

Alberta Earthworm Invasion: Data Collection Sheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

Location:

Description of Location (circle one)	Hardwood Forest Softwood forest Mixed Forest	Agriculture Grassland Shrub	Wetland/Riparian Lawn Garden/Flowerbed Ditch
Latitude, Longitude (if known)	_____ (Latitude)		_____ (Longitude)
Forest Floor Litter (cm):	_____ cm		
Human Impacts: (circle any that are present)	Paths Grazing Near lake or stream	Fishing Buildings	Roads Crops

Sample:

Weather: Is it sunny? Cloudy? Windy? Raining? Do you know the temperature?			
Ground moisture: (circle one)	Dry	Medium	Wet
Sampling Method: (circle one)	Flip and Strip	Hand Sample	Mustard Extraction
Midden Count: Record the number of middens found.	_____ Middens found in the plot		
Standard 25cm x 25cm plot used?	Yes	No	

Did you find worms? **YES** or **NO**

If yes, continue entering information about the worms.



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Details: Complete the following for each type of worm that you find (e.g. deep burrowing).

Worm Type:	Deep Burrowing Juvenile	Soil Dwelling Unsure	Litter Dwelling
Number of worms of this type:	_____ worms found of this type		
Average Length of Worms:	Less than 7 cm	7 – 12 cm	Greater than 12 cm
Worm Colour: (choose one)	Dark red/purple Grey	Dark greenish Pink	White
Clitellum absent:	Yes	No	
Clitellum diameter greater than 2mm:	Yes	No	
Tail flattens when moves:	Yes	No	




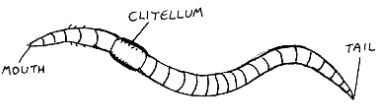
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Reference Information

Worm Types:	
Deep Burrowing Worms (Anecic Worms) <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Burrow deep into the ground (up to six feet)✓ Burrows are covered by a pile of excrement called a "midden"✓ Deeply pigmented with a lighter tail✓ Adults can grow up to 15 cm long	
Soil Dwelling Worms (Endogeic) <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Build permanent burrows and rarely come to the surface✓ Normally small and unpigmented (not colored)	
Litter Dwelling Worms (Epigeic Worms) <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Live in and consume the leaf-litter layers of the forest floor✓ Are typically the kind of worm you would find in a compost heap✓ Only grow to between 2 cm and 7 cm long	
Juveniles <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Clitellum is absent✓ Determining worm type of juveniles is difficult (record them as a separate group)	

Picture of an adult with a clitellum

