

Issue 1  
April 2020

# GGI-Gardens Newsletter



*The Global Genome Initiative for Gardens is an international partnership dedicated to collecting and preserving genome quality tissues for all species of plants on Earth*

This newsletter will serve to better connect GGI-Garden partners by providing news from the botanic garden community regarding collections and collections preservation; highlighting partner collections and contributions to GGI-Gardens and sharing opportunities such as the GGI-Gardens Partner Awards.



## Highlight

We are excited to announce and welcome a new member to the GGI-Gardens team, Jean Linsky, who joins GGI-Gardens as Program Coordinator.



Jean joins us from Botanic Gardens Conservation International, where she has been coordinating the Southeast Asia Botanic Gardens Network over the past three and a half years. In this role she has grown the strategic conservation program and communications of the SEABG Network. She has also worked with the Dr. Cecilia Koo Botanic Conservation Center in Taiwan over that time and has most recently worked with them to compile and edit a publication on *ex situ* orchid collections for the 23<sup>rd</sup> World Orchid Conference. She brings a wealth of experience in the botanical community, having worked with plant conservation organizations in Canada, the US, UK, Central

America and Asia. In particular she has most recently worked with gardens to facilitate collections and conservation programs as well as practical tree conservation projects via the Global Tree Campaign.

With GGI-Gardens, Jean will help coordinate the growing GGI-Gardens partnership by improving communication and resources available to our partners. Jean is also helping GGI-Gardens coordinate its work more closely with BGCI and in this way, we are working to better strategically align the BGCI and GGI-Gardens activities and impact.

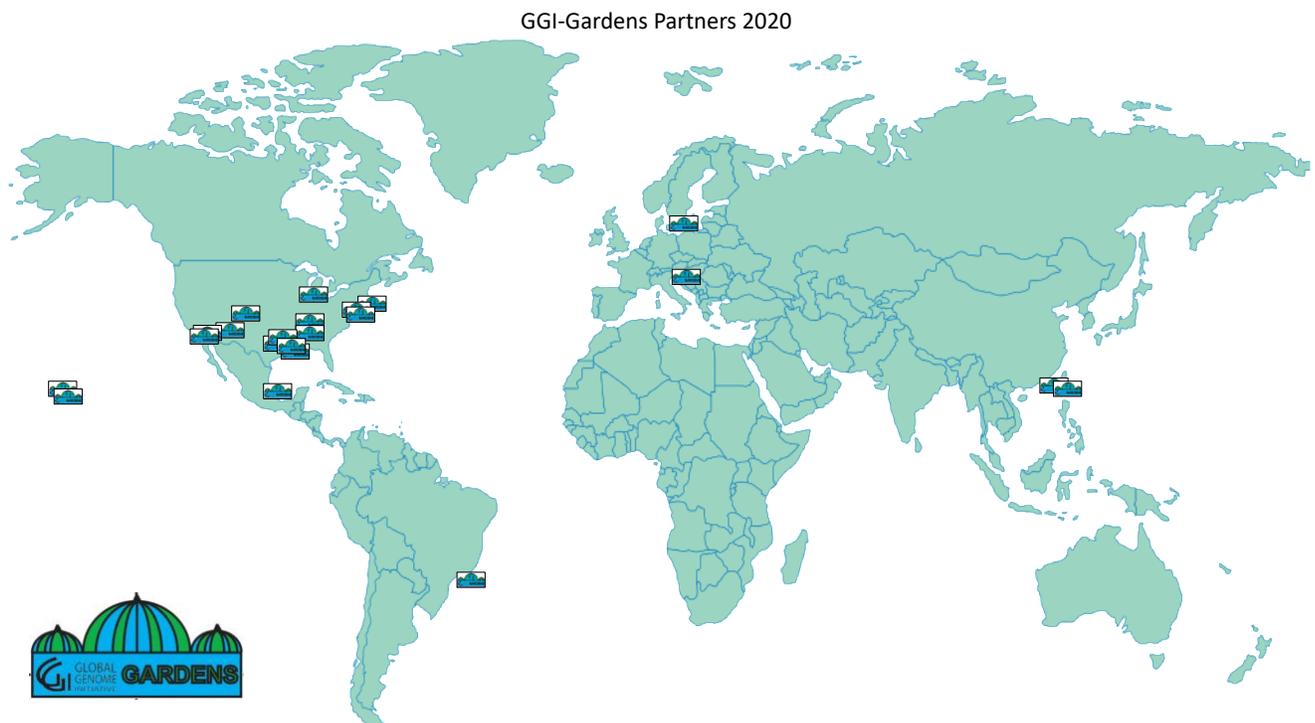
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*The GGI-Gardens Partnership program started in 2015.*

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## GGI-Gardens Progress to Date

- 25 partners, 16 actively collecting
- 19,910 tissue samples have been collected
- 4,065 total genera have been added to GGBN
- **US\$20,924** has been awarded to **4 gardens** over **2 years** under the GGI-Gardens Awards Program to support collection activities that contribute unique plant genetic diversity to GGBN-partnered biorepositories.



A full list of GGI-Gardens Partners is on Page 3.



## Resources

### Video on How to make collections for GGI Gardens

Are you new to the GGI-Gardens Partnership or need some guidance on making collections? Check out the video '[How to Make Collections for GGI-Gardens](#)' created by Denver Botanic Gardens. In this clear and concise video, they describe the basic steps for collecting a vascular plant herbarium specimen and an associated tissue sample that meets the quality standards to be included in the Global Genome Initiative.

Contact GGI-Gardens:

Email: [jlinsky@brit.org](mailto:jlinsky@brit.org) / Facebook: @ggismithsonian / [Website](#)



### The GGI Gap Analysis Tool

Ready to start collecting for GGI-Gardens or want to continue to collect but not sure which species you should collect? The [GGI Gap Analysis Tool](#) will allow you to insert the genera (or higher taxonomic levels) present in your collection and will tell you if they are in GGBN or not. Genera missing from GGBN are high priority for GGI-Gardens collection. A written user guide found on the Gap Analysis Tool page will help you analyze your collection records list using the tool. Partners submitting applications for the GGI-Gardens or GGI Awards Programs should use this tool to assess the taxonomic novelty of their proposal.

## GGI Gardens Partners 2020

### USA

Botanical Research Institute of Texas  
 Chicago Botanic Garden  
 Denver Botanic Gardens  
 Desert Botanical Garden  
 Fort Worth Botanic Garden  
 Huntington Botanical Gardens  
 Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center  
 Longwood Gardens  
 Lyon Arboretum  
 Memphis Botanic Garden  
 Mercer Botanic Gardens

Missouri Botanical Garden  
 National Tropical Botanical Garden  
 New York Botanical Garden  
 Smithsonian Gardens  
 The John Fahey Garden (formerly Peckerwood Garden)  
 University of California Botanical Garden at Berkeley  
 U.S. Botanic Garden  
 USDA National Arboretum

### International

Botanischer Garten, Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz, Austria  
 Botanical Garden, Natural History Museum of Denmark  
 Dr. Cecilia Koo Botanic Conservation Center, Taiwan  
 Fairy Lake Botanical Garden, China  
 Jardim Botânico do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
 Jardín Botánico, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)

## Events

[Global Genome Biodiversity Network Conference](#) has been postponed until March 2021.

American Public Gardens Association 2020 Conference, (June 22-26th, 2020 in person conference has been **cancelled**). [More information here](#) on a 2020 Virtual Conference.