

## BGCI's PlantSearch and GardenSearch databases: 2011 Data Summary for the United States

*MANY THANKS to everyone who contributed to the PlantSearch and GardenSearch databases in 2011.* This document tracks progress on the content and use of PlantSearch and GardenSearch in the United States. BGCI U.S. will update this document at the end of every year to reflect trends in the databases over time, to demonstrate progress toward the [Global Strategy for Plant Conservation](#) and provide a nation-wide snapshot of the collections, facilities and expertise of public gardens in the United States.

In 2012, BGCI and BGCI US will continue to update the PlantSearch and GardenSearch databases, improving their usability, content and quality for our members and partners. Stay tuned for more updates, and let us know if you would like to support these efforts.

### PlantSearch

The data presented below includes:

- All institutions in the United States that have uploaded lists of the taxa in their collections to PlantSearch as of December 31, 2010 (2010) and December 31, 2011 (2011).
- All plants native to the United States, using a dataset of 25,630 plant taxa (provided by NatureServe 2010). Synonymy has been incorporated into all results (following Kartesz 1999).

**Table 1:** Number of United States collections uploaded to PlantSearch, shown by collection type (germplasm or living plant collections). Also shown are the number of taxa-level records these collections hold for native U.S. taxa, and the total number of native U.S. taxa these collections are known to hold.

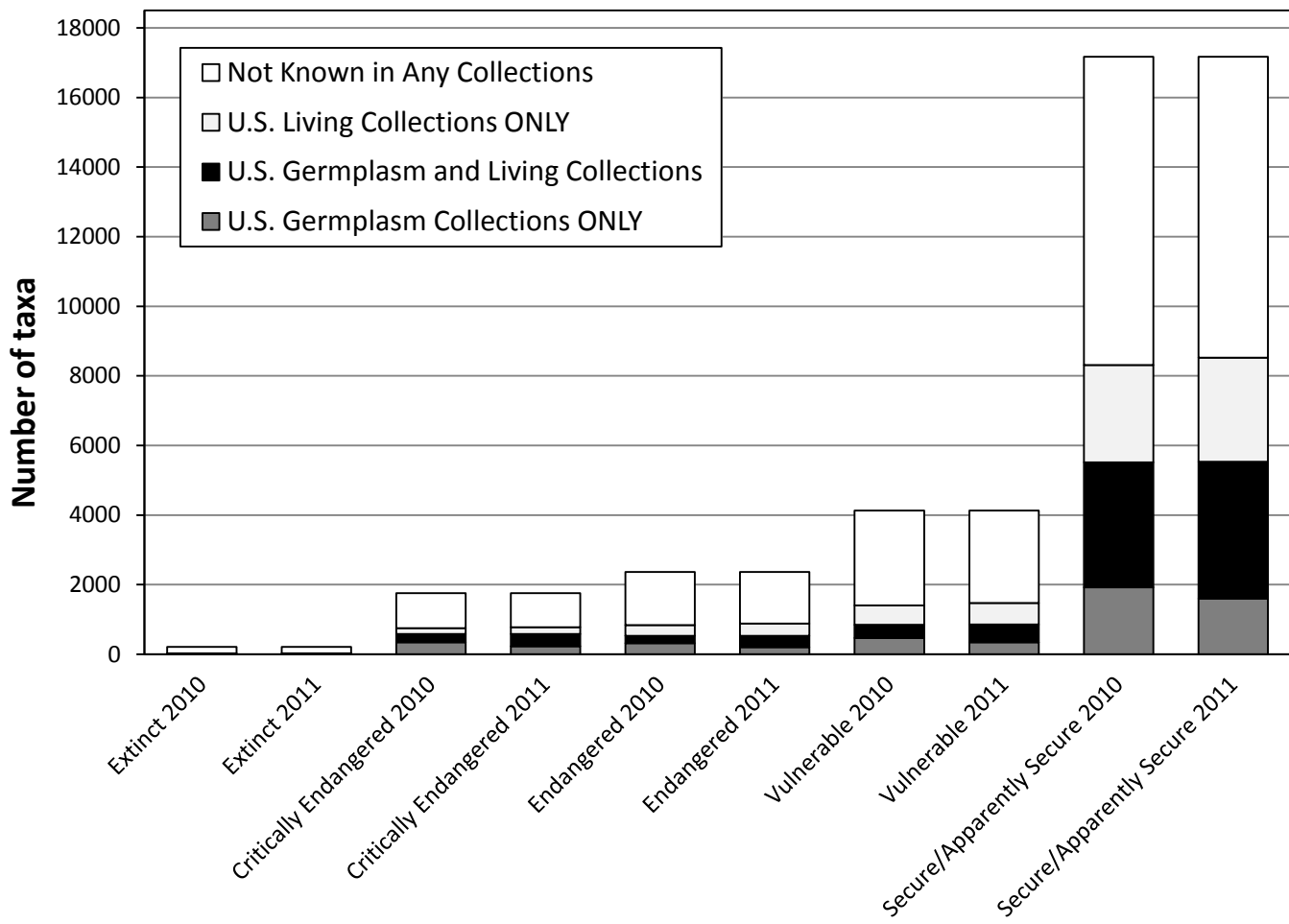
Type of Collection	Number of Collections		Number of Records for Taxa Native to the U.S.		Number of Taxa Native to the U.S. Represented	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
U.S. Germplasm Collections	19	20	12,370	16,623	7,496	7,524
U.S. Living Collections	153	210	51,180	76,098	8,267	9,293
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>172</i>	<i>230</i>	<i>63,550</i>	<i>92,721</i>	<i>11,331</i>	<i>11,678</i>

