

# Plant Adaptations

**I**N the quiet eastern corner of the Conservatory, changing exhibits focus on the ingenious ways in which plants are able to get what they need to survive. All the plants in a display share a specific survival adaptation. This exhibit highlights plants that form beneficial relationships with either fungi or bacteria.



(ABOVE AND LEFT)

**PINK POWDER PUFF**  
(*Calliandra emarginata*).

Legumes, like this pink powder puff, provide housing for nitrogen-fixing bacteria (*Rhizobium*). After colonization, sites along the roots develop into nodules that protect the growing bacterial colony. In return, bacteria make available atmospheric nitrogen, a vital nutrient for the plant.