please place particular priority on reporting on irises that you know are uncommon and rare.

TIP! – If you have already reported on some named iris then there is no compelling reason to report on that name again unless you note it's PBF behavior changed, before was Yes and then became No, or vice-versa.

- Important pieces of information we need are:
 - The iris' name. Please check for correct spelling.
 - Helpful but optional: Breeder/originator, Iris Class, Intro Year.
 - The observation: a simple Yes (has PBF) or No (no PBF visible)
 - Optional additional helpful comments: Color is faint / Color is pale, etc.
 - Your name and email address or phone number if we need to contact you
 - The observations year
 - Zip code. (We are interested in the general climates of reporters.)
- Observation must be made during the iris' spring bloom period. This is defined as the time the iris' spring bloom stalks are emerging up until the last bloom is spent. PBF decision should be made during a direct visual check. Determining PBF from photographs after the fact can be risky! Faint / pale purple is a tricky color in photography.
- **Reported irises should be historic**, thirty years old or more. Twenty-nine year old irises may be included.
- Reports from HIPS non-members are encouraged but please note if you are a non-member.
- Reported irises need to be confirmed as correct or what some call verified. **Reasonable measures the PBF Survey asks for are:**
 - The iris came to you already named. Unless you are very knowledgeable and experienced, please do not report on irises you identified from noids or unknowns. In any event, if you do report on an identified noid then please note that as added comment. We will keep the data but we want to flag it.
 - We don't need to know your source but preferably you remember it to yourself.

- **Confirmation exam(s) have been made of the reported specimen including the specimen's blooms.**
- An [AIS Iris Encyclopedia](#) check has been made and the iris does not obviously conflict with information found there and/or other reliable sources, e.g. in the [HIPS Historic Iris Gallery](#). (Shaub Dunkley, the current coordinator, will be the first to say that his irises often bloom notably below description heights. And he isn't overly picky about bloom-season either.)
- All this said, the Survey Coordinator believes as conservationists, we have to relax the rules a bit for irises that are at-threat of being lost. These are the rare irises where there may be only be one to three HIPS members holding them and the iris may have no retail source. (Sadly, this is true for a very large number of the Member Databank irises.) With such irises the most important thing is to get description data on record for the underlying iris, whatever it is. If you have no reason to doubt your rare iris' name or are neutral about it, don't be timid – get the data to the survey team; we can check against the Member Databank and Retail Sources data and do follow ups with you after the fact.
- We do not keep records on the PBF of noids and unknowns.

There are **four options** for sending in reports.

1. Write up the report on paper and mail it in. Contact the Survey Coordinator for a mailing address.
2. Transfer the observations back to one of the electronic forms and email as an attachment.
3. Create an electronic document of your own and email. Some people submit their own spreadsheet and this is fine.
4. Type the report into the body of an email and send. This works well for very short reports.