

## **Reviewer Report**

**Title:** "Phenobook: An open source software for phenotypic data collection"

**Version:** Original Submission    **Date:** 12/6/2016

**Reviewer name:** Noah Fahlgren

### **Reviewer Comments to Author:**

The Technical Note, Phenobook: An open source software for phenotypic data collection, describes a web- and mobile-based platform to collect and store plant phenotypic data collected during field (or controlled-environment) experiments. The web-based part of Phenobook is both an administrative interface that allows a user to create a Phenobook with a custom set of experimental variables, and an interface to add observations to an existing notebook. The mobile platform (both Android and iOS) allows multiple users to connect to a Phenobook to enter data, per the restrictions set up by the administrator of the book. The purpose is to standardize the collection of plant phenotypic data for an experiment, and to centralize the collection of data. An API is also available to programmatically link Phenobook to other tools.

The authors have made many significant improvements to the software and the manuscript based on the previous reviewer suggestions, I only have a few minor comments.

Minor comments:

1. Page 2, lines 54 and 55: Incomplete sentence.
2. When adding a variable, I think the button "Existents" was meant to be "Existing" in English.
3. If I create a new Phenobook and add a value to the Experimental Unit text box, it does not use that value anywhere that I can see, it just uses Experimental Unit or EU.

### **Level of Interest**

Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript: An article of importance in its field

### **Quality of Written English**

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript: Acceptable

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