

Biography for Dan Segal

Just this spring Dan took over as new owner of The Plantsmen Nursery in the Ithaca area (www.plantsmen.com). The nursery now offers the greatest selection of native plants in central NY, as well as other complementary and appropriate plants from other parts of the planet. Previously known for specialty and exotic annuals, the property was perfectly primed for being converted to a much more natural, native plant nursery, with 10 greenhouses on an 11-acre parcel of mixed habitat ranging from wetland to white pine woods.

The past 5 years, Dan managed Pinelands Nursery & Supply in New Jersey, also managing our two satellite nurseries in Gloversville, NY and Toano, VA. Pinelands is the leading supplier in the eastern US of plants for ecological restoration. There, Dan developed the message of The Twin Pillars for Ecological Restoration Plants: Provenance and Genetic Diversity. Dan has given presentations along similar lines to the US EPA, NJ DEP, NJ chapter of American Society of Landscape Architects, National Arbor Day Foundation, Native Plant Society of New Jersey, and many other groups (including other related topics on native plants in horticulture and restoration).

Before that, Dan worked for and managed North Coast Native Nursery in northern California for about 5 years, doing similar work. There Dan presented in two consecutive years at the Strybing Arboretum in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, as part of a panel discussion called Natives In Style.

Dan has also worked in the green industry for about 5 years prior to that, for golf courses, farms, landscaping, etc., and have been botanizing, seed collecting, propagating, writing about, and promoting native plants for about 15 years.

Education: BA from Hamilton College in English Literature, and 2 years graduate work at UC Davis in Plant Geography.

Family, Wife Sarah, Children Aaron (5), Sofia (3) and Charlie (8 months).