



Connect to Protect Network: 2019 Member Survey Results

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Survey Date: June 18, 2019

Number of Invitees: 752

Number of responses: 161 (21%)

Background. On June 18, 2019, 752 members of Fairchild's Connect to Protect Network received an email invitation to participate in a short survey that included questions pertaining to both membership and citizen science. We were interested to learn whether members were following through with maintaining pine rockland species in their CTPN gardens and what kind of wildlife they might be observing. Members also had the opportunity to give feedback in form of comments.

The questions can be summarized as:

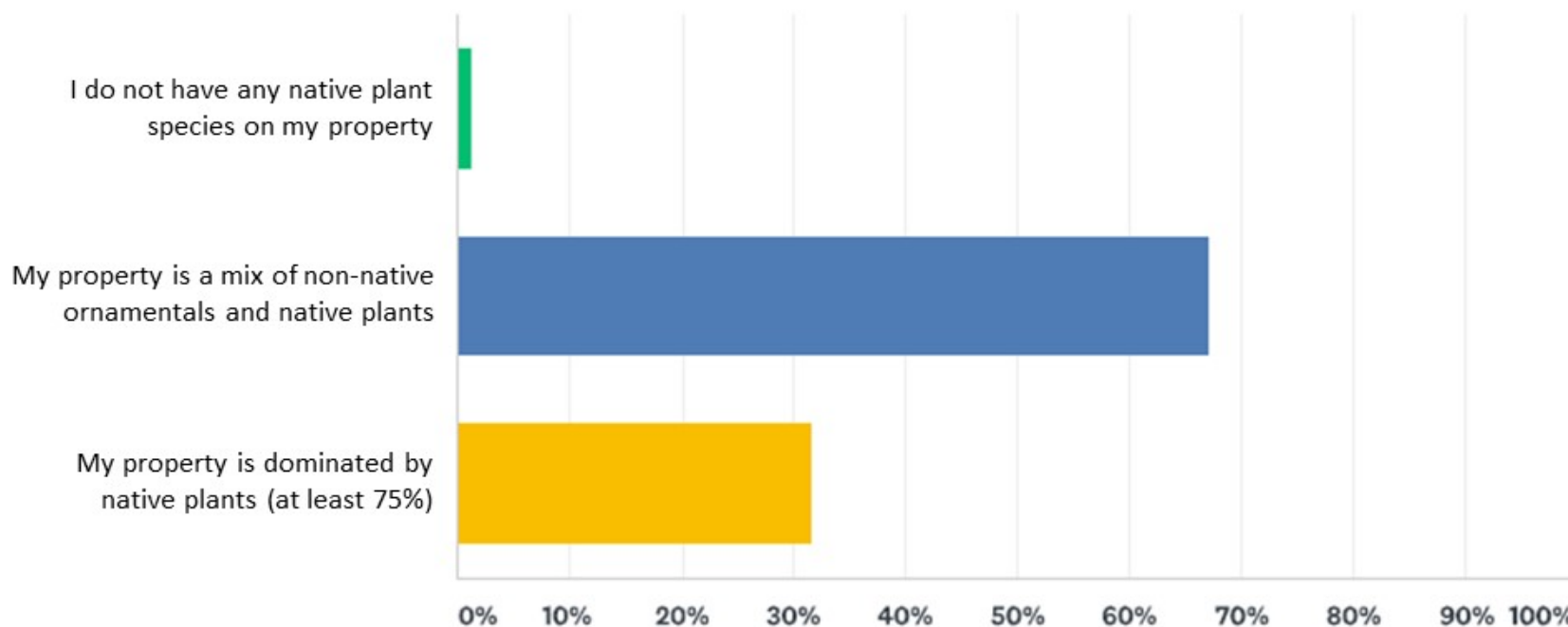
1. Would you provide your contact information?
2. How much of your property contains native plants?
3. What is the survivorship of your Pine Rockland Starter Kit?
4. Which of these 8 plant species are in your CTPN garden?
5. Which of these 8 wildlife species have you observed in your CTPN garden?
6. Have you ever visited a pine rockland preserve? Which one(s)?
7. What would you like to see more of from CTPN?
8. How did you first hear about CTPN?
9. What volunteer activities interest you most?
10. Are you a member of Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden?
11. What else would you like to tell us?

In total 161 out of 752 invited members (21%) took part in the survey and all but 7 completed the questions by June 23rd. Most questions were answered by more than 95% of participants. Most participants (90%) provided their name and 82% provided their address, which allowed us to map their responses. The remainder of this report provides graphical summaries of each response along with a short description.

Conclusions: This survey confirms that CTPN members have a deep appreciation for the benefits of native plants, a strong commitment to grow them, and familiarity with many of the pine rockland preserves in our region. Rare and common native plants are found in CTPN gardens throughout South Florida. Most gardens report presence of monarch and zebra longwing butterflies. All four butterfly species in our survey were found throughout the survey area. Wildlife maps seem to show a reduction of bird sightings in the north part of the survey areas. Members are thirsty for more native plants as well as advice on how to landscape and care for them. More than half of respondents showed a willingness to volunteer their time occasionally to remove invasive plants from nature preserves or install school gardens.

Question 2: Thinking about native plants on your CTPN property, choose the statement that best applies

