

## Plant collection and diversity showcase in Wuhan Botanical Garden

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Keywords: Central Walk Borders, high-quality showcase, plant collection, plant conservation

As one of the primary *ex-situ* conservation institutions in China, the Wuhan Botanical Garden (WBG) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences now boasts more than 13,000 plant species and varieties, and has 17 specialty gardens, two display greenhouses for cacti, succulent, tropical plants, and aquatic plants. WBG has four national germplasm repositories of kiwifruit, lotus, *Epimedium* and *Viburnum* plants. WBG goal is to collect species on the National Key Protected Plants List, China, in particular plants from central China, ferns, hydrophytic habitat species, medicinal taxa and their wild relatives in the same family and genus. Currently, WBG conserves 447 nationally protected species, 3039 species endemic to China, 5957 species native to central China, and 80% species of *Callicarpa* and *Deutzia*. The display of plant diversity, culture, and landscape is one of the main functions of the botanical garden, and there are two new displays. One is the high-quality showcase for medicinal plants, rebuilt in 2022, with an area of 9600 m<sup>2</sup>. We break through the traditional ways of planting medicinal plants in rows and blocks by carefully recreating habitats with dead wood and rocks, and present plants within a landscape, such as for species of *Epimedium*. This section also includes teaching plots for plant identification, aromatic plant display, and a poppy display. The other is the Central Walk Borders, with flowering shrubs and herbaceous plants. This area is 386 metres long, occupying around 12,000 m<sup>2</sup>. It consists of four sections divided by themes of the ancient, modern, Chinese and foreign, which highlight the plant culture of ancient poetry, plant color art, Chinese plant and classical garden, regular western garden.