

Presentation Abstract

Independence Through Native Plants: Restoration and Gardening, Dan Segal, The Plantsman Nursery

Native plants are becoming increasingly critical to the integrity of environmental restoration and landscape work, for various reasons--survival, adaptability, ecological awareness, resource conservation, and more. Overall availability is often the limiting factor, but even when available, regionally appropriate genotypes of native species are harder to find. Propagation done at independent nurseries liberates these projects in two basic ways--by making species available that are usually not grown at large commercial operations, and by raising the likelihood of using local genotypes. We'll discuss what techniques and programs are required in nurseries if their plants are to live up to ecological principles such as provenance and genetic diversity, making a native species much more than just a name.