

## 2-Customizing Choice Lists in Pedon PC

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**Title: Customizing Choice Lists in Pedon PC**

**Type:**      x Skill      Knowledge

**Performance Objective:**

Trainee will be able to customize choice lists in Pedon PC to create a more efficient locally customized user interface.

**Trainer Preparation:**

Make sure the participants have machines that they have write permission to the C drive and access to the internet. Participants must also have Pedon PC loaded and a pedon.mdb file available for edit.

**Special Requirements:**

- CCE configuration to ensure that Microsoft Access is compatible with Pedon PC.
- Pedon PC loaded and a corresponding pedon.mdb file.

**Prerequisite Modules:**

- Pedon PC Setup

**Procedure:**

- Trainer will use as a job aid to help prepare for this task.
- Trainer can then use this job aid as a training module to accomplish the task.

**Notes/Purpose:**

The purpose is to provide the user with the skills to customize choice lists. This skill is used to prepare a more efficient user interface for use in the field.

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# Customizing Choice Lists in Pedon PC

**It is not necessary to customize choice lists, but doing so can greatly increase efficiency.**

Existing pick lists (choice lists) can be reduced in size by hiding choices that are rarely or never used in a particular area.

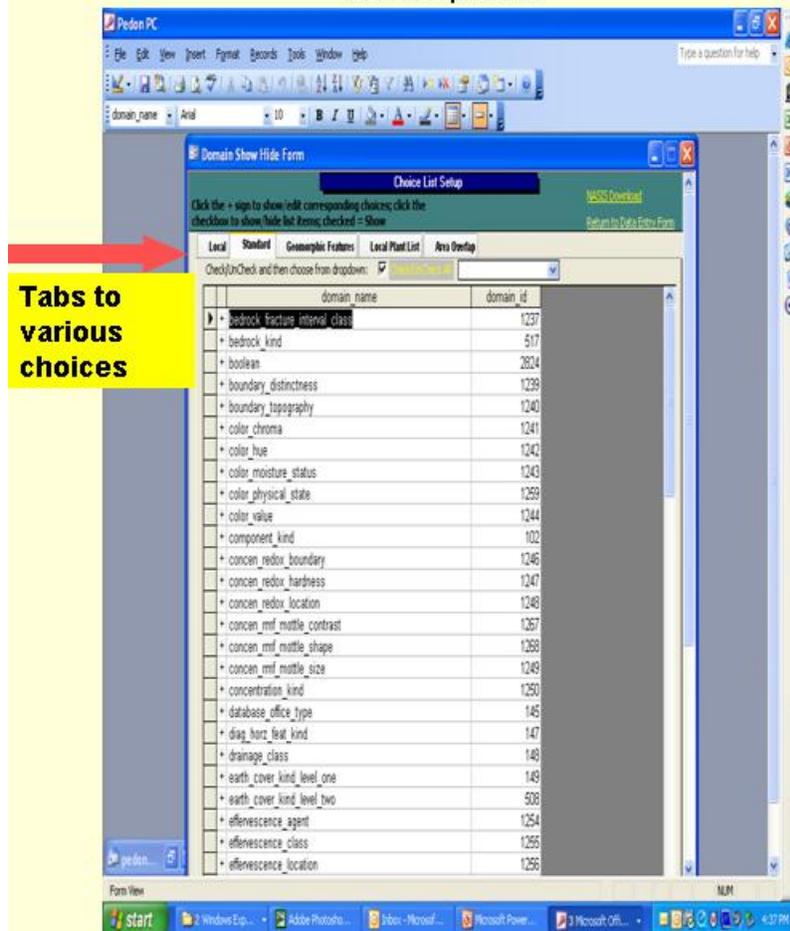
New user defined choice lists are possible for some text fields. These include describer's name and field measured properties.