**Table 2:** Number of native taxa curated in United States collections uploaded to PlantSearch by the end of 2010 and 2011, by NatureServe threat rank. Shown for taxa known in Germplasm Collections ONLY, Living Collections ONLY, Germplasm AND Living Collections, and ALL COLLECTIONS.

Type of collection	Number Native 'Extinct' Taxa		Number Native 'Critically Imperiled' Taxa		Number Native 'Imperiled' Taxa		Number Native 'Vulnerable' Taxa		Number Native 'Secure/ Apparently Secure' Taxa	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
U.S. Germplasm Collections ONLY	11	11	344	232	314	204	469	340	1,926	1,598
U.S. Germplasm AND Living Collections	5	8	236	353	218	328	381	515	2,798	2,988
U.S. Living Collections ONLY	8	10	169	190	307	348	556	618	3,589	3,935
<b><i>TOTAL IN ALL U.S. COLLECTIONS</i></b>	<b><i>24 (11%)</i></b>	<b><i>29 (14%)</i></b>	<b><i>749 (43%)</i></b>	<b><i>775 (44%)</i></b>	<b><i>839 (35%)</i></b>	<b><i>880 (37%)</i></b>	<b><i>1,406 (36%)</i></b>	<b><i>1,473 (36%)</i></b>	<b><i>8,313 (48%)</i></b>	<b><i>8,521 (50%)</i></b>

**Figure 1:** Number of native taxa curated in United States collections uploaded to PlantSearch by the end of 2010 and 2011, shown by NatureServe threat rank. Shown for taxa known in Germplasm Collections ONLY, Living Collections ONLY, Germplasm AND Living Collections, as well as number of taxa not currently known from any collections.

### U.S. Native Plants Cultivated in U.S. Collections



**Table 3:** Number of research and information requests sent through PlantSearch’s blind request function to U.S. botanic gardens and arboreta since 2008.

Year	Number of PlantSearch Requests Sent to U.S. Gardens/Arboreta
2011	1885
2010	710
2009	490
2008	510

Are your institution’s collections included in PlantSearch? Are they up-to-date? Visit [www.bgci.org/usa/MakeYourCollectionsCount](http://www.bgci.org/usa/MakeYourCollectionsCount) to learn how you can get involved for free.

## [GardenSearch](#)

**Table 4:** Number of botanic gardens and arboreta in the United States where selected resources, programs, and expertise are found (as identified for the 611 botanic gardens in the GardenSearch database on December 31, 2011).

<b>Selected Resources, Programs, and Expertise</b>	<b>Number of U.S. gardens / arboreta in 2011</b>
Micropropagation Facilities	25
Herbarium	46
Seedbank	49
Conservation Program	88
Reintroduction Program	43
Habitat Restoration	30
Restoration Ecology Research	33
Ethnobotanical Research	22
Monitor invasive pests	32
Invasive Species Research	42
Interpret Threatened Plants in Collections	14
Education Program	167
Teach University-Level Courses	48
Offer Public Lectures	148
<b>TOTAL U.S. Botanic Gardens in GardenSearch (2011)</b>	<b>611</b>

*NOTE: GardenSearch is a free online database: Data contained in GardenSearch is primarily provided and managed by individual institutions— BGCI attempts to maintain up-to-date data for our members, but we cannot guarantee the completeness or accuracy of data. BGCI welcomes and encourages garden staff to [register as a Garden Editor](#) to maintain and update their institution's GardenSearch profile.*

Search GardenSearch for yourself using our [NEW ADVANCED SEARCH](#) website.

**AND**

[Register as a Garden Editor](#) to maintain and update your institution's GardenSearch profile.

### **Questions or Comments? Contact BGCI U.S.**

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