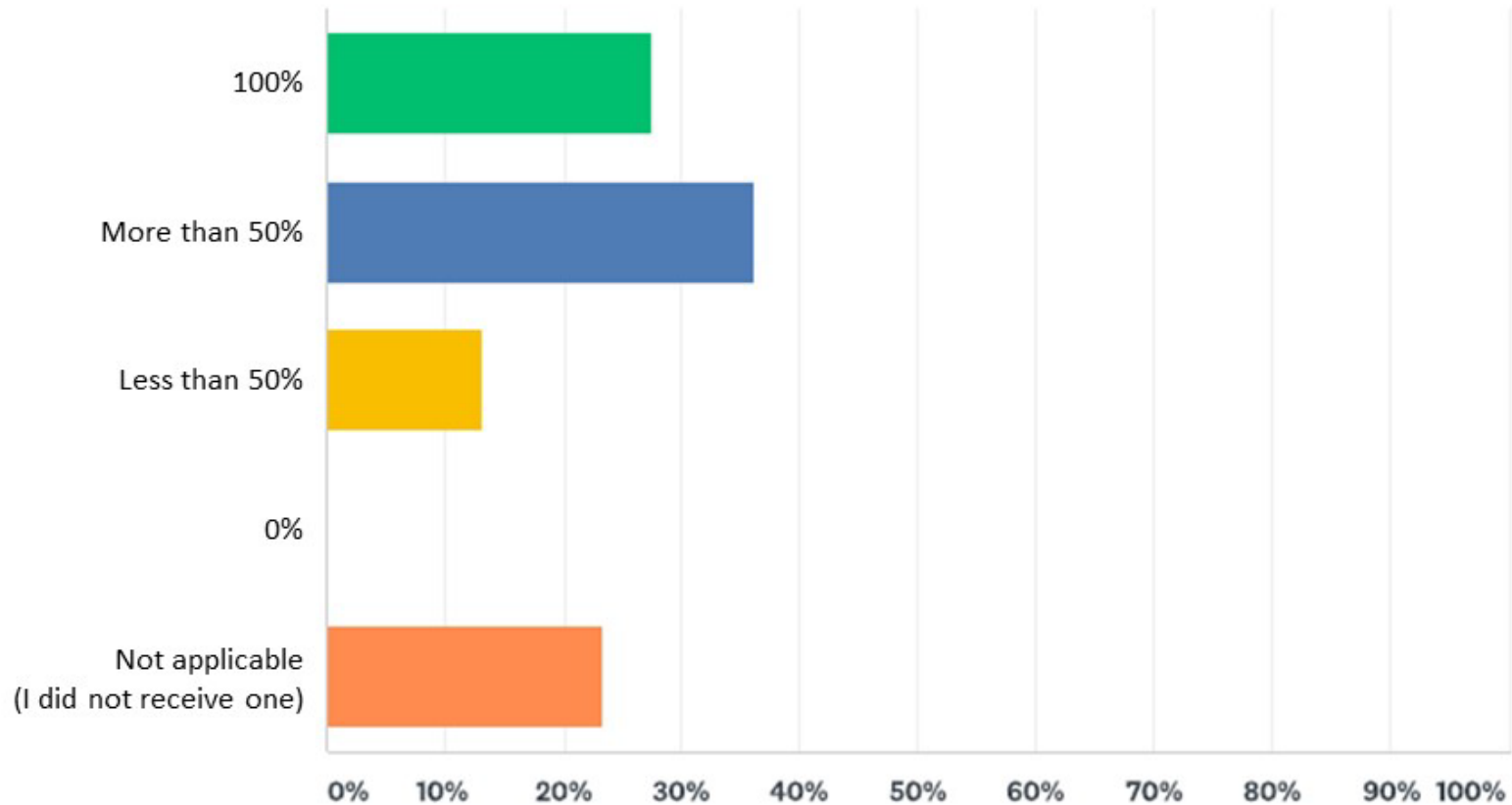
Answered: 158 Skipped 3



Proportion of native plants on CTPN properties. Most members (67%) have a mix of non-native and native plants. A third of participants even have a property that is dominated by natives. Only two members stated that they have no native plants at all on their property.

Question 3: Please estimate the % survival of your Pine Rockland Starter Kit. Kits contained 5 plants for homeowners, 10 for schools If you are unsure please make your best guess

