

Implementation of pollen banking for critically rare plant species

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Duration: 60 minutes

Target audience: Botanic garden conservation staff, curators, collection managers and horticulturists.

Objectives: Participants will learn how to bank pollen for long-term conservation and to facilitate long-distance crosses across space and time.

Abstract: When metacollections are managed using pedigree-based breeding decisions (the studbook approach), crosses between institutions and/or across time are often needed. By banking pollen, we can increase options for mating decisions and more easily select least related breeding pairs across institutions to produce offspring, but this tool is underutilised for wild species. This workshop will introduce participants to the importance of pollen banking and demonstrate methods which will help botanic gardens and other botanical institutions globally to start their own pollen banking efforts.