

Using your Pine Rockland Garden to Teach Science

Sample Research Questions

Does the life history of the plant influence its sensitivity to fragmentation?

- clonal species
- Long-lived vs. short-lived
- Trees, shrubs, herbs, grasses

How far do the seeds of a plant move? Do corridors help move seeds from one natural area fragment to another?

- What is the dispersal agent? Wind, water, bird, insect

How many seeds are the plants producing?

What percentage of seeds germinate? Does this vary with the treatment the seeds receive before they are sown? (mechanical scarification with sand paper, cold stratification - refrigeration)

What influences how many seeds are produced?

- size of the population (number of plants of one species in the garden)
- size of garden
- water, fertilizer, weather

What kinds of pollinators are visiting your plants? How many? How frequently?

Where are the plants growing the best? Sun vs. shade, shallow or deep mulch, close or far from another plant

What conditions are present at the place where they are growing the best?

Are there seedlings becoming established in your garden?

We would like to know which plants are easiest to grow at your site.

Buy your plants or get them from a friend

Collecting from the wild can be harmful and may be illegal

Equipment Suppliers: Home Depot
Forestry Suppliers, Inc. (www.forestry-suppliers.com)
Ben Meadows (www.benmeadows.com)

Stay in touch with one another to share information. Share contact information.

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Funding Sources:

Toyota Tapestry
EPA program for Educators
NSF science education