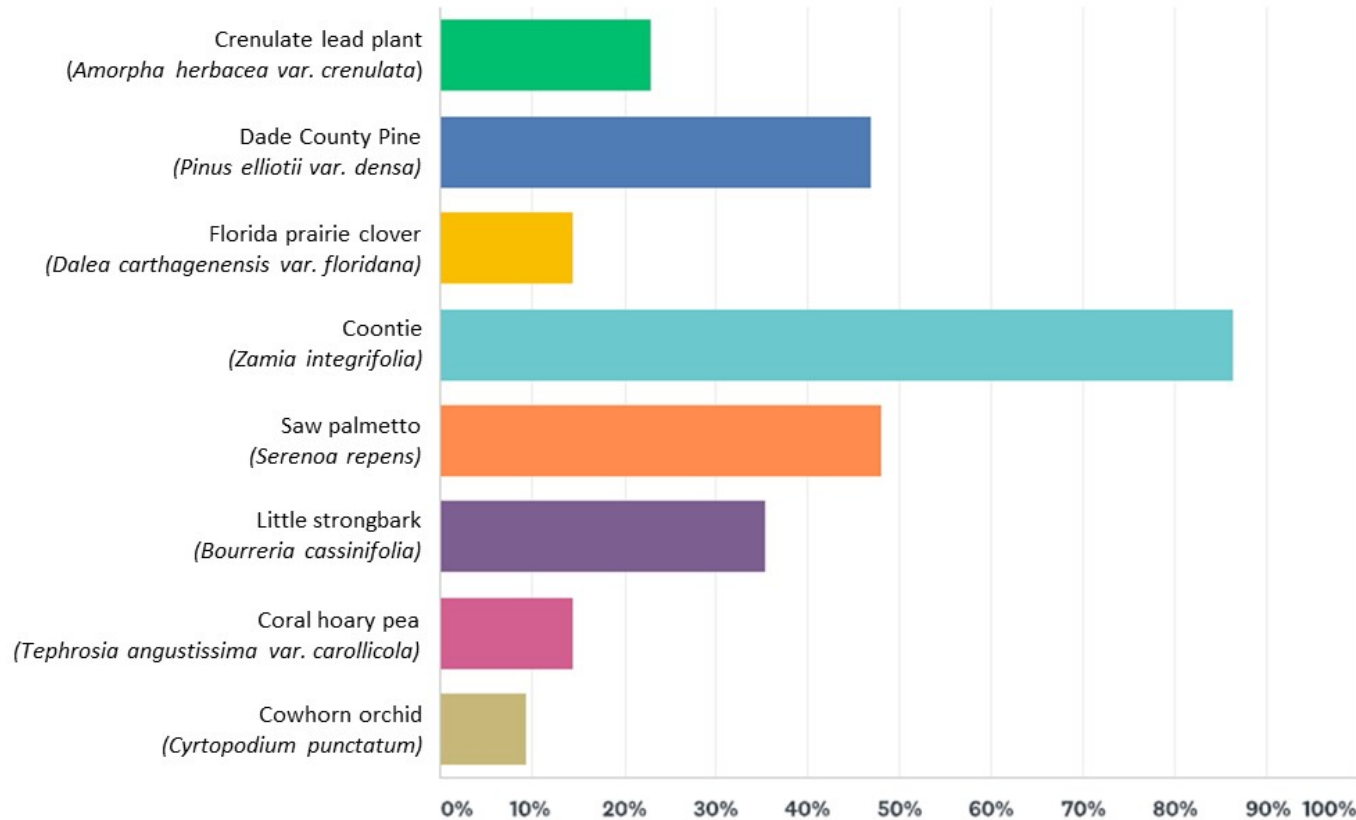
Answered: 160 Skipped 1



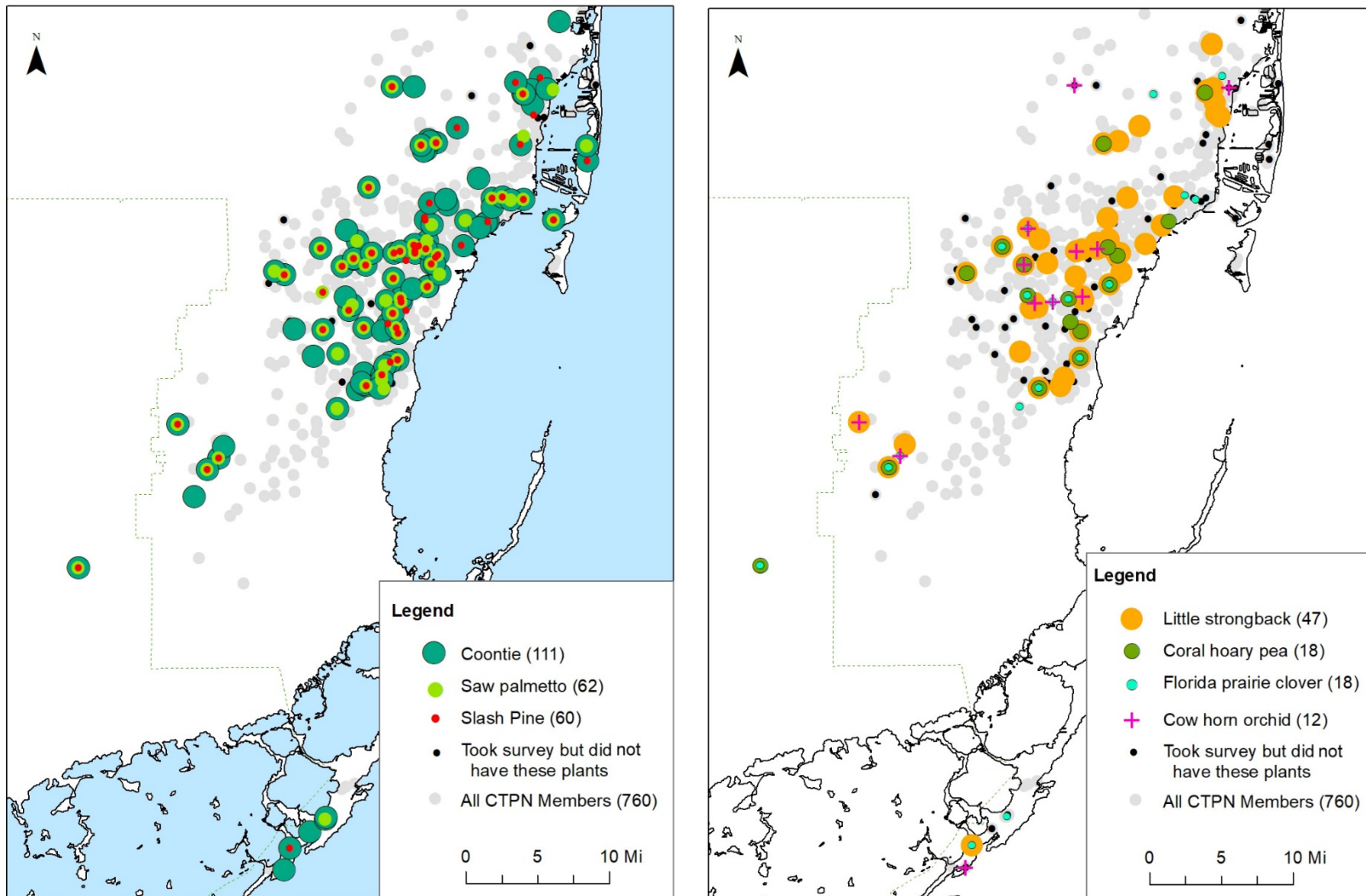
Survival of plants received with the CTPN starter kit. For private homeowners the starter kit included 5 and for schools it included 10 plants. The survival rate is very high overall. Of 123 participants that received plants, 83% stated that more than 50% survived and no one reported that all the plants had died. Only 2 members stated that they do not have native plants in their yard at all, but 37 members have not received a starter kit yet. This indicates that most new members already have some native plants on their property before they join CTPN.

Question 4: Do you currently have any of these plants in your garden? Choose all that apply. If you aren't sure, click on a species name to view photos.

Answered: 139 Skipped 22



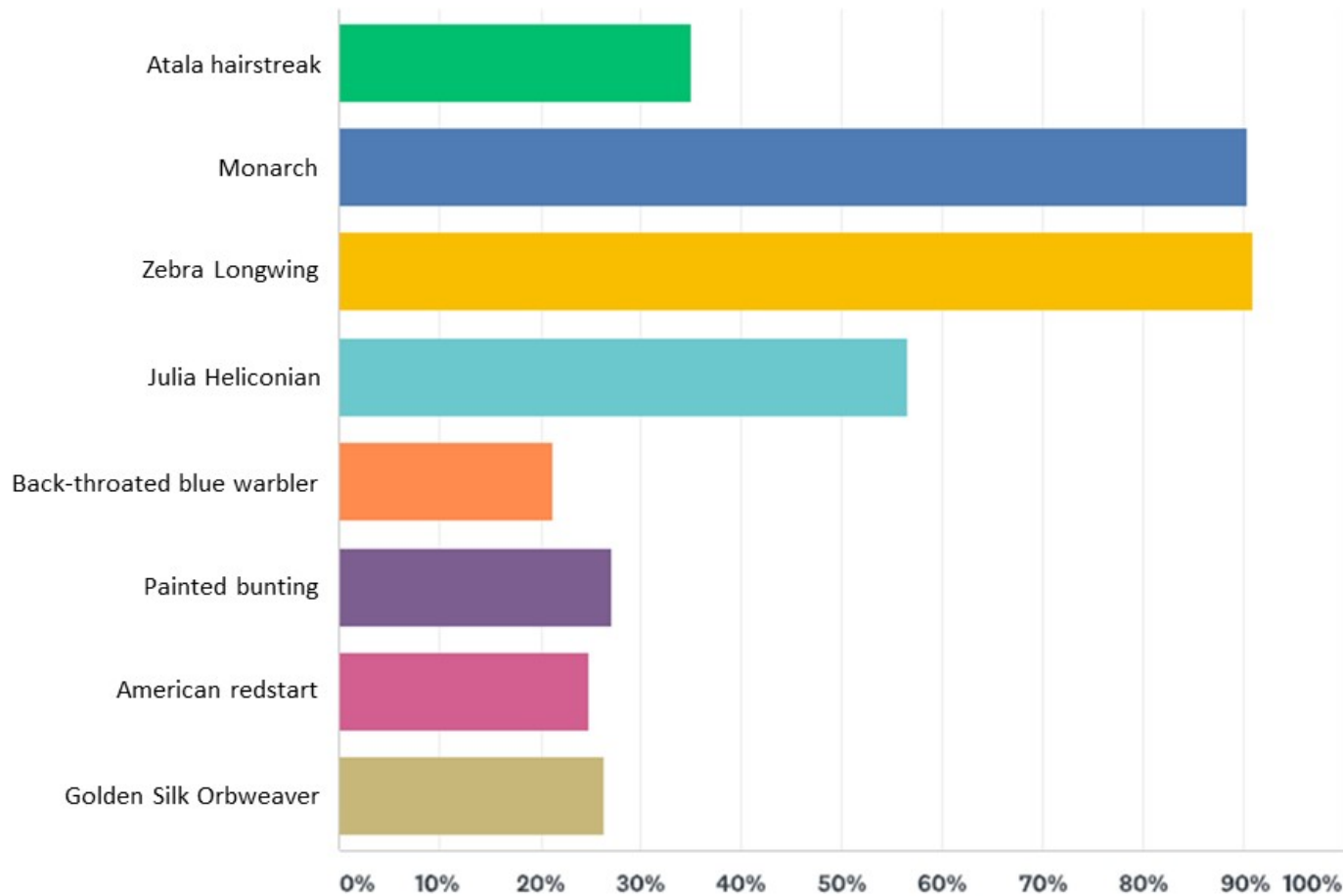
Proportion of properties with Pine Rockland plant species of interest. Most participants have *Zamia integrifolia* (86%) which underlines the popularity of this species—and that it is likely more available than other Pine Rockland plants through nurseries. *Cyrtopodium punctatum* (9%) and *Tephrosia angustissima* var. *carollicola* (14%) are rare in CTPN gardens. This question was skipped particularly often (22 out of 161), which could indicate that some people have difficulties identifying the native plants they have on their property and/or it would have taken them too much time to answer this question.



