Plant Identification

Orientation to Agriscience – 04.04 Develop a specimen collection of local plant materials.

**Background**

Agronomists, horticulturalists, and even any plant owner or someone with a yard can benefit from knowing some basic plant identification. You may need to identify invasive plants, plants that attract unwanted insects, or a plant you love and would like to get more of. There are many resources to help someone with identifying a specific plant and you are going to explore some of those resources for this lesson.

**Directions**

You are going to conduct a digital specimen collection of local plant in your yard or neighborhood that you do not know the name of. If walking around your neighborhood, be sure to follow proper social distancing guidelines.

You must take pictures of 6 different plants that you find that are unknown to you.

**\*Write your name on a small piece of paper or index card and have it visible in each picture.**

After your collection, use various resources (search engines, plant ID apps, books, etc.) to identify each plant and conduct additional research to provide the following information:

1. The common name of the plant (ex. Southern Magnolia)
2. The scientific name of the plant (ex. *Magnolia grandiflora*)
3. Common pests and insects attracted to the plant
4. The origin of the plant

Organize your pictures and research information in any way you desire (word doc, PowerPoint, video, Prezi, pamphlet, etc.)