

Chicago Botanic Garden  
2016 Operating Plan  
Living Plant Collections

Goal	Objectives	Deliverables	
<p>IV.9 The Chicago Botanic Garden's plant collections, adapted to the regional climate and landscape, will be accessible and useful to its many publics; will achieve defined standards; and will continue to deepen through specialized collections that support research. The Garden will conduct a vigorous program of national and international plant exploration to diversify the collections, collect plant types better adapted to our climate, and create collections of excellence.</p>	<p>1. Increase the genetic diversity and public outreach of the Garden's Living Plant Collection.</p>	<p>Increase the number of taxa in the Garden's permanent plant collections by 250 net taxa (currently 9,800). (Add 150 new woody plant taxa and 200 herbaceous perennial taxa.)</p> <p>Add 25 wild collected geophytes.</p> <p>Begin first year of 10-year Plant Expedition Plan.</p> <p>Restart Plant Collecting Collaborative.</p> <p>Conduct a critical assessment of <i>Abies</i>, <i>Picea</i>, <i>Pinus</i>, <i>Lilium</i>, and <i>Clematis</i>.</p> <p>Complete NAPCC Geranium collections assessment.</p> <p>Acquire the highest rated plants from the Garden's plant evaluation program for the permanent collections.</p> <p>Complete NAPCC Baptisia application.</p> <p>Develop NAOCC goals for the ex-situ orchid collections.</p> <p>Create 5-Year Curatorial Plan.</p> <p>Conservatory Collection Assessment.</p> <p>Focus collection development resources on the NAPCC Geranium collection. Add 20 new Geranium taxa to the collection.</p> <p>Draft a Geophyte white paper.</p>	
	<p>2. Conduct collections-based research.</p>	<p>Continue to evaluate <i>Hydrangea serrata</i>, to be completed in 2018.</p> <p>Decide whether to continue <i>Hamamelis</i> trial; if no, then move the best-performing taxa into the collections.</p>	
	<p>IV.10 The Garden will lead the world in living-plant record keeping and public access, both physically and virtually. It will also be an essential resource about plants and plant science for its many constituencies, including the public, educators, landscape architects, scientists, and local agencies and municipalities.</p>	<p>1. Create the best-curated living plant collection in a North American public garden.</p>	<p>Expand the number of horticulture staff who can edit their own inventory records by four (based upon a successful 2014 pilot program). Create a plan to verify accuracy and implement it.</p>
			<p>Complete shrub survey, make all necessary edits to plant records, and provide annotated maps for updates to the GIS Specialist, write conservation plan for the collection, and write final report to IMLS.</p>
			<p>Support the International Gardens APGA professional section through organizing the list of international contacts of all APGA members.</p>
			<p>Collect image, DNA, and herbarium vouchers to support verification of the <i>Salix</i> genus.</p>
			<p>Send herbarium specimens to Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, for verification.</p>
			<p>Collect image, DNA, and herbarium vouchers to support the North American Plant Collections Consortium (NAPCC) <i>Quercus multisite</i> collection at the Garden.</p>
			<p>Review the ash protection plan and update as needed.</p>
	<p>Create a list of important herbaceous taxa within the collection that are declining and need to be propagated.</p> <p>- The list will include wild-collected perennials or highly rated plants from the Garden's Plant Evaluation Program.</p>		
	<p>Improve the quality of the collection by continued verification of plants and editing of record data.</p>		
	<p>A.1 The Garden will remain committed to serving the needs of all its partners and advocates, in particular the people of Cook County. The Department will proudly communicate the model public-private partnership that the Chicago Horticultural Society and the Forest Preserves of Cook County have built together.</p>	<p>1. Implement a comprehensive supplier diversity plan that meets the President's goals.</p>	<p>25 percent minority-owned.</p> <p>10 percent woman-owned.</p>