

WHAT'S IN A PLANT'S NAME ?



SPECIES

A group of plants that share a common gene pool and can freely interbreed. The species is always binomial (two words): Genus + Specific Epithet

COMMON NAME

Local name given to a plant. Some plants have many names

SPECIFIC EPITHET

Word combines with a genus name to define a species

GENUS

A group of species that share common traits

FAMILY

A group of plants in related genera that share common reproductive traits

CULTIVAR

A refined selection of a species or hybrid

Plains Cottonwood

Populus sargentii 'occidentalis'

Salicaceae (willow)

North America (Great Plains)



MEHAFFEY PARK
ARBORETUM

PLANT ORIGIN

Native range of the species. Garden Origin means it originated by human selection / hybridization