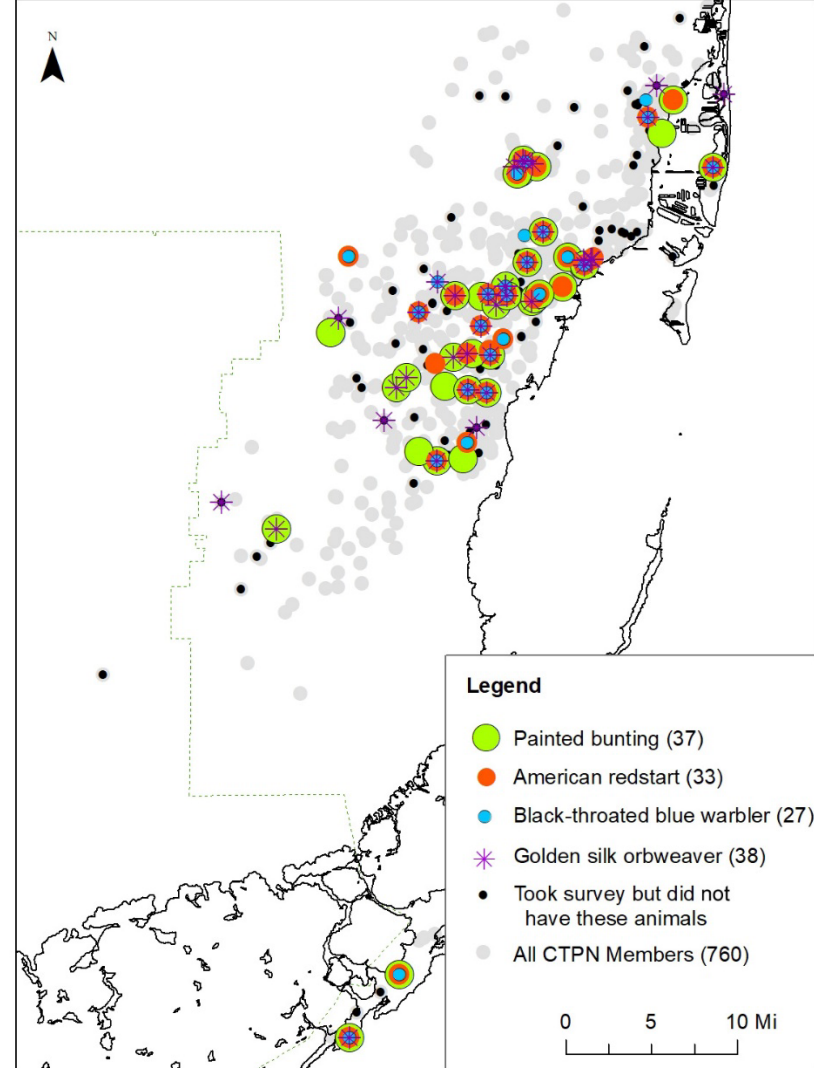
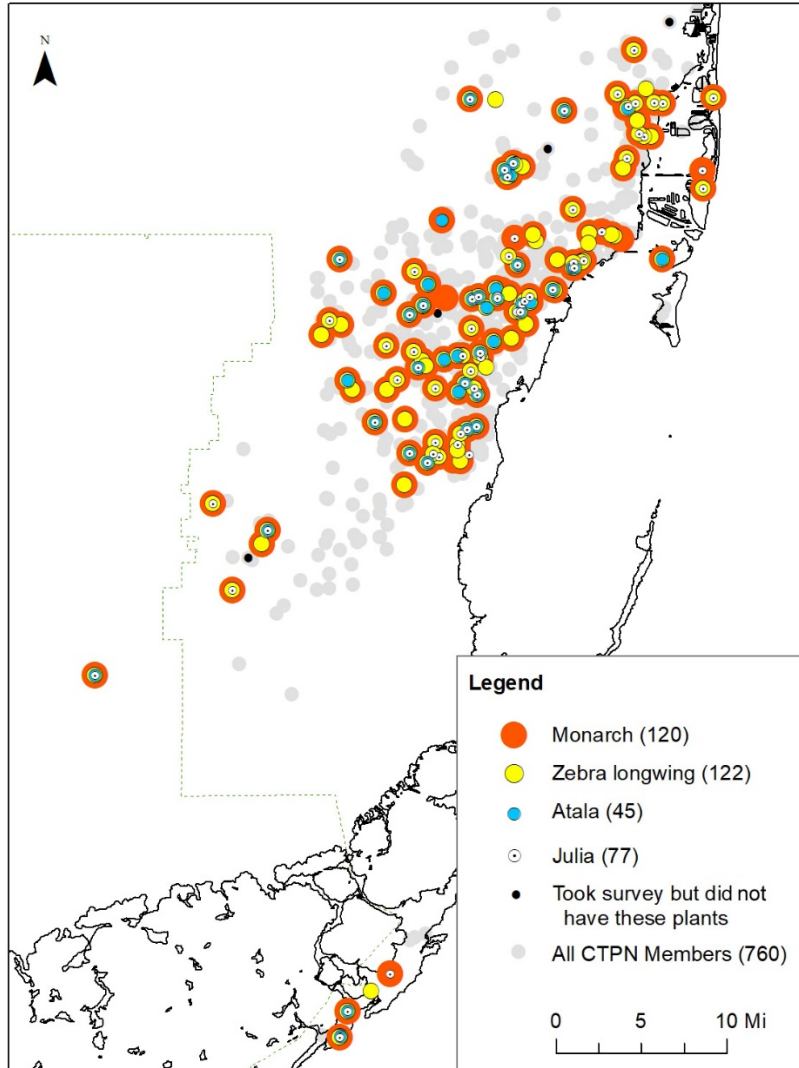
Distribution of (left) common and (right) rare species of interest in CTPN gardens. Coontie, saw palmetto and slash pines are evenly distributed among survey participants and among all CTPN members. Even the distribution of rarer species reflects participants across the range of CTPN. South Dade was under-represented in the survey.

