## Using the Binocular Dissecting Microscope Washington County

### **Binocular dissecting microscope**





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#### **To adjust the microscope** (See photo of Binocular Dissecting Scope)

- Adjust the eye pieces to suit the distance between your eyes, closer together or farther apart.
- If you need to clean the lens pieces, moisten a piece of dry lint-free tissue or lens paper, then clean the glass surfaces with a circular motion. Repeat with dry lens paper until the lens is clean and dry.

### To adjust the laser lights (See photo of Control Box for Laser Light)

- Turn on by pressing the rocker switch at the front of the control box for laser light.
- Adjust light intensity with the dial. (Number 5 is often sufficient.)
- Adjust the two flexible arms to direct light onto the specimen.

#### To view a specimen

- Place arthropods in a covered petri dish. (In bottom drawer below computer monitor.)
- Place the sample on the stage (the flat area below the objective.)
- Plant specimens may be placed directly onto the stage. Secure the sample with the two clips on the stage.
- Begin with the objective at 1X (10x magnification).
- Focus on the specimen:
  - Turn the large black knob (near the rear) to focus.
- If greater magnification is needed, carefully rotate objective to 4x (40x magnification).
- If needed, adjust the sample's position so that it is again within view when you look through the eyepieces.
- If needed, re-focus, using the large black knob near the rear.

### After using the microscope

- Reset the objective to 1X magnification.
- If needed, clean the stage with a clean damp cloth or towel.
- Lower the body of the microscope all the way.
- If needed, clean the exterior of the microscope with a soft damp cloth.

### To safely carry the microscope from one place to another

• Use two hands

One hand grips the support arm of the scope.

The other hand is under the base to support the scope.

• Caution: Take care that the round piece in the stage doesn't fall out.