Step 1. Choose Customize Choice Lists

Step 2. Choose Edit Choice Lists



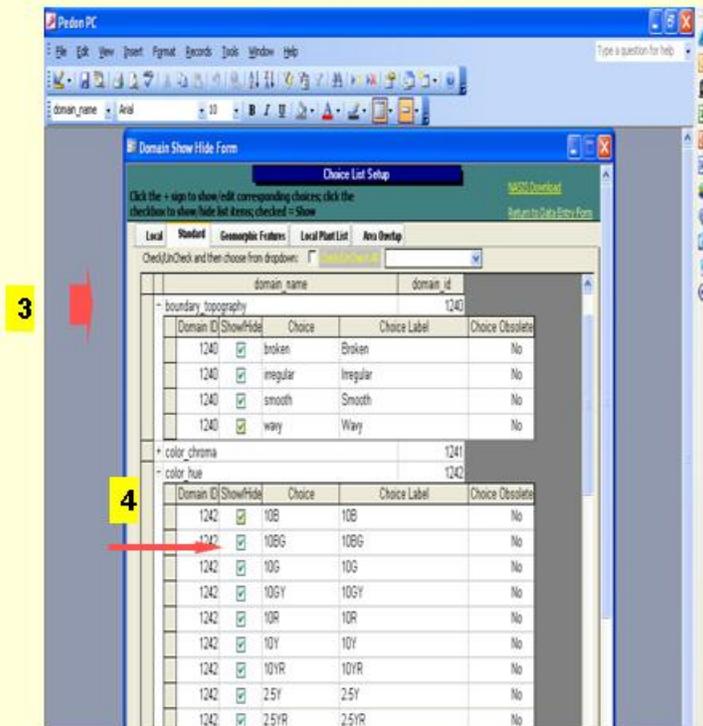
Pedon PC gives the user the ability to reduce the choices in pick lists to those used in a given area or a particular type of description.



There are thousands of choices in the Pedon PC pick lists. Pedon PC gives the user the ability to reduce the choices to those used in a given area or for a given type of description. An example would be to customize Pedon PC for describing organic soils.

Step 3. Click on the plus sign next to the table name to expose the choices.

Step 4. Uncheck the Show/Hide boxes to remove a choice from the pick list. Many pick lists do not need to be shortened while others like color hue can be. Seldom are all hues used in an area.

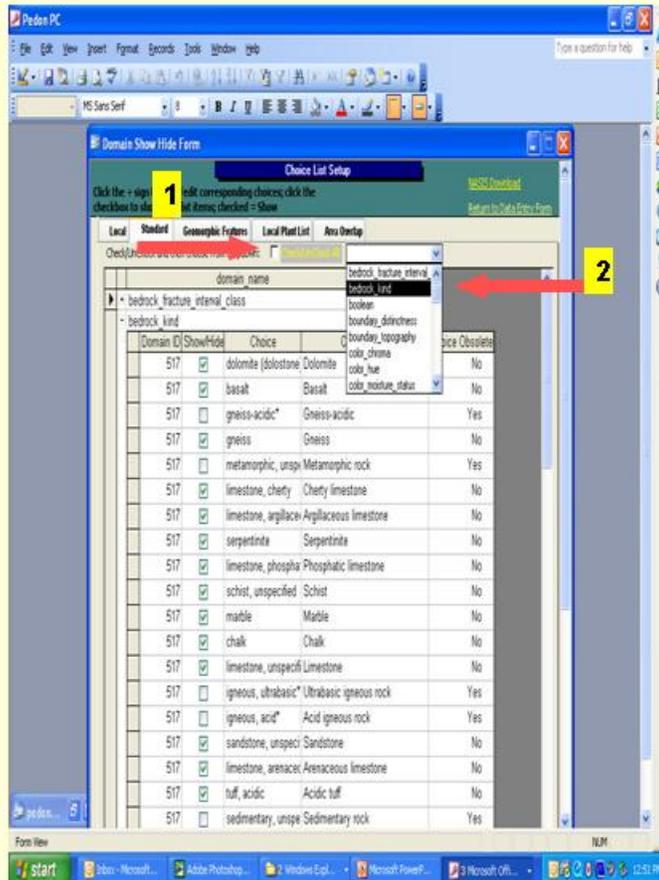


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Once choices have been unchecked they no longer show up in the pick lists. In addition, if those choices have been used in the database, they will not show up in the tables either. This is true, even if the data is in the pedon.mdb database. To view the data again, just check the boxes, or use a default (uncustomized) version of Pedon PC to view the data in the database.

