

JUNE 2026

Update

PLANT CONSERVATION EFFORTS



Cayman Islands Ironwood
(*Chionanthus caymanensis*)

ABOUT CONSERVATION

The conservation of Cayman's unique flora is a hands-on effort, as seen here Corin Golding, Horticultural Specialist at the Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park, meticulously collects seeds from the blooming canopy of a Cayman Islands Ironwood (*Chionanthus caymanensis*).



PLANT DESCRIPTION & CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

This endemic and endangered species, identified by its dense cluster of small white flowers, is named for its extraordinary heavy and termite-resistant wood, which was traditionally vital for constructing the foundation posts of early Caymanian homes.

ENDEMIC AND ENDANGERED SPECIES



Cayman Islands Ironwood (*Chionanthus caymanensis*)

CONSERVATION COLLECTION

The careful work of harvesting these seeds ensures they can be propagated in the Botanic Park's native plant nursery, supporting critical reintroduction efforts and preserving the islands' biodiversity in the face of ongoing habitat degradation.

