



Plant Identification - Introduction

We have heard from horticultural apprentices over the years that it can be challenging to correctly identify all the different types of plants. Of course, being able to do so is a very important part of being a horticulture technician.

There are many types of plants – shrubs, trees, vines, grasses, annuals, perennials etc. – and being able to identify what a plant is by sight, by common name and by its botanical name is very important.

There are also strategies that you can use to determine what a plant is. Where is it located? What shape leaves does it have? What kind of flower does it produce?

In this module of the toolkit, we've introduced some memory or concentration games to help you learn plants by sight, by common name and by botanical name. Not only will you learn to identify plants, but you might have some fun at the same time! We have also included some strategies you can use to figure out what a plant is – if you can't immediately recognize it.

Check Your Skills

First, let's check how you feel about your plant identification skills. We'll then come back and see how you feel at the end of the module. Read each of the statements below and select the response that best describes you today.

Statements	I can do this	I would like to do this better	I can't do this
I can identify deciduous trees (common name, Latin name and by sight)			
I can identify coniferous trees			
I can identify deciduous shrubs			
I can identify evergreen shrubs			
I can identify vines			
I can identify perennials			
I can identify ornamental grasses			
I can identify annuals			
I can identify invasive species			
I can identify common plant identification strategies			