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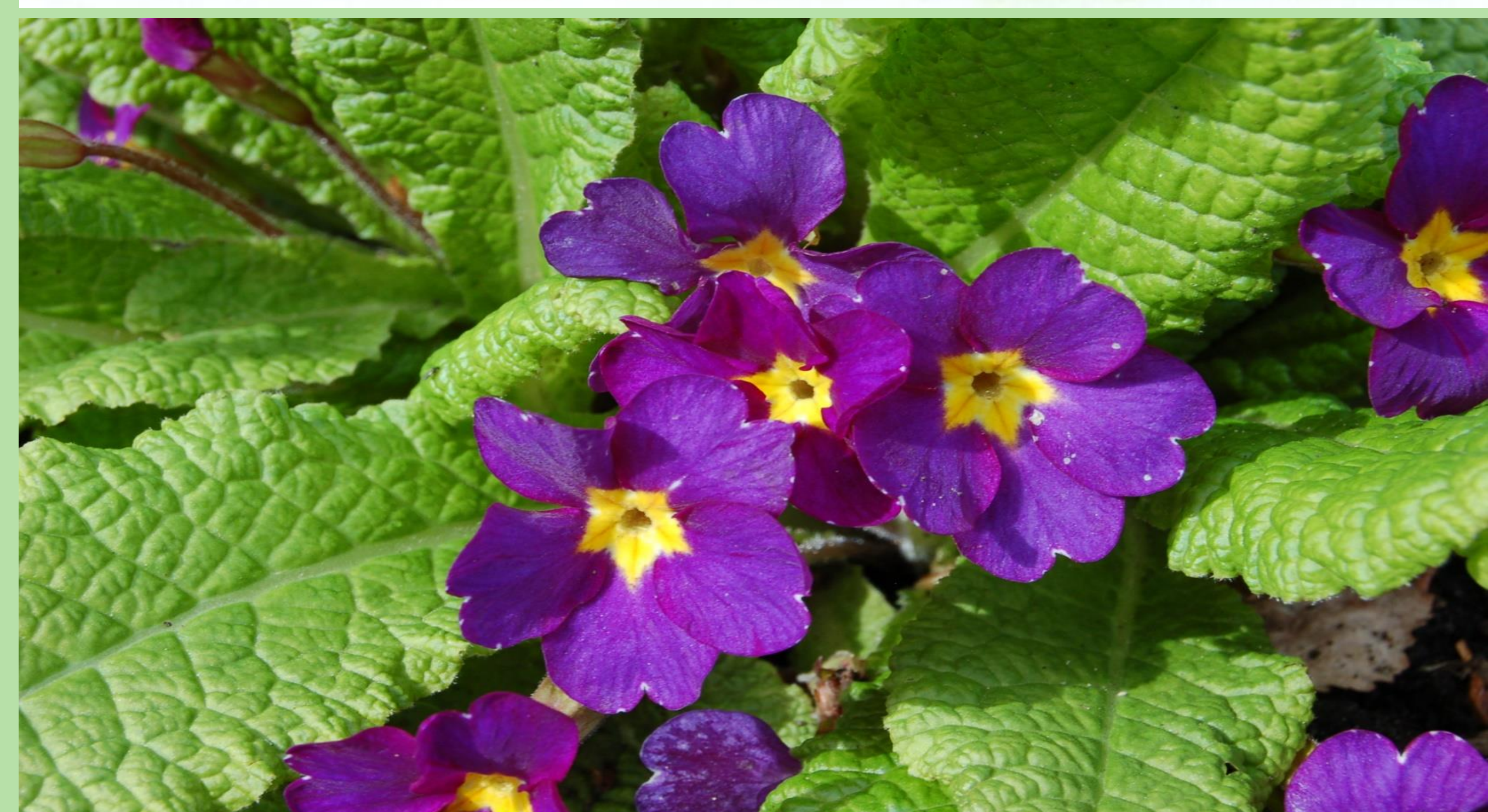
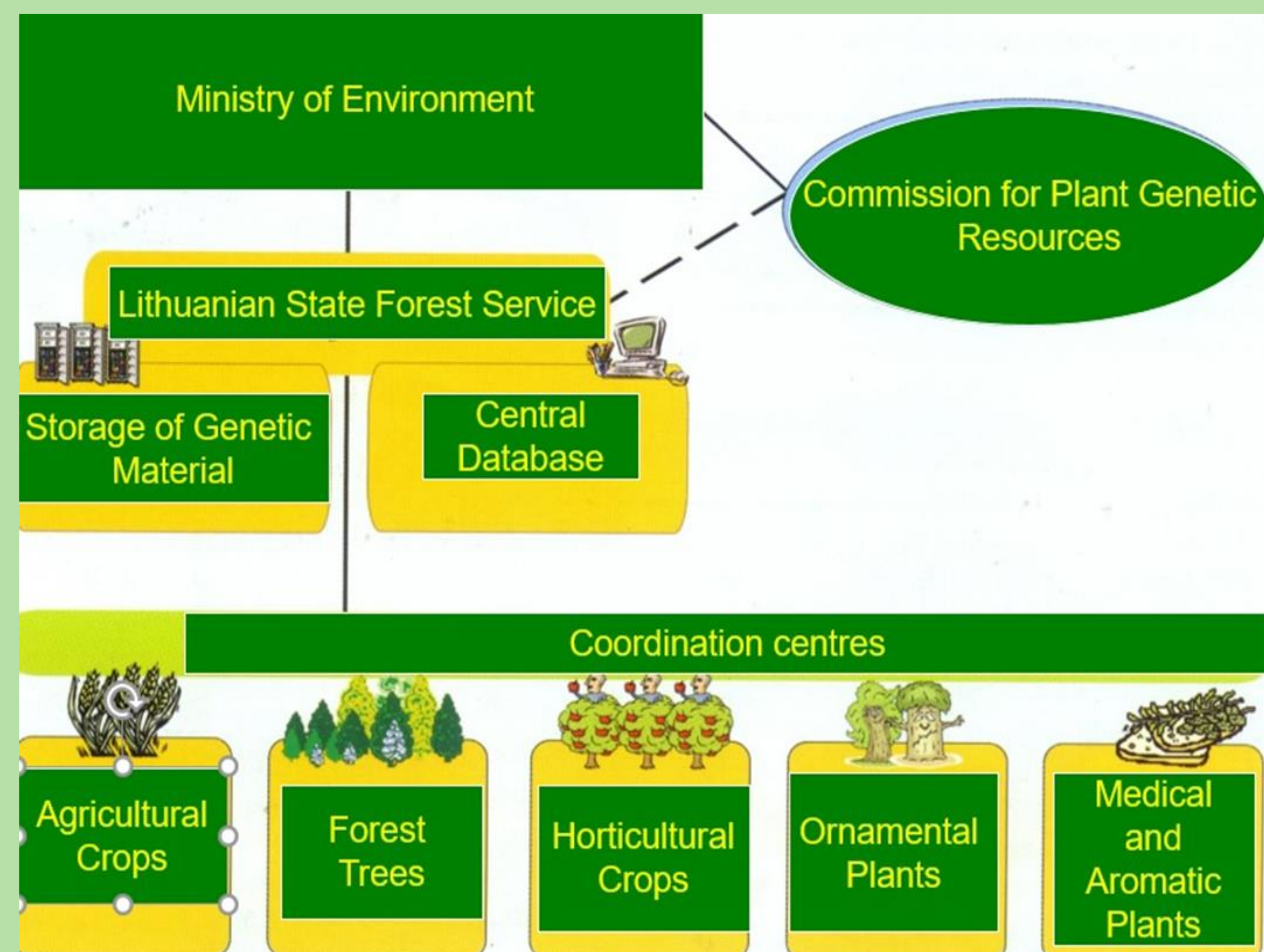
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Conservation of plant genetic resources (PGR) in Lithuania has a long tradition. Since 1994, efforts have been concentrated on PGR within the National Programme on Plant Genetic Resources. The programme encompassed conservation and research of PGR of agricultural and horticultural crops, medicinal and ornamental plants, forest trees. This programme covered all basic activities on plants; e. g. gathering, documentation, evaluation, conservation of PGR. In 2001, the Law on National Genetic Resources of Plants was adopted. According to this law, PGR are selected and included into the central database of national PGR, e. g. plant populations or their parts, single plants or their groups, reproductional parts of plants. The Plant Gene Bank with coordination centres of different plant groups has been established. Later the Government of Lithuania adopted its resolution to reorganize the Plant Gene Bank and to incorporate it into the Lithuanian State Forest Service.

