



Date: June 26, 2009

For Immediate Release

**MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS
HORTICULTURAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION**

WHAT: Historical Landmark award presentation by the
American Society for Horticultural Science
WHEN: Tues., July 28; 5 to 6:30 p.m.
WHERE: Missouri Botanical Garden, 4344 Shaw Blvd., south St. Louis
COST: FREE
INFO: www.mobot.org; (314) 577-9400, 1 (800) 642-8842 toll free

(ST. LOUIS): The Missouri Botanical Garden has been selected to receive the prestigious **Horticultural Landmark** designation from the **American Society for Horticultural Science (ASHS)**. The honor is bestowed upon the highest tier of horticultural sites around the world. Historical, scientific, aesthetic, or environmental sites are selected for their horticultural excellence. The award will be presented to Garden President Dr. Peter H. Raven by ASHS President John R. Clark at a special ceremony on Tues., July 28 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in Spink Pavilion at the Missouri Botanical Garden. The ceremony is free and open to the public.

The American Society for Horticultural Science is the premier organization for horticultural scientists in the world today, with members in every state and in more than 60 countries. Members do field and laboratory research to develop and produce safe and nutritious fruits and vegetables, and uniquely beautiful and utilitarian ornamental plants. Advanced postharvest technology ensures that farm-fresh quality is delivered to consumers, often thousands of miles away from production sites. ASHS publishes three scholarly journals and a monthly newsletter, in addition to many web-

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ADD ONE: Horticultural Landmark

based horticultural resources.

Previously recognized Horticultural Landmarks include Monticello: Thomas Jefferson's Home and Gardens, Marjorie McNeely Conservatory at Como Park, Royal Botanical Gardens, George Washington's River Farm, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Longwood Gardens, and the New York Botanical Garden.

The Horticultural Landmark designation will be presented to the Missouri Botanical Garden during the ASHS annual conference in St. Louis, which consistently attracts more than 1000 participants from around the world.

"It is a privilege for ASHS to return to St. Louis, the site of the Society's very first annual meeting in 1903, and bestow the Landmark designation upon one of the premier botanical gardens in the world," said Michael Neff, ASHS Executive Director.

The Missouri Botanical Garden is located at 4344 Shaw Blvd. in south St. Louis, easily accessible from Interstate 44 at the Vandeventer exit. Free parking is available on-site and at two blocks west at the corner of Shaw and Vandeventer.

For general information, visit www.mobot.org or call the recorded event line at (314) 577-9400 or toll-free 1 (800) 642-8842.

The Missouri Botanical Garden is the oldest continually operating botanical garden in the nation, celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2009. *Missouri Botanical Garden: Green for 150 Years*.

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NOTE: A digital color image is available by request. Download media materials at www.mobot.org/press.

The Missouri Botanical Garden's mission is "to discover and share knowledge about plants and their environment, in order to preserve and enrich life." Today, 150 years after opening, the Missouri Botanical Garden is a National Historic Landmark and a center for science, conservation, education and horticultural display. *Missouri Botanical Garden: Green for 150 Years*.

The Missouri Botanical Garden is located at 4344 Shaw Blvd. in St. Louis, just south of I-44 at Vandeventer-Kingshighway (exit #287B). Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day except Dec. 25. Grounds open at 7 a.m. every Wednesday and Saturday. Admission is \$8; free children ages 12 and under and Garden members. St. Louis City and County residents are \$4 and free every Wednesday and Saturday until noon (exception: special admission rate events). Park for free on site and two blocks west at the Shaw-Vandeventer intersection. The Garden is easily accessible by taking the MetroLink commuter rail line to the Central West End station and picking up a Metro bus (www.metrostlouis.org). For general information, log on to www.mobot.org or call the 24-hour recording at (314) 577-9400 or 1-800-642-8842. For membership information, call (314) 577-5118 during weekday business hours. For volunteer opportunities, call (314)-577-5187 or visit www.mobot.org/volunteer. The Missouri Botanical Garden is a tobacco-free environment.