



ALOE

Aloe plants are native to Africa, with the greatest concentration of species (150) in the southern part of the continent. Some species of aloe are used for medicinal and cosmetic purposes. Many species have become endangered due to overcollection because of their horticultural appeal.



BANANA

12 crop plants provide 75 percent of the calories consumed by people. Banana is one of those plants. The others are beans, cassava, corn, millet, potatoes, rice, sorghum, soy beans, sugar cane, sweet potatoes, and wheat.



BAMBOO

Bamboo is an important source for building materials and food for people around the world. The light, smooth stems are usually hollow, and are used for scaffolding, irrigation pipes, furniture, chopsticks, and even musical instruments. Humans and animals eat bamboo shoots.



PINEAPPLE

Pineapples are the fruits of bromeliads, a family of plants made up of 2,700 species. Today, more than 10 million tons of pineapples are grown around the world.



COFFEE

Coffee is one of the most widely consumed beverages made from plants. Originally from Ethiopia, coffee is now grown around the world. Buy shade-grown coffee, which is grown under a canopy of shade trees and provides food and shelter for wildlife.



COTTON

Four different species of cotton are grown commercially. Most cotton is grown with heavy use of chemical sprays. Choose organic cotton products instead. Every t-shirt made from organic cotton saves one-third of a pound of synthetic fertilizers and farm chemicals.



GINGER

Ginger is a spice used in many of the world's cuisines. Today, most of the world's ginger is grown in China. In addition to its use in cooking, ginger is also known as an effective treatment for nausea and motion sickness.





What's so special
about this plant?

Turn me over to find out!



What's so special
about this plant?

Turn me over to find out!



Ginkgo Tree

Ginkgo biloba

Ginkgo biloba is possibly the most ancient of all living trees. Nearly identical leaves to the Ginkgo have been found in 200 million year old fossils! Today in the wild, the Ginkgo is an endangered tree due to habitat loss in its native China.



Venus Flytrap

Dionaea muscipula

Many people think that carnivorous plants are only found in the tropics, but the Venus flytrap is native to North and South Carolina. The Venus flytrap is endangered because of overcollecting and habitat loss.



Golden Barrel Cactus

Echinocactus grusonii

The golden barrel cactus is the most widely cultivated cactus in the world. In its native habitat in Mexico, however, just 50 of these plants remain in the wild! This makes the golden barrel cactus one of the most endangered plants in the world.



Queen Victoria's Agave

Agave victoriae-reginae

Agaves are important commercial plants. They are used for fiber, sap and landscaping. The Queen Victoria's Agave is endangered in the wild in its native Mexico, but it is a common garden plant, with millions of plants in cultivation around the world.

Tennessee Coneflower

Echinacea tennesseensis



The Tennessee coneflower thrives in barren, rocky open areas called *cedar glades* in—you guessed it—Tennessee! Members of the genus *Echinacea*, including the Tennessee coneflower, have been used for many years as herbal medicines. The Tennessee coneflower was also the first plant to be placed on the U.S. Endangered Species List.