Question 5: Which of these animals have you observed in your garden? Choose all that apply.
Click on species names to view more information on each species.

Answered: 152 Skipped 9



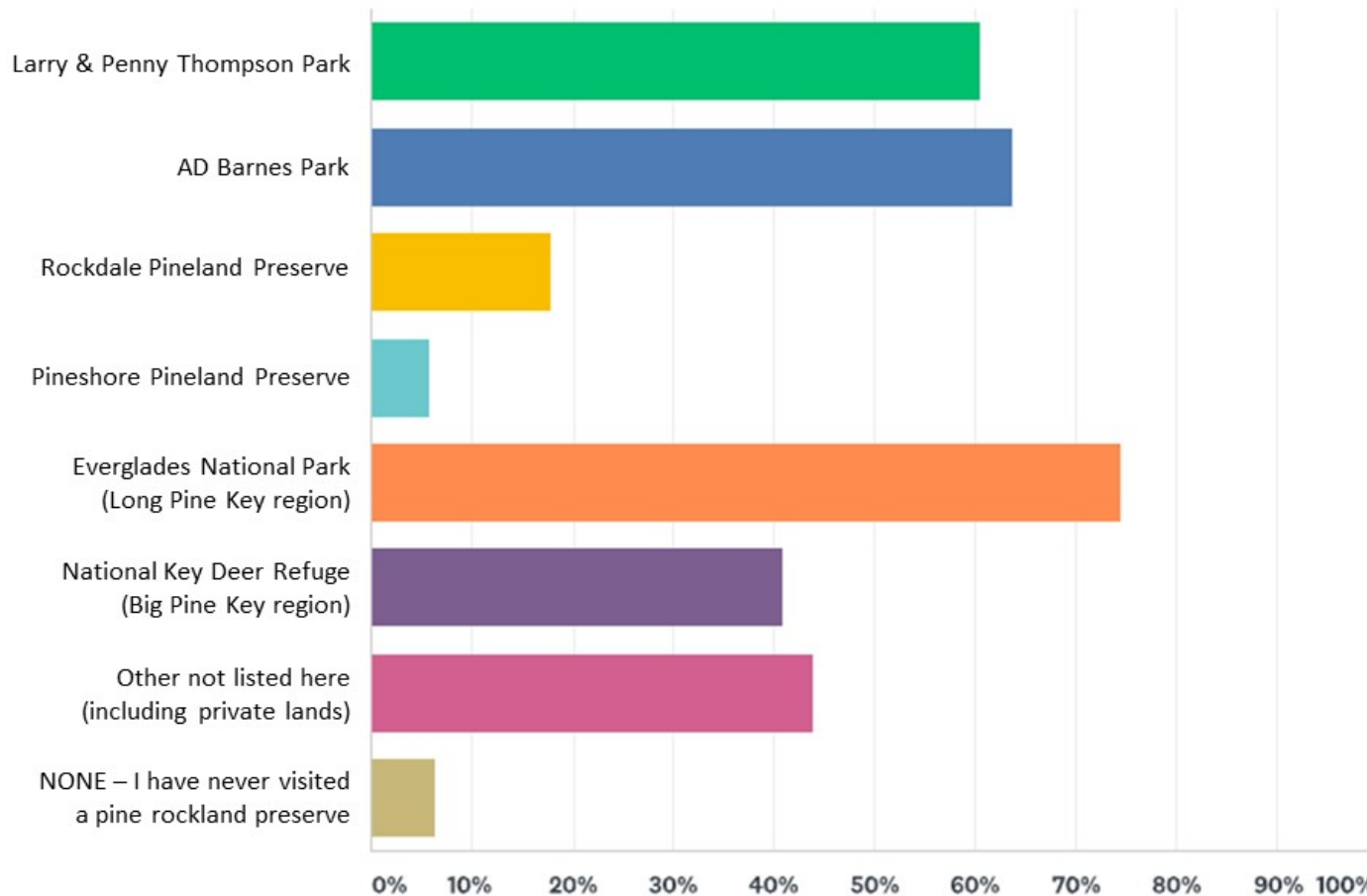
Proportion of properties with wildlife species of interest. A third of survey participants observed the Atala hairstreak butterfly on their property which can probably be attributed to the high prevalence of Coonties. In general members reported more butterflies than birds or the Golden Silk Orbweaver.



Distribution of (left) four butterfly species and (right) three bird species and the golden silk orbweaver spider among survey participants. All four butterfly species are evenly distributed across survey participants. However, there is a gap of bird observations in the downtown Miami area.

Question 6: Have you visited any of these publicly-accessible pine rockland preserves? Choose all that apply.

