

THE AMERICAN BAMBOO SOCIETY BIG BAMBOO CONTEST



WHY BAMBOO?

Bamboo is a very special plant. For some, this is due mostly to its beauty and interesting growth pattern of underground mystery followed by a surprising synchronized explosion of growth in the spring.

WHY HAVE AN AMERICAN BIG BAMBOO CONTEST?

1. Promote public awareness of bamboo
2. Increase public knowledge of bamboo
3. Promote the use of bamboo in landscaping and industry
4. Promote interest in bamboo research
5. Promote the American bamboo industry

DISCLAIMERS AND LEGALITIES

1. I understand that the location of the bamboo site submitted here may be made public.
2. I will hold the American Bamboo Society harmless for damage by visitors.
3. The American Bamboo Society will supply me with a detailed protocol for use with visitors.

Current Owner of this site:

Please print name

Signature

American Big Bamboo Contest Application Form



1. The _____ Chapter of the American Bamboo Society is sponsoring this application.
2. The big bamboo culm is 3 inches or greater in diameter and is located in the USA at:

_____ address

_____ city

_____ county

_____ state

3. Attach a photograph showing measurement of circumference in inches at 4 feet above ground level. Culm circumference measurement is _____ inches.
See attached instructions for measuring big bamboo.
4. Attach photograph showing that the culm is alive, healthy, and located at its growth site. Attach close-up photograph of a young shoot in the grove, if available.
5. The culm has been grown by the following: Check one
 - amateur gardener
 - professional gardener
 - business
 - other, please give history, if known.

Professionals and businesses are invited to participate

6. Has the culm received special care and cultivation practices with the intent to maximize its size? Yes _____ No _____ If yes, please describe the special care in the Culm Owner Interview
7. Attach a copy of the ABS verification of culm size.
8. Attach a copy of the culm owner interview.

ABS Verification of Bamboo Name and Culm Size



Bamboo
Name _____

Genus

Species

Sub-Species

Variety

Cultivar

Form

€ Not yet verified

Bamboo Division:

temperate

tropical

Date of Site Visit and Measuring of culm:

Circumference at four feet above ground level:

inches

ABS Verifying member

Print Name

Date

Signature

- Because the height of a culm is not easily measured, this data is not used.
- Because some bamboo culms are not round, a tape rather than a caliper is used.



Culm Owner Interview (If Appropriate)

A member of the ABS sponsoring chapter will interview the owner of the culm and determine the species, if possible. He/She will verify its circumference and take notes on a list of **site growth factors** if they are evident.

1. soil type
2. ground grade
3. air humidity and water table
4. shading and hours of direct sunlight
5. plant nutrients
6. size (area) of grove, clump
7. any management techniques (irrigation, etc)
8. pest control
9. history of catastrophic events such windstorms, flooding, fire disease, loss of water, and blooming.

Instructions for Measuring Big Bamboo

The culm to be submitted for consideration must be a mature, living culm, and will be measured as follows:

Select an internode approximately four feet above ground level. Remove any remaining sheath and select a measuring location at least two inches above or below a node. Use a cloth or vinyl measuring tape marked to one-eighth or one-sixteenth of an inch to measure the culms' circumference. A circumference of nine and seven sixteenths ($9 \frac{7}{16}$ ths) or greater is required for entry. Divide circumference by pi (3.141592) to obtain diameter. Photograph the measuring event and submit the photograph showing the culm and its circumference on the tape. Also, submit a photograph of the entire culm, if possible.

The Potential Value of the American Big Bamboo Contest



1. Promote the need for a comprehensive study of the existing and potential bamboo industry in the United States of America.
2. Determine the most efficient species for production of poles, pulp, fiber, flooring, shoots, etc.
3. Determine the best farming practices to use in growing the most efficient species.
4. Determine the best ways to promote production and use of American bamboo in the USA
5. Determine bamboo site requirements for maximum size
6. Determine bamboo nutrient requirements for maximum size
7. Promote the availability of bamboo plants with championship lineage
8. Promotion of genetic engineering

SITE PROTOCOL FOR THE BIG BAMBOO CONTEST

1. The property owner is responsible for the safety and well-being of his bamboo.
2. Visitors should make appointments for their appearance and never enter the grove unless accompanied by the owner.
3. The owner will want to show discretion in allowing larger groups of visitors in the grove at one time.
4. Hopefully, the ABS member submitting the application will be willing to write stories and give interviews that promote the ABS and his bamboo.

Application Submittal



Send a printed copy of the above completed documents by United States Postal Service:

1. Disclaimers and Legalities
2. American Big Bamboo Application Form
3. ABS Verification of species, sub-species, and culm size
4. Culm owner interview
5. Instructions for measuring big bamboo and photographs
6. Potential value of the American Big Bamboo Contest

Mail to: Frasier Bingham, Ph.D.
 Big Bamboo Contest
 407 Lake Shore Drive
 Bainbridge, GA 39819