Seeds of Success is the national native seed collection program led by the Bureau of Land Management in partnership with a variety of federal agencies and non-federal organizations including some of APGA’s botanical garden & arboretum members. Working in 65 teams, over 300 individuals across the country are participating in the conservation and restoration of one of our most essential natural resources: native plants.

The Seeds of Success Collector Award honors and recognizes an individual who demonstrates outstanding dedication to our program’s goals. We are proud to award this honor for the first time to Andy Walker from the North Carolina Botanical Garden.

In 2006, the North Carolina Botanical Garden joined SOS and hired Andy Walker to lead their SOS collecting efforts. Since then, he has worked tirelessly to build partnerships throughout the southeast with federal land managers such as the USDA Forest Service, as well as state agencies and The Nature Conservancy. Andy’s dedication, outstanding efforts, collaborative approach, and impressive number of seed collections make him the ideal recipient for this award.