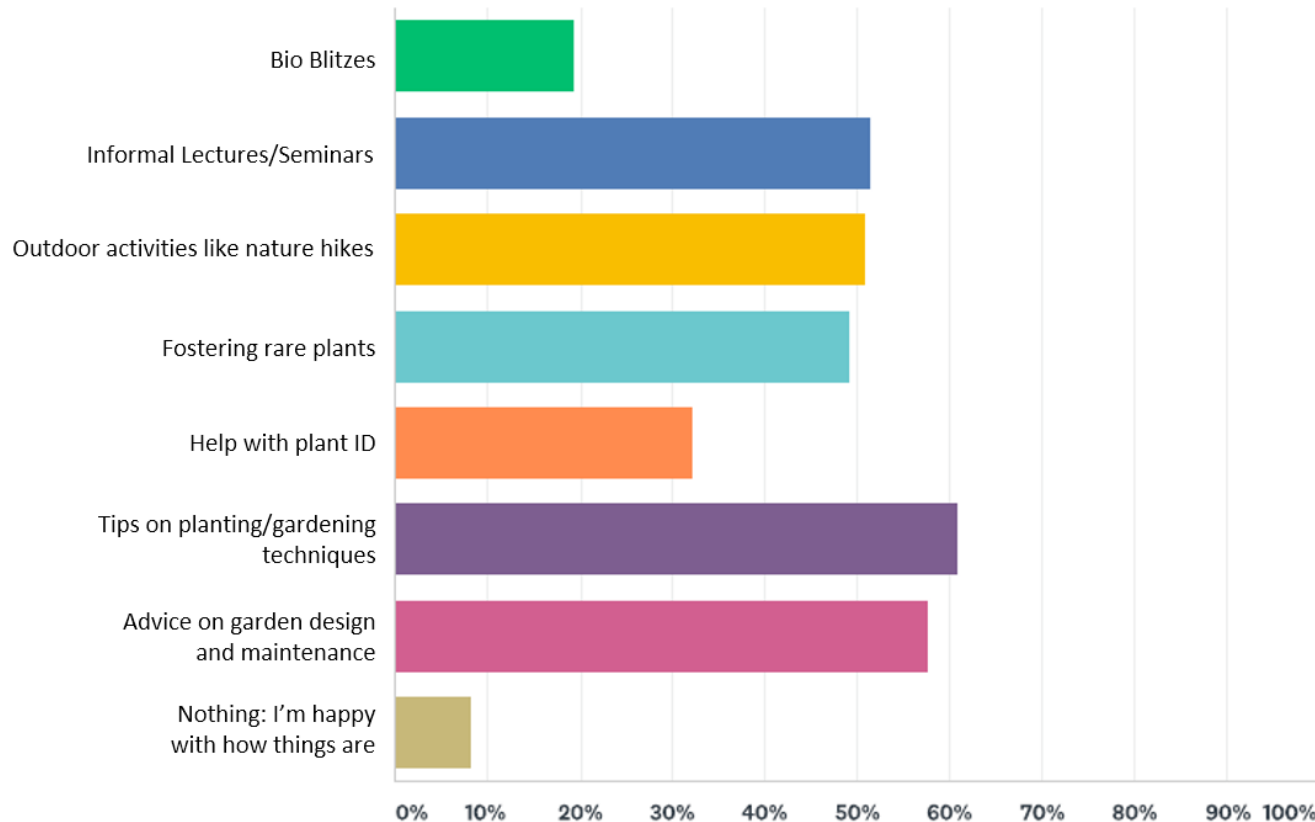
Answered: 157 Skipped 4



Visitation rates of publicly-accessible pine rockland preserves. More than 90% of survey participants have visited at least one publicly accessible pine rockland preserve. Rockdale and Pineshore Pineland Preserves were the least visited.

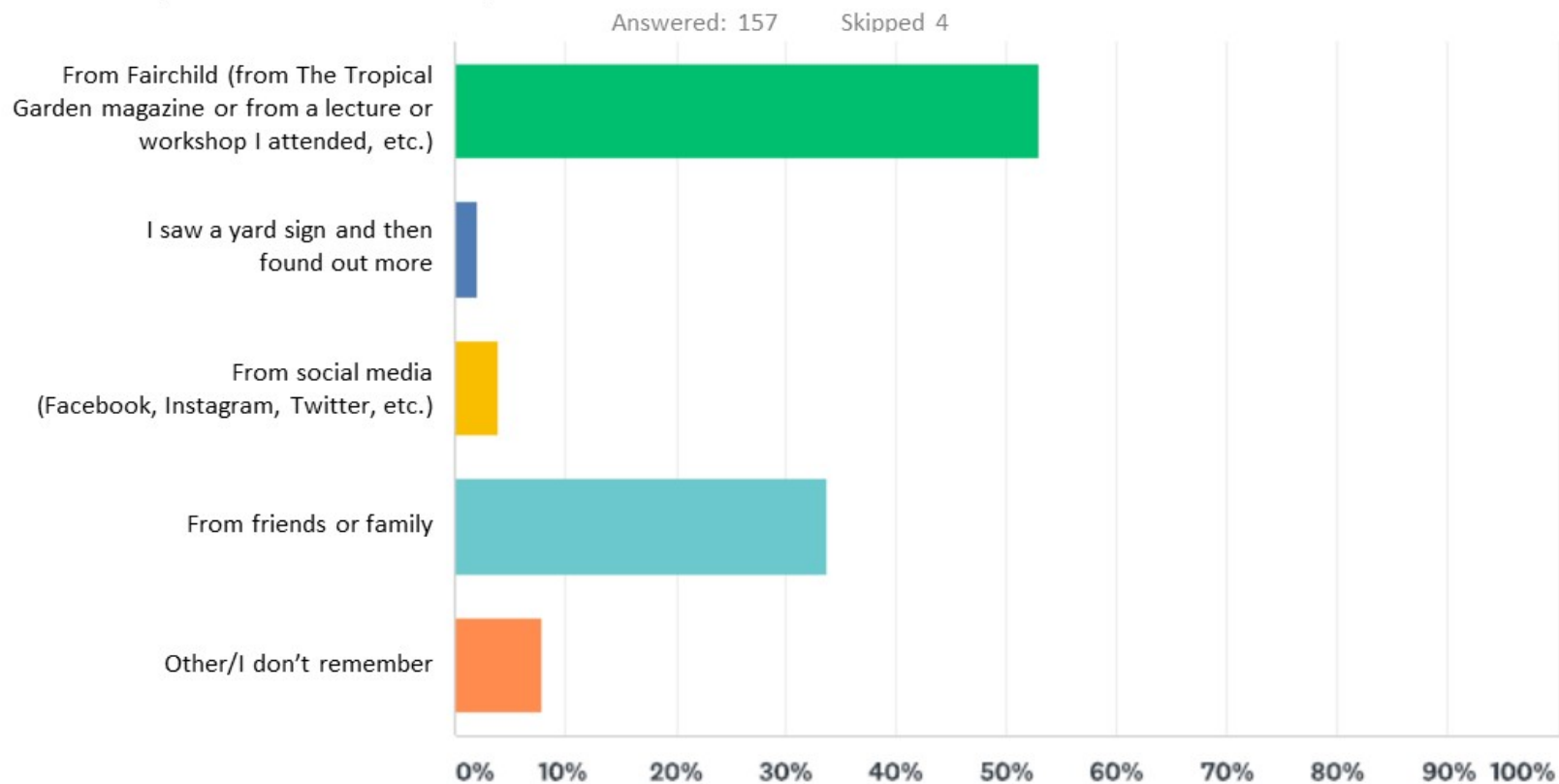
Question 7: What would you like to see more of from CTPN? Choose all that apply.

Answered: 161 Skipped: 0



Services of CTPN that survey participants would like to see more of. Most survey participants (> 90%) would like CTPN to offer one or more additional service. The proportion of votes are relatively evenly distributed, only Bio Blitzes and help with plant identification have a lesser demand. It appears that most participants would like to learn more about how to grow native plants in general as shown in their interest in tips on gardening, advice on garden design, informal lectures and fostering rare plants.

