



Sauvie Island Native Plants

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I am writing in support of HB 3173, which establishes Oregon Flora in statute and provides funding for it. Guaranteeing the future of this program is extremely important to those of us in the state's nursery industry who grow and/or sell native plants.

As the owner/manager of one of the Portland area's largest and best-known native plant nurseries, I depend on Oregon Flora for up-to-date botanical information, and refer to their website multiple times each week. People who plant natives to rewild their land want to know what plants are native to their specific location, and Oregon Flora is the ONLY source of this information, since it's website links to historical botanical records.

The native nursery industry also depends on the botanic information provided by Oregon Flora to positively ID plant material, to insure integrity in the sale of plant material, in short, to make sure that plants being sold are indeed what the species they are being sold as.

The lack of recognition and funding for this important resource has caused the staff to spend an inordinate amount of time just scrambling for funding to continue their existence. The information they generate and make available is just too important for that uncertainty.

Please pass this bill!

Jane Hartline, Owner

Sauvie Island Natives Nursery