

THE HUNTSVILLE BOTANICAL GARDEN ANNOUNCES NATIONAL ACCREDITATION OF TRILLIUM PLANT
COLLECTION

Trillium Collection is the largest accredited *Trillium* collection in the country!



The certificate is framed in a dark green border. At the top center is the logo for the Plant Collections Network, featuring a stylized purple flower icon and the text "Plant Collections Network" above "AMERICAN PUBLIC GARDENS ASSOCIATION". To the right is a purple and gold badge that says "NATIONALLY ACCREDITED" at the top, features the same flower icon, and says "PLANT COLLECTION™" at the bottom. The main text reads: "TRILLIUM COLLECTION of Huntsville Botanical Garden is recognized as a **Nationally Accredited Plant Collection™** The standard of excellence in plant collections management demonstrating an enduring commitment towards global efforts to save plants". Below this are two signatures: "Pamela J. Hinton" (Plant Collections Network Manager) and "D. Lynn Hinton" (Executive Director). The "Year of Accreditation: 2015" is printed below the signatures. At the very bottom, in small text, it says "Plant Collections Network is a program of the American Public Gardens Association in partnership with the USDA Agricultural Research Service".





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 1, 2016

While HBG houses many plant collections the *Trillium* collection is our first to receive national accreditation as a viable and sustainable plant collection through the American Public Garden Association's (APGA's) Plant Collection Network (PCN). Amy Highland, Curator of Mt. Cuba Center, reviewed our collection for Nationally Accredited Plant Collections (NAPC) and deemed it, "by far the most extensive public collection of eastern North American native *Trillium*".

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HBG *Trillium* Collection

Collection Objective

The HBG *Trillium* Collection is a multi-faceted research and educational collection aimed at expanding the knowledge of *Trillium* species, their diversity and the best protocols for propagating, transplanting and growing them. A most important and necessary aspect of HBG *Trillium* Collection Plan is the educational display of the *Trillium* collection diversity to encourage knowledge interchange within the technical and professional community. Having the PCN recognize the collection further enhances this objective.

Current state of mis-information among *Trillium* enthusiast highlights the need for data. The professionals focus on science such as DNA and new plant species, the plantsman focus on best way to propagate, the nurseryman focus on attractive sellable features, the wildflower collector wants diversity, and the conservationist wants them preserved in nature and lastly the Botanical Gardens want them to attract visitors. Formal documentation in the *Trillium* world is at best very limited and incomplete with 4 *Trillium* specific books published more than 15 years ago and several research papers published every few years.

Some of the HBG *Trillium* Collection objectives:

- Research
- Educational & garden displays
- Taxonomy
- Demonstrate diversity
- Encourage native hybrids
- Species and regional phenology
- Propagation protocols
- Germination protocols
- Transplant protocols
- Conservation protocols
- Native plantings

Some documentation features of HBG Collection:



- Plant Accession Based.
- Plant Database.
- Plant Image Database.
- Durable Accession Labels.
- Collection GIS Map Data.
- Species Pollen Database.

HBG *Trillium* Collection Characterized:

- > 10,000 plants in Collection in HBG Garden.
- > 10,000 Seed planted each year in Nursery for future Collection Additions.
- > 800 Accessions in Collection.
- > 500 Plants in Garden Evaluation for future Collection Additions.
- >80 Collection Taxa.
- 31 Eastern *Trillium* Species.

***Trillium* Collection Organization:**

- 30 TEG (*Trillium* Education Garden) Species Beds.
- 4 TMG (*Trillium* Memorial Gardens) Display Beds.
- 20 DTC (Donated *Trillium* Collections) Display Beds from *Trillium* Friends.
- >200 STC (Select *Trillium* Collection) Forms for continued evaluation.
- 11 NAC (Native Area Collections) documenting *Trillium* Gene sets from Select areas.
- 12 PDC (Propagation Demonstration Collections) Beds.
- 6 TL (*Trillium* Loops) Display and Research beds in Garden setting.

The Holmes *Trillium* Garden is an education, display and research garden with several major collections displaying thousands of *Trillium* and hundreds of select candidate *Trillium* forms. The Holmes *Trillium* Garden is named in honor of HBG volunteer Harold Holmes.

HUNTSVILLE BOTANICAL GARDEN

Huntsville Botanical Garden is located at 4747 Bob Wallace Avenue in Huntsville, AL, is open year-round and features the nation's largest open-air butterfly house, a picture-perfect aquatic garden, spectacular nature trails, numerous specialty gardens – including an interactive children's garden - and a variety of plant collections. This beautiful 112-acre Garden is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization run by only 35 employees and over 2600 active volunteers. With five distinct festivals each year; Beaks and Barks, Huntsville Blooms, Summer Butterfly House, Fall Scarecrow Trail and Holiday Galaxy of Lights, you'll soon see why we say there's Always Something Growing On at Huntsville Botanical Garden!

Carol Casey
VP of Communications and Programming
Huntsville Botanical Garden



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