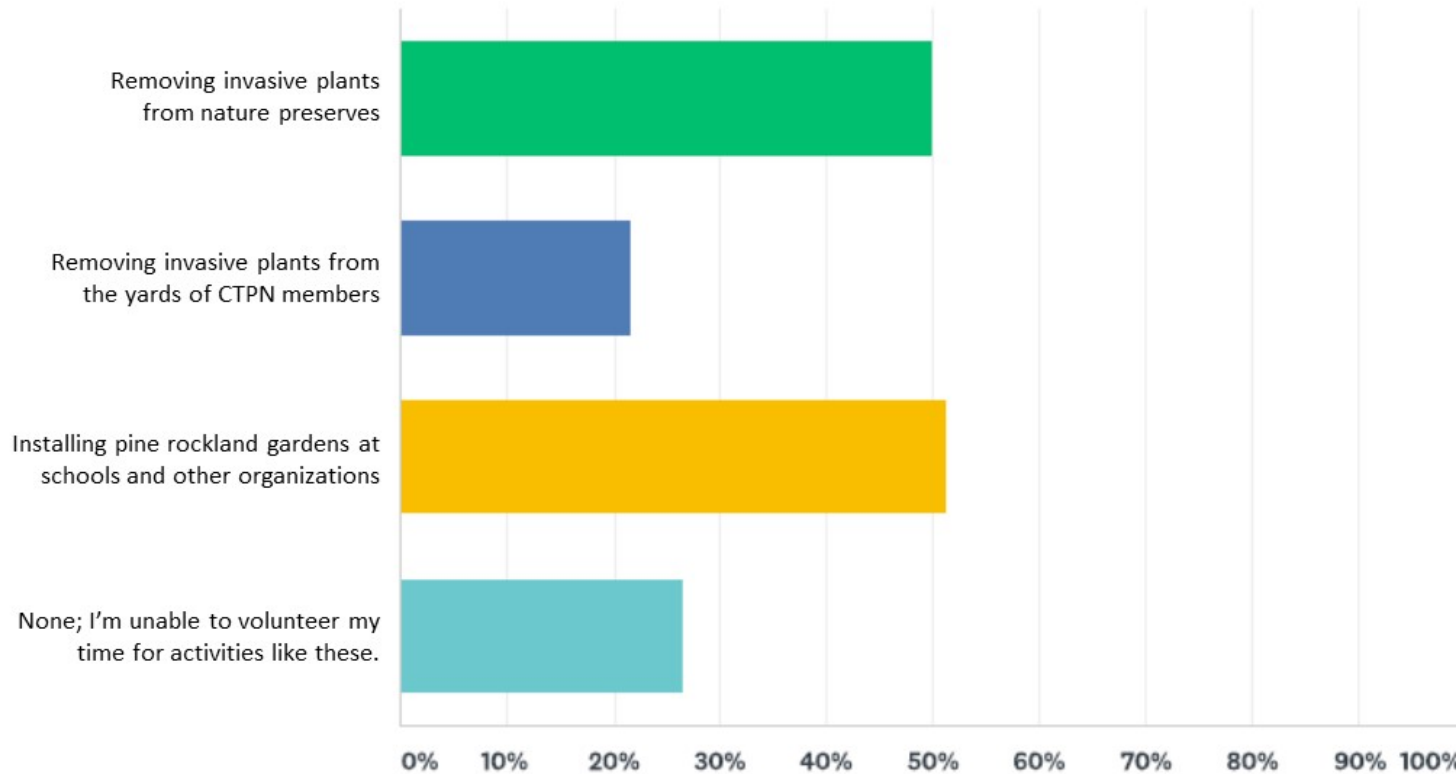
Question 8: How did you first hear about the Connect to Protect Network? Choose one.



Success of different methods promoting CTPN. Most survey participants became aware of CTPN through either friends and family or through Fairchild. Yard signs seem less likely to provide impetus to join CTPN, which is unsurprising given the relatively small proportion of South Florida residents that are CTPN members. However, as CTPN grows, we anticipate that yard signs will increasingly help to recruit new members.

Question 9: Sometimes CTPN hosts or promotes volunteer workdays. Which of these types of activities interest you most? Choose activities in which you might like to participate in the upcoming year.

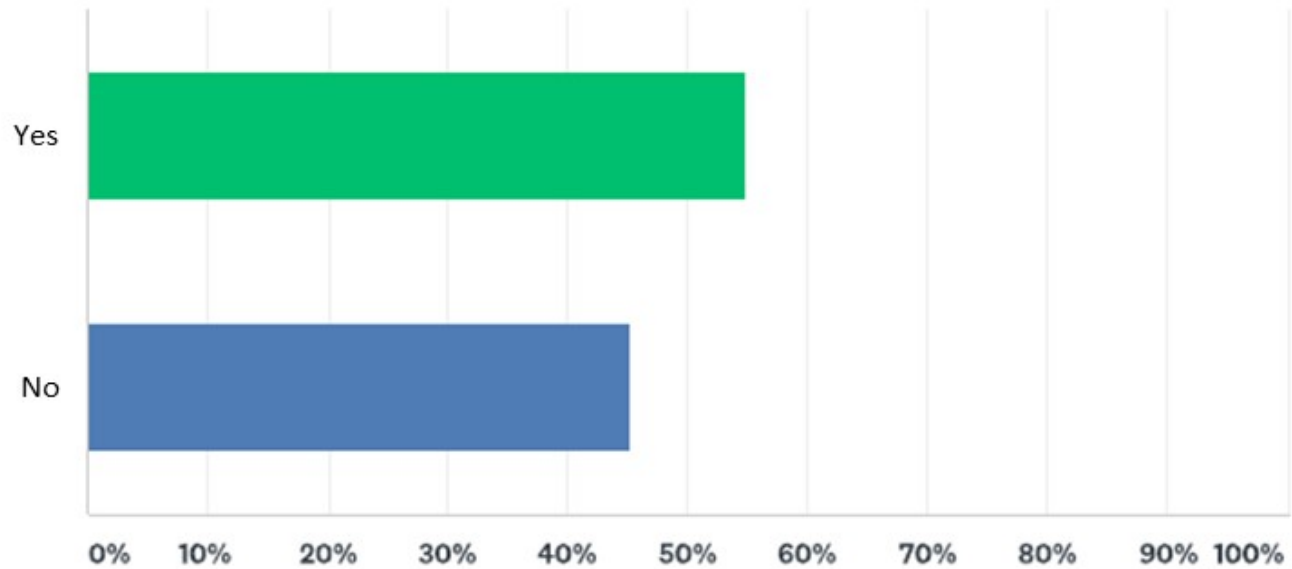
Answered: 158 Skipped 3



Potential for future CTPN member involvement. It is encouraging to see that more than two third of survey participants would be willing to offer their time for volunteer workdays. Respondents seem to prefer work that involves public land over yards of private homeowners.

