

BIODIVERSITY TOWER

1º Vertical Garden of Curitiba

Curitiba City Government delivered in July 04th, 2008, the first vertical garden of ornamental native plants of the city. With a 12 meters height and more than a thousand native species plants, the garden, constructed in a partnership with the business group Barigüi, is at the Square Antonio Bordin, in the intersection of streets Mário Tourinho and Padre Agostinho, at Campina do Siqueira neighborhood. The garden integrates the actions of the Urban Biodiversity program – Biocity, of the Curitiba City Government.



Native Plants Vertical Garden

The Native Plants Vertical Garden is the newest attraction in the landscape of Curitiba. The garden is at the Square Antonio Bordim, in the crossing of the streets Mário Tourinho and Padre Agostinho.

The Square revitalization was done by the business group Barigüi in a partnership with the Municipal Secretariat of Environment, who is the author of the garden's project. The use of native plants integrates the Urban Biodiversity program – Biocity actions, of the Curitiba City Government.

The creativity and care with the environment are features of Curitiba, and this Garden brings together at the same place these two qualities, aggregating our native species valorization, symbolizing our commitment with the biological diversity conservation.

With a three meters triangular base, the tower is made of steel and concrete. The flowers will be set in shelves forming aerial gardens. The project is of the City Government architect Fernando Canalli. The plants that were selected to compose the flowers are predominantly natives. There were planted more than a thousand flowers and foliage seedlings of 15 different species, sizes, shapes and colors. They are heliconia augusta, aphelandra squarrosa, pyrostegia venusta and nematanthus wettsteinii.



PICTURE: SOME NATIVE PLANTS

The species were selected by a Municipal Secretariat of Environment team. The plants used in the Vertical Garden are perennial so they demand less change and maintenance. At the base, the garden was ornamented with 10 thousand petunia integrifolia seedlings, also native specie.

The building of the tower position and the distribution of the plants obey environmental factors, like the incidence of light and shadow, predominance of wind and other aspects that may interfere in the development of plants. The tower is made of concrete hollow blocks so that some plants climb the entire tower and completely cover it.

The gardens aesthetical beauty is not the only result expected. The expectative is that the tower also serves as a shelter to birds and others animals, like butterflies and insects that, attracted by the plants, form an opportune environment to the propagation of native plants. Many of these species produce seeds that can be scattered by birds and taken to the inside and outside of the urban area, then they get mixed with the vegetation and enrich the environment with native plants.

The tower is surrounded by water and fountains that besides the protection also benefits the square scenic beauty. The same hydraulic system of the water will serve to irrigate the gardens, providing the plants the necessary humidity. A change-color lighting system provides a special effect at night.



