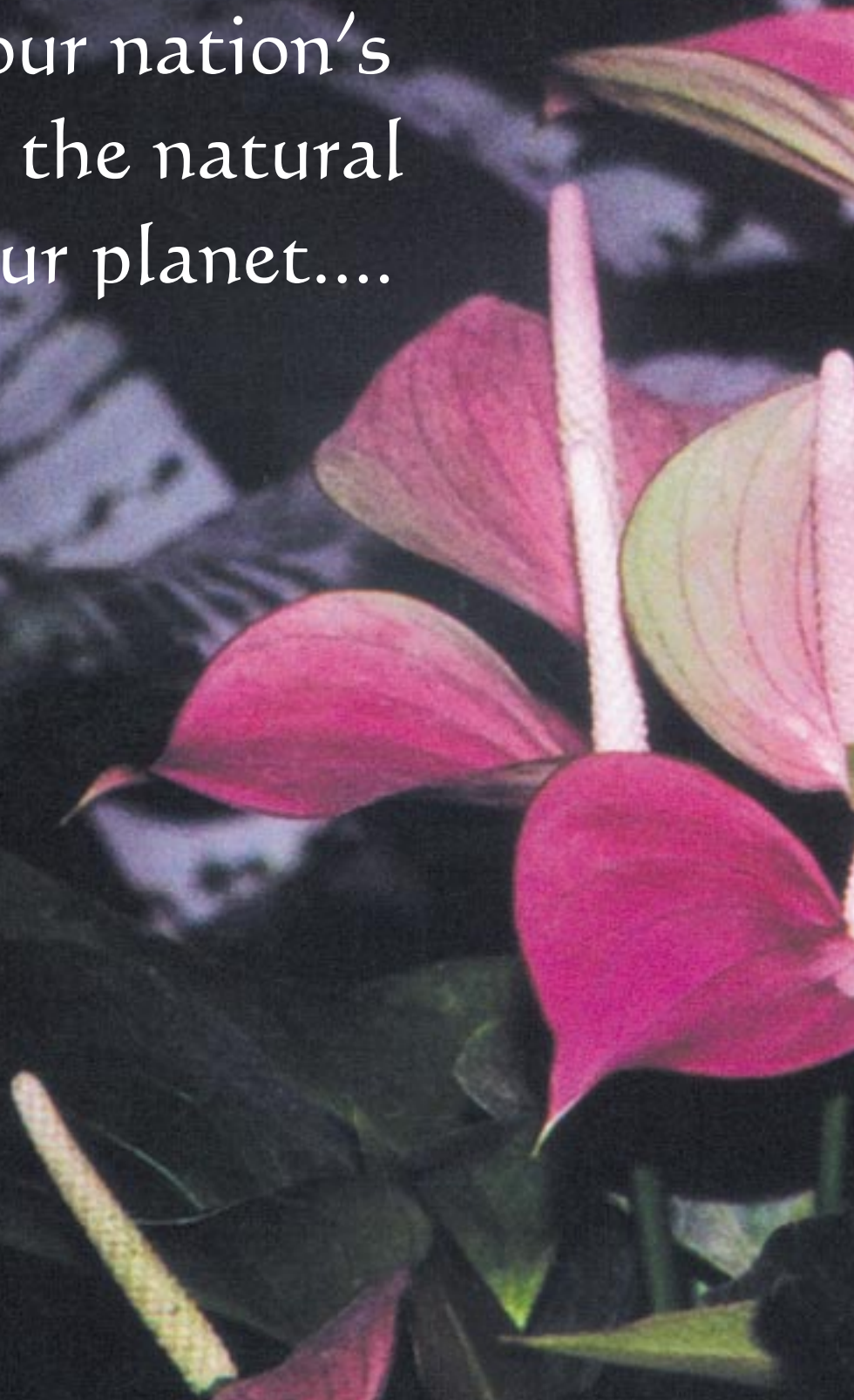


It is an enchanted world,  
yet it could not be more real,  
steeped in our nation's  
history and the natural  
history of our planet....