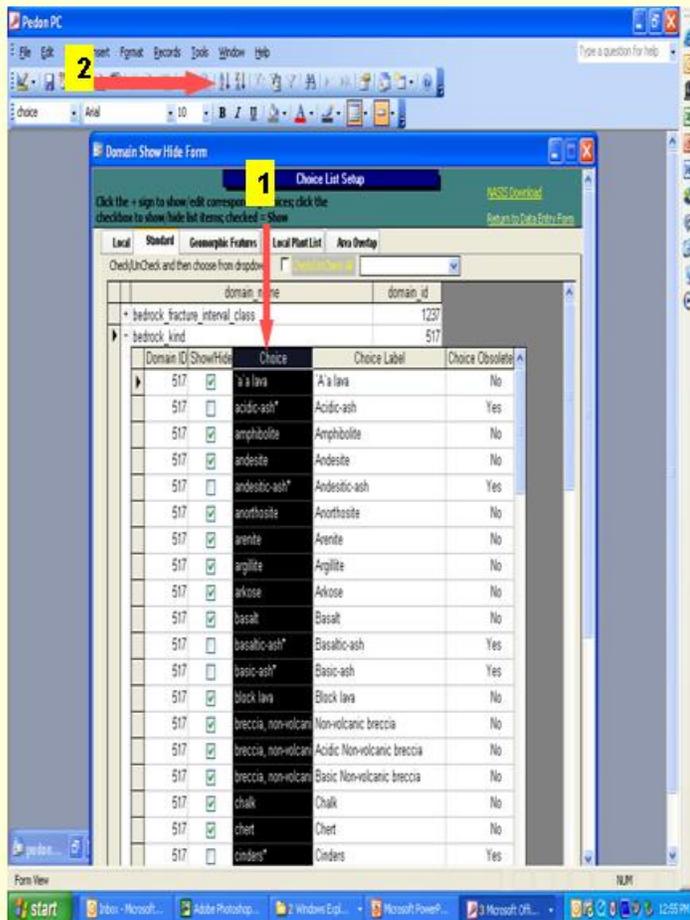
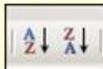
There is a drop down at the top of the form to check or uncheck all choices in a given table. Uncheck the box and then use the drop down to select the table you want to apply it to.

Some tables have very large choice lists but you may only use a few of the choices. In this case it is easier to uncheck them all and then check on the few you use.



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The choice lists are not always in alphabetical order. Use ACCESS functions to sort for you. Highlight the choice and then press one of the sort buttons on the access toolbar.



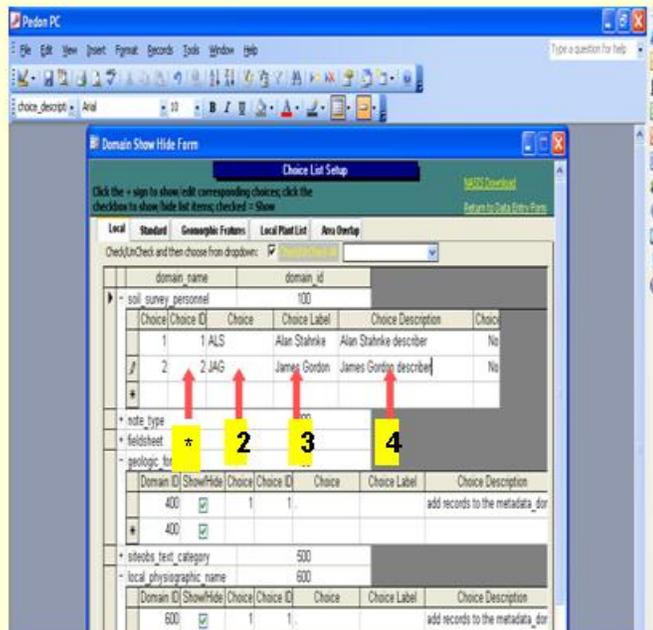
Windows products often allow the user to perform the same function multiple ways. A right click on the column heading also allows the user to choose sort ascending or sort descending.

## Step 5. Go to the local tab

The local tab is for creating user defined choice lists.

This ensures consistent spelling and creates pick lists to minimize typing in the field. The choice label is what shows up in the pick list.

