

Standardized NOD II Syntax

This format was developed in the 1990's for the New Ornamentals Database (NOD) by the New Ornamentals Society. It has been revised several times since then. NOD II is used in such popular references as Hatch's Perennials, Cultivars of Woody Plants, and HITS. It consists of 2-5 letter abbreviations following by a colon and space, then a description of the trait or top in full sentence form. It is easy to understand and can be done in blocks or even without line breaks between the traits. There is prescribed order of traits. Each trait is optional so unlike a fixed database we can save space. We are using the block or line break version such as:

Accepted plant name [botanical author, literature citation] (synonyms with authors, citations when possible), (hybrid parentage if appropriate)

----- general form and branching

ht: (height x width) + (in X years)

ha: (habit)

st: (stems) or tw: (twigs)

tsp: (thorns, spines, prickles)

bk: (bark)

----- foliage

lc: (leaf color)

ls: (leaf shape)

ll, lw: (leaf length, leaf width)

la: (leaf apex)

lb: (leaf base)

lm: (leaf margin)

lv: (leaf vestiture/hairs)

lt: (leaf type or leaf thickness)

afc: (autumn fall color)

----- flowers

fc: (flower color)

fd: (flower dimensions)

fq: (flower quantity incl. number per inflo, per plant, etc.)

ff: (flower fragrance)

bt: (bloom time)

infl: (inflorescence)

ft: (flower type including corolla shape and other terms)

----- fruit

frc: (fruit color)

frq: (fruit quantity)

frt: (fruit type)

frd: (fruit dimensions)

sex: (gender of clone, male or female)

----- resistances and adaptability

dr: (disease resistance)

ir: (insect resistance)

ch: (cold hardiness rating)

lu: (landscape use notes and ideas)

----- origins and documentation

or: (origin)

in: (introduction)

pat: (plant patent or pbr)

tm: (trademark)

ns: (nomenclatural status or discussion of name history)

gen: (genetics, ploidy level, cytology, known genes, name of mutation, etc.)

reg: (registration of cultivar, if not OROC)

hsp: (herbarium specimen)

lsp: (living specimen)

so: (source, usually retail, mailorder nursery URL link, typically we honor the first listing we find)

web: (web url of interest)

li: (literature citation) - main name citations on the first line(s) with the accepted name and it's synonyms.

There are more than 40 other standardized NOD II abbreviations. We will provide these at a later date for advanced users and our Registrars. The NOD II Syntax accepts your own additions without abbreviation such as "

Field names can be combined as one line, separated by commas with one colon such as this one combining patent, origin, and introduction on two lines:

pat, or, in: US Plant Patent #1107 to John Doe, Metropolis, New York, random seedling 1977,
pat, or, in: introduced 1983, not widely in retail trade until 1987 in US

Each field abbreviation may be used more than one line and span more than one line to form paragraphs of text with full sentences. The availability of long endless paragraphs in NOD II has merits as well as the ability to embed videos and photos with it, something nearly impossible with a fixed-field database model.

ns: the connection between 'Red Queen' and 'Superbus' is confused. Smith's Plantus Shop offered 'Red Queen' in their 1942

ns: Catalog (pages 32-33) with this note 'sometimes sold as superbus or superbus roseus but our stock is superior to all others

ns: evaluated here'. Since we do not have any literature for the original nature and origins of 'Superbus' or 'Superbus Roseus' we

ns: are recognizing Smith's stock as distinct under 'Red Queen'. Wilson in his 1982

monograph PLANTUS FOR MODERN

ns: GARDENS said 'Red Queen' and 'Superbus' are 'hopelessly mixed up in the trade, mingled, and sold interchangeably. The

ns: best material, perhaps the true 'Red Queen' is more vigorous and with a larger corolla than some stock circulating today

ns: as 'Superbus'. Yet I have also seen weak, small-flowered material sold as 'Red Queen'.

Here is one example:

Plantus vulgaris 'Green Gem' Hatch, Cultivars of Woody Plant 2024: 35 (P. vulgaris 'Viridis Minor' US trade c. 1962, post-1959 Latin name)

ht: 20cm tall x 45cm wide (10 years)

ha: dense, compact, semi-dwarf, less tufted than 'Emerald Mound'

st: reddish-brown, semi-showy

tsp: spineless clone

bk: light gray on older stems, only semi-showy in winter

----- foliage

lc: darker green than species typical (Pantone 349 to 350)

ll, lw: 1.8-2.2cm long x 0.5-0.9cm wide

ls: narrowly elliptic to elliptic-linear, narrower than 'Jade Parade' (more elliptic to broadly elliptic)

la: acuminate, sharper than 'Jade Parade'(acute to subacuminate)

lb: rotund

lm: entire, no marginal apical teeth as 'Green Magic'

lv: slightly pubescent below, becoming glabrous by summer

lt: thicker blades, more durable

afc: yellow shades, semi-showy, not red as 'Green Magic' and 'Winter Glo'

----- flowers

fc: rich reddish-pink (Pantone 198), less pink than 'Green Mound' (Pantone 187)

fd: inflor. 2.0-3.1 cm long, corolla 5.5-5.8mm wide

fq: more floriferous, up to 27 per stem

ff: light spice scent, not strongly fruity as 'Jade Parade'

bt: earlier in season (May 2-10 in northern Virginia)

infl: up to 212 flowers

----- fruit

frc: clear, clean cherry red (Pantone 032), no yellow hues as in 'Green Magic'

frq: lower fruit count, less messy in landscape, generally 2-10% flower set fruit

frt: oblate-globose

frd: 2.1-2.8cm

----- resistances and adaptability

dr: high Microsorium Strain 12 resistance, fair to medium powdery mildew resistance

ir: thicker blades show very little mite spotting

ch: USDA 4b, more cold hardy than random species seedlings (USDA 4b-5)

lu: small hedge, foundation plant, container specimen

----- origins and documentation

or, in: unknown, thought to be Harvest Nursery, Kellogg, Virginia (closed about 1972) c. 1960 as 'Viridis Minor'

ns: (nomenclatural status or discussion of name history): never published before January 1, 1959 so name must be given vernacular name. Originators

ns: and originator nursery cannot be contacted for permission to change name

lsp: Federal Arboretum 72-012 from Metropolis Arboretum (from Harvest Nursery)

so: <http://www.coolnewplants.com>

so: <http://www.theplantusstore.com>

web: (web url of interest): www.plantcultivars.com

li: Catloginn, I.B. 1978. The best dwarf Plantus cultivars. Plantus Society Journal: 13: 142-149.

li: Botnizer, Ima. 2021. Harvest Nursery and their lost cultivars. J. Heirloom Gardening 2: 151-152.

A simple example of NOD II condensed down with no line breaks is:

Plantus nigrus 'The Raven' - ht: 20 ft. tall x 12 ft. wide, taller than 'Black Cat' (10 ft. x 6 ft.), ha: ovoid, lc: dark blackish-purple, not red as 'Tell Tale', afc: yellow to gold shades, dr: mite resistant, so: gothplants.com, or: E.A. Poe, Nevermore Nursery, Baltimore, Maryland, USA. ns: similar to the old cultivar 'Lenore' (considered lost)

The fields may be separated by commas or periods.

The fields may well service as XML markings such as <ht> 3.0 m</ht> and code has been written to convert NOD II into XML by reading the location of the colon (:) and creating these fields.