# A national treasure

the u.s. botanic garden –  
a photographic study

*text and photographs  
by Peter Daniel Davis*

Though only a few blocks from the grounds of the Capitol Building, walking into the United States Botanic Garden is entering a world where anyone can shed the cold of winter and amble among orchids, cacti, and ancient ferns.



Blue-chalksticks (*Senecio serpens*)



Alluaudia Cactus

Cereus Cactus





Bromeliad (*Androlepsis skinneri*)



Dwarf Papaya





The Garden is a place where young and old learn about natural habitats and the protection of endangered species, and where, if only for a short time, workplace schedules give way to the slower pace of nature. Visitors can stroll along a catwalk and gaze upon the jungle canopy below, where couples traverse a wooden footbridge and toss coins into a stream under arching branches that filter sunlight illuminating the sanctity of the natural world.

The Garden's mission is to demonstrate the esthetic, cultural, economic, ecological, and therapeutic importance of plants. The collection has plants that are sources of food, industrial fiber, perfume, and medicine. Others are just for our admiration. Many of the specimens are new, including endangered species confiscated by United States Customs. Some are much older, including one that is likely the original Ferocious Blue Cycad collected in Cape Town, South Africa by the Wilkes Expedition.

It was the dream of Presidents Washington, Madison, Jefferson, and Monroe to establish a botanic garden at the seat of government. Soon, the U.S. Botanic Garden will build on that dream with a new outdoor garden alongside the existing U.S. Botanic Garden. It will include a garden with plants native to the mid-Atlantic region, a rose garden, and an environmental learning center with an amphitheater, lecture hall, classrooms, and a library.

The United States Botanic Garden is a place where, if only for a part of an hour, spirits are renewed by a world so hidden from us most of the time. Yet, if hidden all too often, it is a world so much a part of us that perhaps a part of an hour is long enough to restore our senses and remember it is a world worth protecting, a world for our children, a world still ours.

Close to the Capitol Building, the United States Botanic Garden is open daily, free of charge, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and is located on the National Mall at 100 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20004. There is no admission fee. (202) 225-8333.

[www.usbg.gov](http://www.usbg.gov)



**Cattleya Orchid**



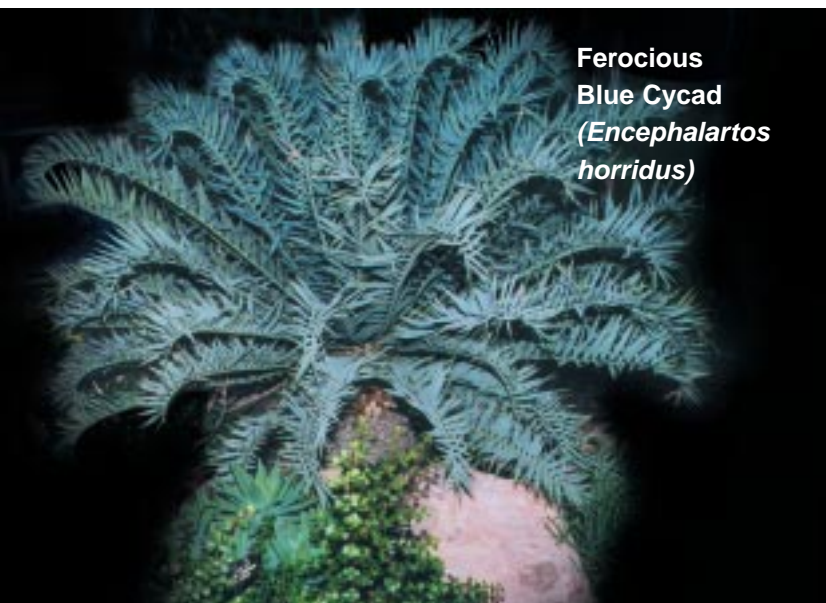
**Amazonian Zebra Plant,  
(*Aechmea chantinii*)**



**Oncidium Orchid**



Guzmania Hybrid



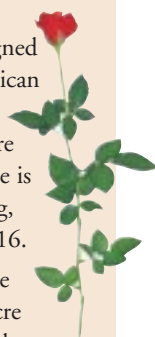
Ferocious Blue Cycad (*Encephalartos horridus*)



Dendrobium Orchid

In addition to the United States Botanic Garden, numerous other gardens within 20 miles of the U.S. Capitol are open to the public.