\*Add a sequential Choice ID (just to keep the computer happy)

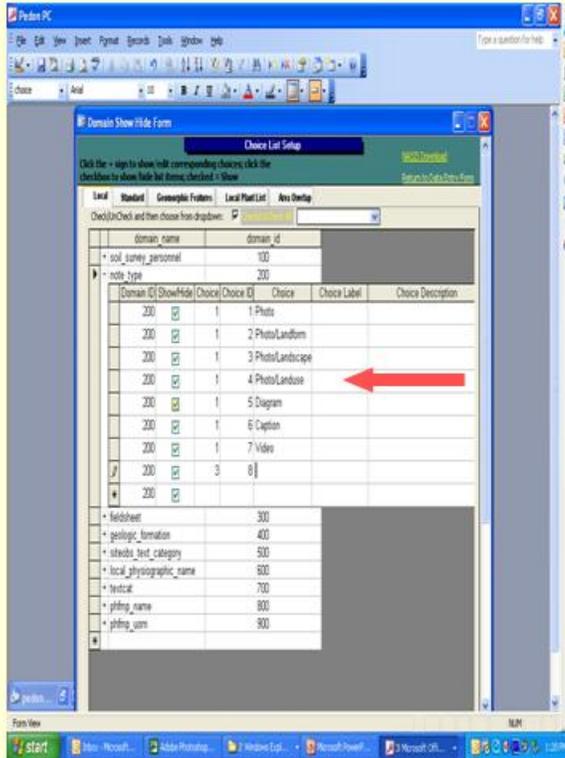


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Being able to create user defined choice lists is a feature that is particularly helpful for tablet users. Phrases and describers names can be entered into these local pick lists. The user can then pick from the list in the field rather than typing in lengthy phrases or describers names.

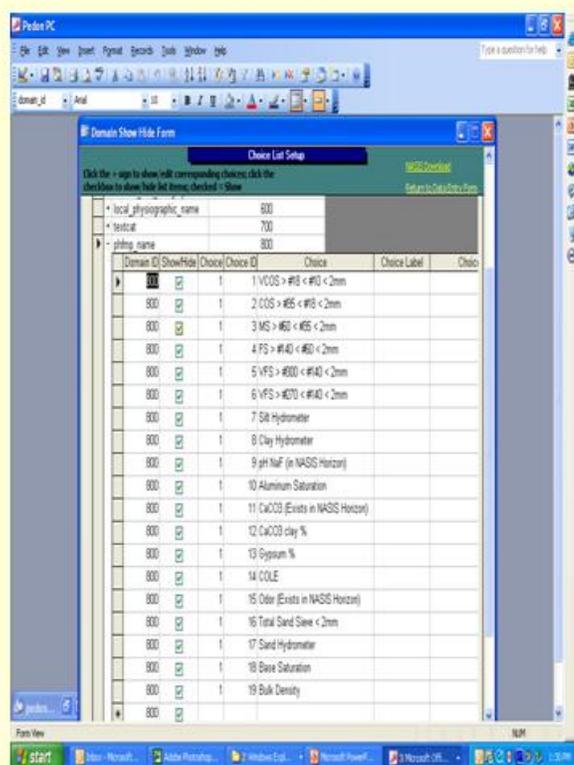
There is a sequential choice ID that must be unique and must be filled in. This number is completely arbitrary and is just a requirement of the system.

“Note type” is a user defined choice in the text notes of pedon. Creating a defined choice will enable queries by note type during the analysis process.



An example of a note type would be “taxonomy” if the user was recording information about a proposed taxonomy classification for some pedons. By adding “taxonomy” as a note type, the user could query all these pedons at once without searching through each description.

Field measured properties is a choice list that is not in NASIS. This choice list has been provided for recording local laboratory data in the pedon field measured property table.



The field measured properties choice list was created to insure consistency from pedon to pedon. What prompted this creation were instances such as CaCO3 equivalent as it has been recorded in the field measured properties table in NASIS with multiple spellings. This makes querying the field measured properties table for CaCO3 almost impossible.

You can import customized choice lists from another Pedon PC database. This is useful if you have a form set up the way you like but go to another MLRA to work. You can just get a copy of that MLRA's Pedon PC database and import the choice lists into your Pedon PC interface.

