



**Taltree**  
arboretum & gardens

We appreciate the talents of volunteers who have a knack for photographing plants, and especially appreciate their ability to keep records of photos we can use on Taltree's Web site and in print. Our goal for now is to keep photos for the "What's in Bloom" feature on our site. In future, having good quality photos will be extremely helpful to our horticulture staff as they keep track of collections and usage of plants in the landscape.

We've compiled a few criteria for those who are willing to help us with this:

- If the plant has a name sign, include at least one photo of the plant with the sign, focusing on the sign details. Then the photographer and Jean have a quick reference for the name. Obviously this doesn't work with the wildflowers.
- Submit no more than three photos of any one plant. This will force editing. With digital cameras it's easy to take a ton of photos and never sort them.
- Photo quality should be 300 dpi or measure a minimum of 2400 pixels on the longest side. We can always shrink them for the website, but can't enlarge them for print.
- If you know the botanical name (or even common name), put it in the file name if a sign is not present. If you don't know the name of the flower and there is no sign, title the image something like "white flower unknown."
- Download your photos on your home computer and send them to [jstarr@taltree.org](mailto:jstarr@taltree.org) (please try to limit file size to 3 MB). Within the text of your e-mail, let us know where the flower/plant was spotted (trail, garden, etc.)
- Make sure you have the date set correctly on your camera so that I can determine when the photo was taken – this will help me tremendously. There is definitely no need for the date to be shown on the photo, though—it just gets in the way.
- As you are maneuvering ever closer to the ground (if it's a small plant) to get your shot, please be careful not to trample its neighbors.
- If you can, please jot down the accession number located on the silver metal tag attached to any plant whose photo you take.

For those who volunteer to "adopt" a garden to photograph, our Horticulture staff will hold a very short orientation to help you familiarize yourselves with the grounds and formal gardens' delineation.

Taltree Arboretum & Gardens, 450 West 100 North, Valparaiso, IN 46385 ~ (219) 462-0025

[www.taltree.org](http://www.taltree.org)

[sheyer@taltree.org](mailto:sheyer@taltree.org)

8/10/2010