

BROWSE AND TOXIC PLANT PROGRAMS FOR ZOOLOGICAL ORGANIZATIONS

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Abstract

This presentation will focus on the topic of browse as it relates to zoological organizations. Information presented will include the AZA accreditation standard as it relates to browse, examples of how to develop and organize a browse program within an organization, developing a browse policy, and process for approval of new species to be offered to the animal collection.

Other topics presented will include how to structure and conduct a browse training course for staff, proper pruning practices to sustain a browse plot, documentation, and record keeping of browse usage. Additionally, general resources for identification of plants and toxicity databases, general plant toxicity information, identification, examples of toxicity in the literature, and how to avoid these scenarios will be discussed.