PLANT RECORDS — Clearing house for Arboretum plants and seed.

At the time of this report, there are 7,420 accessions, representing 168 families, 1,062 genera, 3,537 species, and 1,677 varieties of plants in the field.

Looking into the future, changes can be expected not so much in figures but in the character of the plants they represent. An active seed exchange program with foreign botanic gardens, genetic research, and the Department's plant introduction program will combine to replace some species and many more varieties.

In this biennium, data cards covering field collections at the Arboretum were microfilmed and sent to the plant Records Center of the American Horticultural Society in Lima, Pennsylvania, there to be filed along with the data cards of most of the botanic gardens in the United States, thus contributing to an invaluable pool of information readily available to interested persons all over the world.

DESCANSO GARDENS, La Canada

ATTENDANCE

1967 - 68	1968 - 69	1969 - 70	1970 - 71
500,104	391,119	504,224	447,417

891,223

951,641

NEW GARDENS

Four new gardens were developed in this biennium:

the Chinese Garden north of the Hospitality House, built through a donation of \$10,000 by the John J. Howard family which also donated ancient, ornamental tiles;

an Azalea Garden donated by the Fay F. Wilcox family;

a garden of 60 South African and Australian proteas, donated and planted by Dr. Cecil Eschelman;

a third Children's Garden. Two, already in operation, are for handicapped children; the third was provided for children with special problems of La Crescenta schools.



A corner of the Chinese Garden

DONATIONS

A special planting of old-fashioned roses was donated by the Descanso Gardens Guild in honor of Mrs. Judge Smith upon her retirement as Chairman of the Board.

Two new gas stoves for use in the Hospitality House were donated by Mrs. Paul McClellan of the Los Angeles Camellia Council.

Two recirculating fountain pumps and 120 rose bushes were donated by the Los Angeles Camellia Council.

SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN, Palos Verdes Peninsula

ATTENDANCE

The dramatic rise in attendance at South Coast Botanic Garden can be attributed to the overall development of the gardens in terms of plantings and attractions, an increase in public services including tram tours, and a progressive increase in public hours.

At the beginning of this biennium the garden was open to the public four days a week from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. From November 27, 1970, it was opened to the public six days a week, the hours remaining the same, and on April 26, 1971, its hours became the same as the Arboretum and Descanso Gardens — seven days a week, 8 to 5:30 p.m.

40,905		80,388	
19,334	21,571	33,277	47,111
1967 - 68	1968 - 69	1969 - 70	1970 - 71

WEATHER

South Coast Botanic Garden weather charts are made available to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Hydraulic Division and the garden issues a monthly chart for Palos Verdes Peninsula.

Data for the weather season, Oct. 1 to Sept. 30:

	1969-70	1970-71
Lowest temperature	29° — Jan. 1 and 2, 1970	24° - Jan. 2, 1971
Highest temperature	101° — Sept. 27, 1970	105° — Sept. 13, 1971
Total days of rainfall	26 days	31 days
Heaviest monthly rainfall	Feb 2.78	Nov 6.61
Yearly rainfall	8.37	13.81

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Dimond, Donald S. 1961. "Descanso Gardens, La Canada." *Biennial report* 1969-71, 5–6.

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