Question 10: Are you a member of Fairchild?

Answered: 157 Skipped: 4



Fairchild membership. While more than half of survey respondents are Fairchild members, 46% are not, which indicates that CTPN is reaching beyond the membership of its parent organization and into the South Florida community.

Select comments from June 2019 CTPN Member Survey

Thank you for all you do! Best!

I really appreciate the hard work of Connect to Protect Staff. Without them growing and donating native pine rockland plants, most schools would not have this unique habitat. I have received plants for my school gardens from Connect to Protect and the kids learn so much planting and maintaining these plants. Plus, it provides a different type of habitat that is disappearing around the county and makes kids connect and learn about this habitat.

I really appreciate the started kit, and I would like to receive it twice a year

Keep up the good work!

Thank you for the opportunity to participate!

Just a big thank you for letting us participate!

Thank you for the plants. I volunteer at Fairchild

Brian and Jen are amazing.

It would be great to have site visits for schools to tell us how we can care for and better develop our CTPN gardens! Thanks :)

Great job. I'm happy to be a part of this organization and would love to join you on future trips to various pine rocklands and other public lands

I would be interested in hosting a garden tour. Our pine garden currently has 80 pine rockland flora

need information where to get native plants closer to my zip code, Homestead is far for me or being able to get more/different freebies

Love Connect to Protect. Keep up the good work.

I am starting a connect to protect garden at my home in key largo

Thank you very much for helping with expert advice on the preservation of Lincoln City Park #2 in Cutler Bay. Also, thanks for my starter plants. Sorry I can't participate more, but I try to stay watchful about local pine rocklands, since I'm in Cutler RIDGE.

CTPN was instrumental in us build a Pine Rockland habitat at the entrance to my community. If I hadn't heard about CTPN, we probably would have planted the same old non-native plants and shrubs. Now we not only will have an attractive entrance, but will be helping in the rebuilding and preservation of Pine Rockland plants.

Keep it up!

Just happy to know of the group even though I am a less than active member. Thanks for all you do.

How can we get rid of all the gasoline powered noisy blowers in Miami? It is a health hazard for the public and the workers and detrimental to little crawlers like bugs and ants etc. which live on vegetative debris.

We expand our Pine Rockland every year at bioTECH. We currently (5/2019) are 600 square feet in size and started the restoration in 2016!

I am near retirement so I may have greater availability after November 2019
I'm drawn to the conservation aspect of the program and would like it if there were other ways we were able to obtain more pineland plants to continue our own pineland habitats at home. I find it difficult to find them in commercial nurseries. I am also interested in helping the Fairchild crew with any special conservation projects (even if I need to do them at home) as I am not always able to attend the nursery on Tuesdays and Thursdays because of work. P.S. I enjoy working with Brian, Jennifer and Daniela - great folks!
Thank you
Thank you for what you do!
In my neighborhood we are promoting native plants and plants that attract butterflies and pollinators; the leading figure is Mary Benton.
Great job spreading native plants.
I would like to see more done to protect Trinity Pine rockland-it is always closed off but should be connected to future nearby Ludlam Trail.
Thank you for the job you do in educating the public and providing quality native plants.
Thank you for all you do!
Thank you for doing all that you do! We appreciate you!
More seed propagation info like you have for Locustberry and Pineland croton. Also, please consider alerting your members to Bound by Beauty's Butterfly Foster Gardeners of South Florida Facebook page, as creating connections between butterfly habitats is so important.
Thanks for your work in conserving Pine Rockland plants, animals, habitats!
I would participate in garden tours that visit home gardens teeming with wildlife as a result of native habitat. I believe this provides ideas, inspiration and support.
Thank you !
I wish we could get more than five free native plants
Would love to do some more meetings or nature walks/hikes
Just information: I am working with P elliottii densa in my art practice. I'm mainly interested in relating the history of destruction of the pinelands in South Florida to viewers. I find that most residents of S. F. don't know that history, they little idea what vegetation predominated the high ground where they now live.
You guys are AWESOME! :)
I am very grateful and happy with my 5 native plants received as part of my participation.
So happy that you are promoting rare and endangered plants!

I hope my survey counts though I'm likely biased voice! Wonder how many people might have the cowhorn orchid!
Access to purchase more pineland plants would be a great option. Many species offered at the new member giveaway are difficult to find at public/retail nurseries.
I'm also a NABA member. So my interest is Butterflies.
I'm thankful for the existence of this organization!
We had more Painted Buntings this year than ever before. We are having a tough time getting Painted Buntings to nest however. We would welcome advice on encouraging Painted Buntings, also Bat Houses.
Keep up the awesome work, you guys are awesome!
Places accessible to get native plants. The nurseries provided on your website are too far, the days for retail are limited etc.
Keep up the good work! Long live the pine rockland!!
Thanks for playing a big part in establishing a pine rockland at Pinelands Presbyterian Church.
Somehow, with my very limited time, I think I'd like to be involved with CTPN.
Thank you for all you do! I'd like to help with outreach for CTPN in the Grove through the schools, while also adding more native plants to our yard. Will send a separate email.
Happy w/my plants for far. They have been in the ground for 15 days now, and they seems to be doing well!! Thanks!!
Rowell's Marina on Key Largo looking to plant a butterfly garden. Great location for a Connect to Protect Garden as are the properties of the Garden Club of the Upper Keys and the Reef Environmental Education Foundation
CTPN rocks!
I think it would be good if you could put out an information sheet on how to collect and propagate seeds from our own native plants. (I've tried to collect seeds and grow from my muhly grass and coontie with no luck!) That way, we could also be growing and sharing native plants!
I have a highly visible corner plot in High Pines (SW 53 AV & 74 St) that could be an incredible incubator garden with tremendous walk-by traffic. Do you have grants for converting it?
I am so happy with our cause and I have seen great results in my neighborhood of Cutler Bay. Love our Tribe!!
Everyone who works for Connect to Protect does a wonderful job growing plants, dispersing plants, removing invasive plants in the community, and educating the public about native plants. Great work!!
I've noticed the native cucumber Melothria pendula in FTG, which I'd like to propagate. I'm also looking for the native wood rose Viola sororia. To the best of my knowledge these are not available from local nurseries. It would be nice if you could make seeds or plants available.
If you would like berries from the little strongback please let me know
CTP rules!

Proud of the trajectory of CTPN!
I love the CTPN!
I'm so thankful that you got me started with native plants. Our yard has transformed enormously in just one year.
Thank you for the donation of plants. Our school courtyard looks beautiful because of these plants.
7) What I'd like to see more of is actually for others to partake of, because I think it's needed by those who are inexperienced. 5) Some fauna may have been seen once or long ago.

Acknowledgments: Thank you to the members of CTPN for your ongoing support! Our survey was created in Survey Monkey. Maps were created using ESRI ArcMap software.

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