

The Atlantic Forest and landscape in Brazil

Marcelo Vieira Ferraz ¹

Brazil has the greatest number of species of plants in the world. Nowadays, almost 50,000 native species are registered, which places Brazil as the most diverse continental country in the world, followed by China, Indonesia, Mexico and South Africa. The Atlantic Forest biome covers about 15% of the nation and almost 72% of the Brazilian population lives in that place (SOS Mata Atlântica, 2017). Atlantic Forest biome is one of the most diverse on the planet, containing more than 20,000 vegetative species, of which 8,000 are endemic, that is, they occur only in this ecosystem (Cardim, 2015). The Atlantic Forest is an important source of inspiration for landscapers and a heritage that unifies the Brazilian nation. Even though the importance of this biome, few ornamental plants of this forest have been used by Brazilian landscapers in their projects.

Getting standard plants and information about their planting and maintenance is a difficult task, because there are not any information about native plants. Compared to a large number of species, there is few scientific works being done in order to support the market, so that professionals can make use of these plants in the projects. The use of these plants contributes to the sustainability and ecological balance of the landscape projects. Nowadays, sustainability is a concept that has entered the schedule of large companies in urban centers, being a commitment to future generations and to the environment in which companies are inserted.

Investigated the behavior of Brazilian species becomes a challenge for Brazilian researchers. The beauty of Atlantic Forest plants is undoubtedly one of the great legacies that we, researchers and landscapers, may leave to the future generations and the environment. So, we will contribute to the conservation and build a truly Brazilian landscape.

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¹ Area Editor, Ornamental Horticulture, Universidade Estadual Paulista (UNESP), Registro-SP, Brazil.0000-0002-6974-9517
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