

Palm Identification Label Wire

Submitted by Charlie Beck



Locally available locking wire

Have you ever considered attaching palm ID labels just like they do at Montgomery Botanical Center (MBC)? Vickie Murphy, Nursery Curator of MBC, shared her method with me. She coils wire around a length of ½" PVC pipe or any other suitable round object to form a spring with straight ends. She attaches a plant ID label to the palm using the formed spring. They use aluminum wire as specified below.

- Source: HM Wire International
- Wire diameter: 0.050
- Wire type: 1100-O (soft temper)
- Quoted cost: \$54 per 1000' coil

I have found that .041 diameter Stainless Lock Wire locally available at Harbor Freight Tools also works for this purpose and sells for approximately \$8.50 for a one pound roll (see photos).



Formed spring
twist tied to palm stem