

Press Pack: Facts & Figures

National Plant Collections

- There are over **650 [National Plant Collections](#)** covering genera from *Abies* to *Zingiber* and containing over **95,000** garden plants. They come in all sizes, from miniature orchids to mighty oaks, and are found in all corners of the country.
- These are cared for and nurtured by **almost 400 Collection Holders** across the country, including:
 - **230 (35%)** collections are held by **private individuals**
 - **123 (19%)** are in specialist **plant nurseries**
 - **91 (14%)** in **botanic gardens** and **arboreta**, including Royal Botanic Gardens Kew and The National Arboretum
 - **66 (10%)** in smaller **gardens/charitable trusts**, including
 - **48 (7%)** in **National Trust** and National Trust for Scotland **properties**, including Wimpole Hall (Cambridgeshire), Powis Castle (North Wales) and Brodick Castle (Ayrshire & Arran)
 - **48 (7%)** in **governmental** or **local authority organisations**, including Sir Harold Hillier Gardens, Leeds City Council and West Ham Park
 - **24 (4%)** in education establishments such as **universities** and **colleges**, including Cambridge University Botanical Garden, University of Reading and the Eden Project
 - **13 (2%)** are in **RHS gardens**, including RHS Garden Wisley
 - **9 (1%)** held by **zoos**, including Bristol Zoological Gardens and Paignton Zoo
- **28** new collections were **accredited in 2019**

National Plant Collections by plant group *(ordered alphabetically by plant group)*

Plant group	Number of collections	Number of plants within collection(s)
Alpines, heaths & heathers	15	3,376
Aquatic	3	401
Bulbs, corms etc.	57	10,289
Cacti & succulents	28	10,757
Carnivorous	5	1,339
Climbers	23	3,494
Conifers	15	992
Culinary	39	8,371
Ferns & other non-flowering plants	14	1,268
Grasses & bamboo	6	333
Herbaceous (annual, biennial or perennial)	170	23,760
Multiple genera collections	8	1,303
Orchids	8	1,776
Shrubs	115	11,669
Tender or tropical	46	7,651
Trees	100	8,508
Total	652	95,287

Top three (number of plant collections):

- Herbaceous / 170 collections
- Shrubs / 115 collections
- Trees / 100 collections

Bottom three (number of plant collections):

- Aquatic / 3 collections
- Carnivorous / 5 collections
- Grasses and bamboo / 6 collections

National Plant Collections by region/county *(ordered alphabetically by region/county)*

Collections by local Plant Heritage group(s)	Number of collections	Number of plants within collection(s)
Ayrshire & Arran	13	1,713
Berks/Bucks/Oxon	21	5,831
Cambridgeshire	13	1,070
Cheshire	17	2,829
Cornwall	16	5,763
Devon	42	4,366
Dorset	11	1,252
Dumfries & Galloway	7	331
East Midlands*	23	3,357
Essex	10	891
Gloucestershire	26	2,928
Grampian & Tayside	28	4,371
Guernsey	3	915
Hampshire & Isle of Wight	52	7,425
Herefordshire	8	1,211
Herts & Beds	4	2,236
Irish Garden Plant Society (north and south Ireland)	12	3,130
Kent	39	6,955
London	20	880
Norfolk	10	945
North East	19	2,898
North Wales	13	1,057
North West	25	5,579
Shropshire	26	2,927
Somerset	20	1,439
South East Scotland	16	1,123
South Wales*	10	1,410
Staffordshire	7	1,360
Suffolk	17	2,860
Surrey	32	3,424
Sussex	24	3,217
Warwickshire	8	3,627
West Midlands	7	534
Wiltshire	3	163
Worcestershire	9	1,094

Yorkshire	41	4,176
Total	652	95,287

**Area does not have a local Plant Heritage group*

Top three (number of plant collections):

- Hampshire & Isle of Wight / 52 collections
- Devon / 42 collections
- Yorkshire / 41 collections

Bottom three (number of plant collections):

- Wiltshire / 3 collections
- Guernsey / 3 collections
- Hertfordshire & Bedfordshire / 4 collections

Plant Guardians

- Approximately **1,300 plants** are **looked after** by [Plant Guardians](#)

Plant Exchange

- Approximately **1,000 rare plants** are **exchanged every year** at the annual [Plant Exchange](#)

Local groups

- There are **31 local groups** across the country