- **The six Smithsonian Institution Gardens** include the Victory Garden, the Heirloom Garden, and the Butterfly Garden outside the American History Museum and Natural History Museum. On the opposite side of the National Mall are the Folger Rose Garden, Haupt Garden, and Ripley Garden. There is no admission fee. (202) 357-1926, [www.si.edu/horticulture](http://www.si.edu/horticulture), 900 Jefferson Drive, SW, Washington, DC 20560-0420.
- **The United States National Arboretum**, two miles from the Capitol in Northeast DC, is located on 446 acres and features aquatic plants, magnolias, hollies, boxwood, Asian plants, dogwood, and conifers, the National Herb Garden, the National Bonsai, and Penjing Museum. There is no admission fee. (202) 245-2726, [www.usna.usda.gov](http://www.usna.usda.gov), 3501 New York Avenue, NE, Washington, DC 20002-1958.
- **The Washington National Cathedral Grounds**, designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., son of the great American landscape architect, are sixty acres atop Washington, D.C.'s highest point, Mount St. Alban. On the site are herb beds, a rose garden, and perennial borders. There is no admission fee. (202) 537-6200, [www.cathedral.org](http://www.cathedral.org), 3101 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20016.
- **George Washington's River Farm**, headquarters to the American Horticultural Society since 1973, is a 25-acre property that stretches to the Potomac River with both naturalistic and formal gardens. The Farm is a short drive from Alexandria, Virginia. There is no admission fee. (703) 768-5700, [www.ahs.org](http://www.ahs.org), 7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308.
- **The Green Spring Gardens**, a 27-acre garden in Alexandria, Virginia has landscapes designed by Beatrix Farrand and Walter Macomber. There is no admission fee. (703) 642-5173, [www.greenspring.org](http://www.greenspring.org), 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria, VA 22312.
- **George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate & Gardens**, with a view across the Potomac River, is a restored 18<sup>th</sup> century plantation. An admission fee is charged at this site. (703) 780-2000, [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org), Mount Vernon, VA 22121.
- **The Meadowlark Botanical Gardens** is a 95-acre garden in Alexandria, Virginia with three lakes. Collections include daylilies, herbs, and forest native to the Potomac Valley. The site charges an admission fee and is a property of the Virginia Regional Park Authority (<http://www.nvrpa.org/>). (703) 255-3631, Ext. 301. [www.washacadsci.org/meadowlark-gardens/](http://www.washacadsci.org/meadowlark-gardens/), 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna, VA 22182.
- **The Brookside Gardens** in Wheaton, Maryland is 35-acres of formal and informal gardens. At the site are the Gude Garden, a Japanese-style landscape, the Fragrance Garden, and the Azalea Garden. There is no admission fee. (301) 949-8230, [www.brooksidegardens.org](http://www.brooksidegardens.org), 1800 Glenallan Avenue, Wheaton, MD 20902.







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<b>NSN</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Color/Type</b>	<b>U/I</b>
7930-01-513-1144	4/1-gal Bottles, Green Seal Approved	pH = 4.0	BX

**Low Foam All Purpose Cleaner**

<b>NSN</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Color/Type</b>	<b>U/I</b>
7930-01-512-7759	4/1-gal Bottles, Green Seal Approved	pH = 7.0	BX

**Tough Job**

<b>NSN</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Color/Type</b>	<b>U/I</b>
7930-01-513-6571	4/1-gal Bottles, Green Seal Approved	pH = 9.0	BX

**Washroom & Fixture Cleaner**

<b>NSN</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Color/Type</b>	<b>U/I</b>
7930-01-512-7172	4/1-gal Bottles, Green Seal Approved	pH = 4.0	BX

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