

DR. PAUL D. SORENSEN  
APPOINTED ASSISTANT HORTICULTURAL TAXONOMIST  
AT ARNOLD ARBORETUM

Dr. Paul D. Sorensen was appointed Assistant Horticultural Taxonomist at the Arnold Arboretum effective July 1, 1967. He received his B.A. degree from the University of Iowa in 1962 with a major in French but specialized in plant taxonomy for his M.S. in Botany in 1966 and his Ph.D. degree in 1967. He has taught botany and especially plant taxonomy as an assistant in several courses within the University of Iowa, the Extension Service in Adult Education and during the summer sessions. He also served as an assistant curator in the herbarium of the University of Iowa from 1964 to 1967.

During the summers of 1965 and 1966 he assisted Dr. T. E. Melchert in a botanical foray in Mexico and Guatemala with the special goal of collecting information on wild species of *Dahlia* and their contribution to this genus of cultivated plants. His thesis was on the systematics of the genus *Dahlia* and he brings much of this research material to Jamaica Plain for further studies of this important group of plants.

Through the areas of Iowa and Wisconsin the preservation of natural areas receives much more attention than do the problems of conservation in New England. Dr. Sorensen has an active interest in the use of natural areas as "living museums" and his interest in local floras can be associated with his earlier studies on the native vegetation of Iowa and Wisconsin.

Dr. Sorensen is a member of the International Association of Plant Taxonomists, the American Society of Plant Taxonomists, the American Institute of Biological Sciences, the Society of Sigma Xi, the Botanical Society of America, the Iowa Academy of Science and the Nature Conservancy. Dr. and Mrs. Sorensen and their three children will live in Jamaica Plain.