

**APPS Special Issue Call for Papers:**

**“Meeting the Challenge of Exceptional Plant Conservation: Technologies and Approaches”**

[Applications in Plant Sciences](#) (APPS), the [Botanical Society of America](#)'s (BSA) open access journal highlighting new tools and protocols across the plant sciences, is organizing a special issue titled, “Meeting the Challenge of Exceptional Plant Conservation: Technologies and Approaches.”

The goal of this special issue is to provide an overview of the current methods and challenges in applying seed biology, *in vitro* methods, and cryobiotechnologies to meet the needs of the *ex situ* conservation of exceptional species (plant species that cannot be conserved by conventional seedbanking). We are interested in illustrating the scope of the challenge, as well as the resources and methods that will be needed, by highlighting research in: (1) areas of seed biology that inform identification of exceptional species; (2) establishing, growing, and recovering plants from *in vitro* shoot or somatic embryo cultures; (3) the cryopreservation and recovery of short-lived seeds, zygotic embryos, dormant buds, pollen, shoot tips, or somatic embryos; and (4) genetic studies focused on strategies for collecting/sampling for *in vitro* culture initiation or describing the genetic diversity or stability of *in vitro* or cryopreserved collections. Review articles summarizing current methods and techniques are also welcome.



**How to submit:** Authors interested in contributing to this special issue should email a proposal consisting of a tentative title, proposed author list, and a 200–300-word abstract to the APPS editorial office ([apps@botany.org](mailto:apps@botany.org)).

**The deadline for proposal submission is June 4, 2021.** Proposals will be reviewed by the Editor-in-Chief and the special issue editors. Authors will be notified by June 25, 2021, as to whether their proposal was accepted. Proposal submissions from early-career researchers are particularly encouraged.

**Authors whose proposals are accepted should submit their manuscript by December 1, 2021.** Note that acceptance of a proposal does not guarantee the eventual acceptance of the manuscript, as all manuscripts will be rigorously peer-reviewed and held to the standards of the journal. **The target date for publication of the special issue is June 2022.**

Reduced [article publication charges](#) (at the BSA member rate) are available for papers accepted for publication in the special issue. For more details about journal scope and article types, please see the [Author Guidelines](#). Any questions may be sent to the APPS editorial office ([apps@botany.org](mailto:apps@botany.org)).

Best wishes,

Dr. Emily Coffey (Atlanta Botanical Garden)  
Dr. Valerie Pence (Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden)  
Dr. Megan Philpott (Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden)  
Special Issue Editors

Image credits (clockwise from upper left): Megan Philpott, Dani Ballesteros, Megan Philpott, and Emily Coffey