

## Why enroll in the Certificate in Native Plants Program?

Have you ever wondered, "What is that plant?", wanted to know more about native plants or to participate in plant conservation activities but felt you just didn't know enough? Have you considered a career in plant biology, horticulture, conservation or ecology? The Native Plant Certificate Program will provide you with basic knowledge and skills that both dedicated amateurs and professionals need to know. Even without a plan for a professional career in plant conservation, knowledge gained in this program will equip you to be a more effective advocate and volunteer in your community.

Program participants are eligible for six Continuing Education Units (CEU) through the University of Georgia Tifton Campus.



*To Register for classes in the Certificate in Native Plants Program in Tifton:*

Visit our website at [www.botgarden.uga.edu](http://www.botgarden.uga.edu)  
or contact Sean Cameron at  
706-542-6156 [cscamero@uga.edu](mailto:cscamero@uga.edu)

## The State Botanical Garden of Georgia

The State Botanical Garden of Georgia is part of the Public Service and Outreach unit of the University of Georgia, and is a nationally recognized leader in plant conservation. It is a living laboratory for students and faculty who use the collections and natural plant communities for research and teaching. The garden is also open and free to the general public who find beauty, knowledge, and solitude in a garden or natural setting.

2450 S. Milledge Ave. Athens, Georgia 30605



## Georgia Plant Conservation Alliance

The Georgia Plant Conservation Alliance, a co-sponsor of the certificate program, is a network of more than 40 universities, botanical gardens, state and federal agencies, conservation organizations, and private companies that are committed to conservation education, protection of rare plants, ecological land management, and native plant conservation. Headquartered at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia, GPCA's efforts and impacts extend throughout the state.

<http://botgarden.uga.edu/conservation-science/georgia-plant-conservation-alliance/>

# Certificate <sup>in</sup> Native Plants

## GEORGIA'S COASTAL PLAIN

**An education and conservation initiative of the University of Georgia's Tifton campus, the State Botanical Garden of Georgia, and the Georgia Plant Conservation Alliance**

*The Certificate in Native Plants Program at the Tifton Campus of the University of Georgia is open to all Georgians and emphasizes conservation of the native plants and plant communities of the Coastal Plain (all areas of the state south of Columbus, Macon and Augusta).*

*Classes are offered in the identification, cultivation, propagation, ecology and conservation of South Georgia's native plants and their habitats. With an emphasis on participatory learning, these short courses are designed to provide a supportive and hands-on learning atmosphere.*

*Through classwork, field trips, and volunteer projects, participants gain a greater appreciation and understanding of native plants as well as their habitats and conservation needs.*



**State Botanical Garden of Georgia**  
**UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**



## The Certificate in Native Plants Program is...

**Knowledge-based:** All courses are taught by experts—university professors, conservation professionals and experienced field botanists—who are dedicated to sharing their knowledge, experience, and enthusiasm in a relaxed setting and accessible format.

**Experiential:** Plan to get your hands dirty and your feet wet! All courses involve hands-on experience with plants and plant communities. Volunteer projects and field trips take you outdoors to learn by doing.

**Conservation-oriented:** We believe that the old saying knowledge is power applies to conservation. Once you know the basics of botany and plant conservation, you will be prepared and motivated to contribute to conserve Georgia's flora and native plant habitats.

**Learner-friendly:** Students may complete the program in as little as a year or take as long as they like to complete the program. With only a few exceptions, classes may be taken in any order and at the student's own pace. Students may design their own volunteer project or participate in an existing project.

## Certificate Requirements

Four core classes (8 hrs each)	32 hours
Six electives (4 hrs each)	24 hours
Volunteer service project	16 hours
Two field trips (4+ hrs each)	8 hours
Total	80 hours

### Fees

Registration \$30: Covers the cost of class materials.

Core classes \$105 each\*: Basic Botany, Plant Conservation, Natural Communities of Georgia, and Plant Taxonomy

Elective classes \$50 each\*: Students choose six courses from a wide range of class offerings.

\*10% discount for members of the Friends of the State Botanical Garden

### Volunteer Project

Participants contribute a minimum of 16 hours of volunteer service to native plant conservation, either designing their own project or participating in existing efforts.

### Field Trips

Participants complete two field trips organized by the Georgia Botanical Society ([www.gabotsoc.org](http://www.gabotsoc.org)), Georgia Native Plant Society ([www.gnps.org](http://www.gnps.org)) or another approved organization.



## 2019 Schedule of Classes

### WINTER

- Identifying Trees & Shrubs in Winter (*elective*), Tifton, Jan. 19
- Natural Communities of Georgia (*core*), Alapaha, Jan. 26
- Native Medicinal Plants (*elective*), Valdosta, Feb. 16
- Wadell Garden Symposium (*elective*), Macon, Feb. 23
- Georgia Native Plant Symposium (*elective*), Macon, March 2

### SPRING

- Basic Botany (*core*) Tifton, April 27
- Plants of Coastal Plain Bogs and Seeps (*elective*), Doerun, May 4
- Altamaha Grit (*elective*), Douglas, April 6
- Gardening for Native Plant Pollinators (*elective*), Tifton, TBA
- South Georgia Native Plant & Wildflower Symposium (*elective*), Tifton, March 27

### SUMMER

- Plant Conservation (*core*), Tifton
- Identifying Trees & Shrubs in Summer (*elective*), Alapaha, June 8
- Propagating Native Plants (*elective*), Tifton, TBA
- Learning Native Grasses of Georgia's Coastal Plain (*elective*), Valdosta

### FALL (dates to be announced)

- Basics of Plant Taxonomy (*core*), Tifton
- Identifying and Controlling Exotic Pest Plants (*elective*), Tifton
- Wildflowers and Grasses of the Longleaf Pine Community (*elective*), Newton, October 12
- Bees, Butterflies, and Beyond Symposium (*elective*), Douglas, TBA