

ODP Update, July 2020

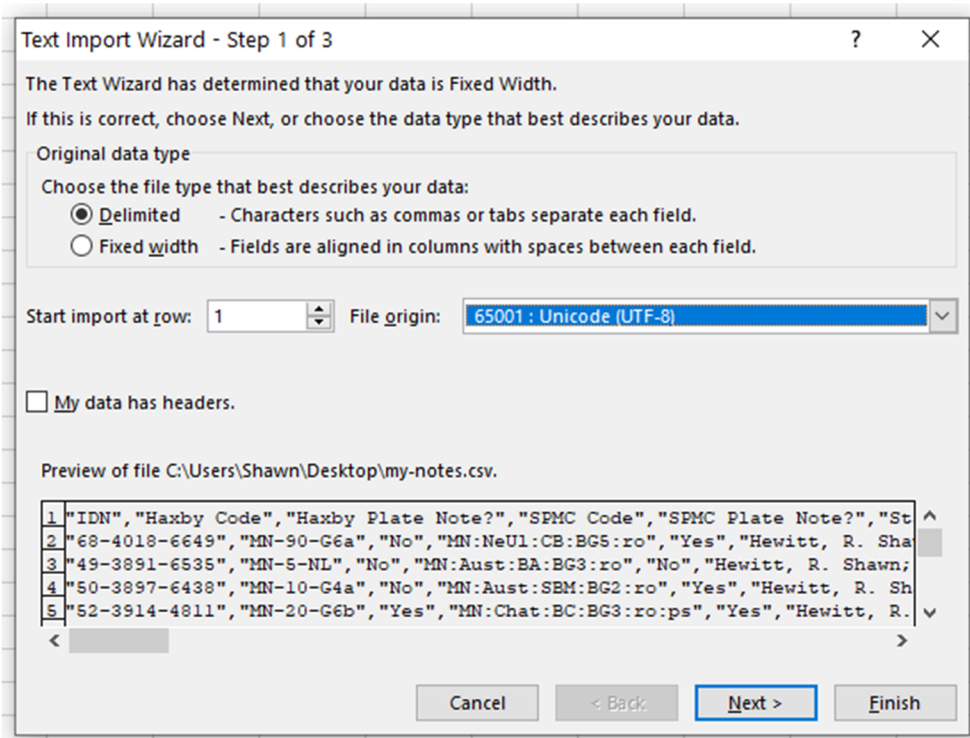
It's been a while since my last communication with you about SPMC's Obsoletes Database Project. Part of the reason is that we focused our attention on the Bank Note History Project's innovation last year. As some of the goals of that project have been achieved, we'd like to rebalance and dedicate a little more attention to ODP.

We did make one improvement recently in ODP that I think is significant. You can now track your collection, including private information (not accessible to anyone else) such as cost and your valuation of individual notes, so that you can maintain a list of your notes online and download on demand. I now use this myself instead of my former method of inputting data into a spreadsheet. The format of the downloaded spreadsheet is designed by me, a collector, with fields that are relevant. This inventory could be used for collection maintenance, insurance purposes, theft recovery, estate planning, consigning notes to an auction, or negotiating a private treaty.

All you have to do to get started is to enter your notes in ODP. For instructions, refer to Part 3 in "How Do I Use ODP?" on the FAQ pages, here: <https://www.spmc.org/obs/faq-page#n41003>

When you are ready to download your list, go to user icon in the upper right corner of the ODP home page, click My Notes in the drop down list, and then click the orange CSV button at the bottom of the page. Once saved as a CSV, open a blank workbook in Excel and import the file **my-notes.csv**. Select Data | From Text on the menu bar and follow these steps:

1. Select the **Delimited** option with File origin **65001: Unicode (UTF-8)**.
2. Select **Comma** delimiter.
3. Select **General** data format.
4. Select **New Worksheet**.



These steps, rather than just opening the CSV directly with Excel, will ensure the fields are imported properly.

If you are ready to work on your state and the Design Status is not yet given as Uploaded in “What is the Status of My State?” on the FAQ pages, here: <https://www.spmc.org/obs/faq-page#n6892>, then contact me to help you get started.

As always, I’m available to answer your questions on ODP.

Thank you.

Best,
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