Botanical gardens in Lithuania have been cooperating with other institutions to coordinate and target their conservation activities. Ornamental plants collections have been accumulated in various Lithuanian institutions of science and studies as well as by private growers. The Lithuania Ornamental Plant Genetic Resources Coordination Centre has been established at the Vilnius University Botanical Garden (VUBG). Ornamental plant cultivars created by Lithuanian plant breeders are introduced and grown in VUBG. National ornamental PGR collections contain over 500 taxa. Lithuanian flower breeders have released cultivars of *Dahlia*, *Gladiolus*, *Hemerocallis*, *Iris*, *Lilium*, *Paeonia*, *Primula*, *Tulipa*, etc. Since 2002 under authorisation of IPGRI (Italy), a central European data registration base for *Ribes* and *Rubus* genera has been operating. VUBG and Institute of Forestry coordinate research on trees category of national PGR (362 trees). The largest plant genera represented are *Larix*, *Tilia*, *Populus*, *Quercus*, *Pinus*, *Fagus*, *Acer*, *Alnus*, *Junglans*, etc.



'Mėlynukė' (autoriai Emilija ir Jonas-Evaldas Tarvidai)



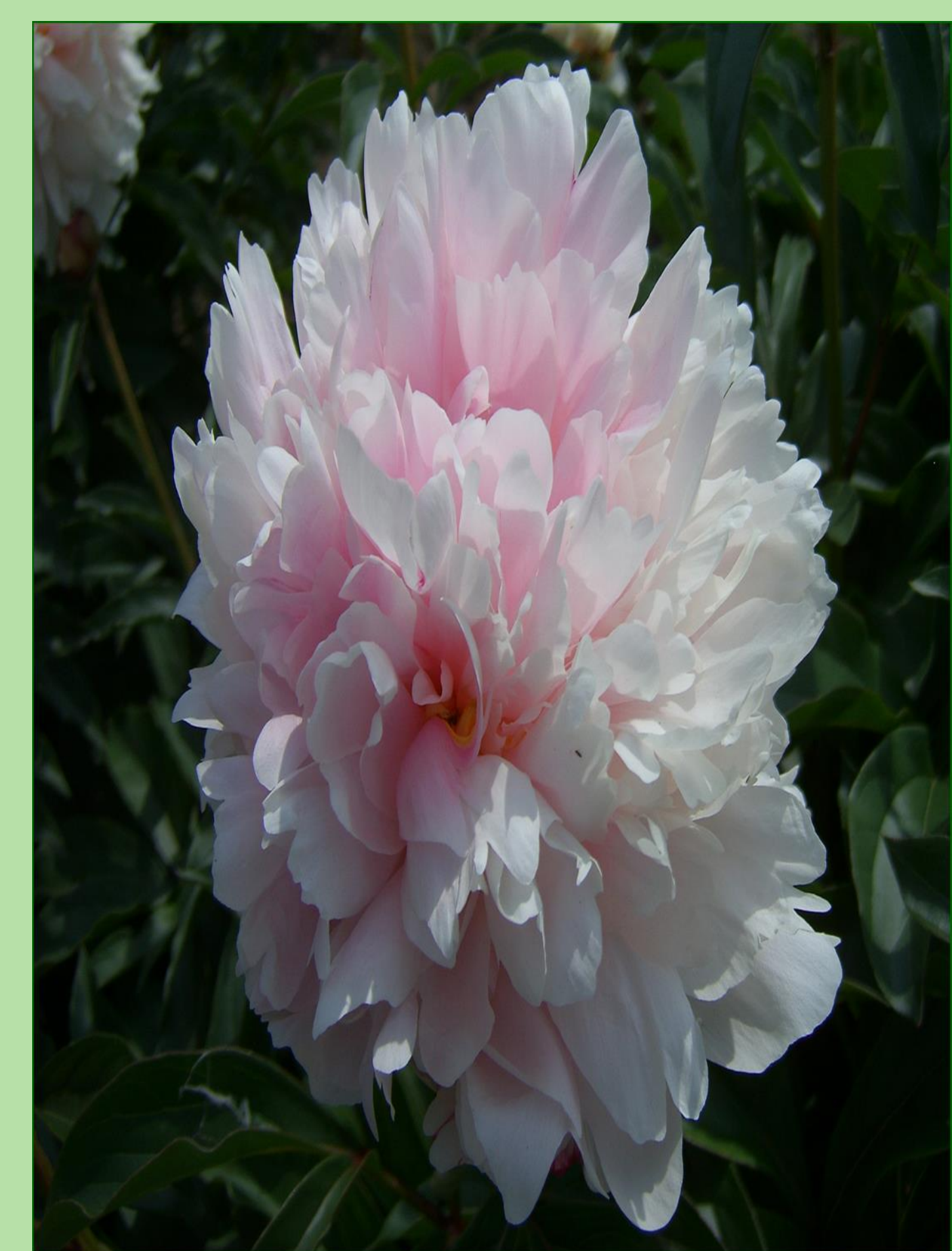
'485 Merkurijus' (A.Lukoševičius)



411 'Pupų Dėdė' (J.A. Liutkevčius)



'Laisvė' (P. Balčikonis)



'Garbė Motinai' (O. Skeivienė)

