

The University of Tennessee Gardens Mission Statement:

The University of Tennessee (UT) Gardens have been established to foster appreciation, education, and stewardship of plants through horticultural gardens, displays, collections, educational programs, and research. The UT Gardens are a "living laboratory," a vital resource for the teaching, research, and public service missions of the University of Tennessee. The Gardens are an educational facility that supports and integrates teaching, research, and service relative to the needs of the Department of Plant Sciences, the University, green industry professionals, and the general public.

Education:

Education is at the heart of our mission, in that efforts are directed towards:

- Developing the professional expertise of university students*
- Establishing and maintaining relevant plant collections*
- Selecting and displaying outstanding landscape plants adapted to USDA Hardiness Zones 6 & 7.*

Research:

The Gardens support research studies which provide information on the best plant materials for the Tennessee region by:

- Evaluating and introducing new plants for Mid-South landscapes (USDA Plant Hardiness Zones 6 & 7).*

Service:

The Gardens serve the people of Tennessee by:

- Providing landscape demonstrations and displays featuring the complimentary use of plants within a built landscape.*
- Providing educational programs for children, adults, and green industry professionals.*
- Improving the quality of life by providing access to information and experiences with plants in the setting of a public garden.*

The development of the UT Gardens is a commitment by the Institute of Agriculture, Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station, and the Plant Sciences Department at The University of Tennessee. The Gardens depend upon contributions from alumni, industry, and Friends of the UT Gardens. Contributing to the Gardens is an investment in the education of its visitors, in UT, in the future of the landscape and nursery industries, and in the beautification of the East Tennessee region.

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