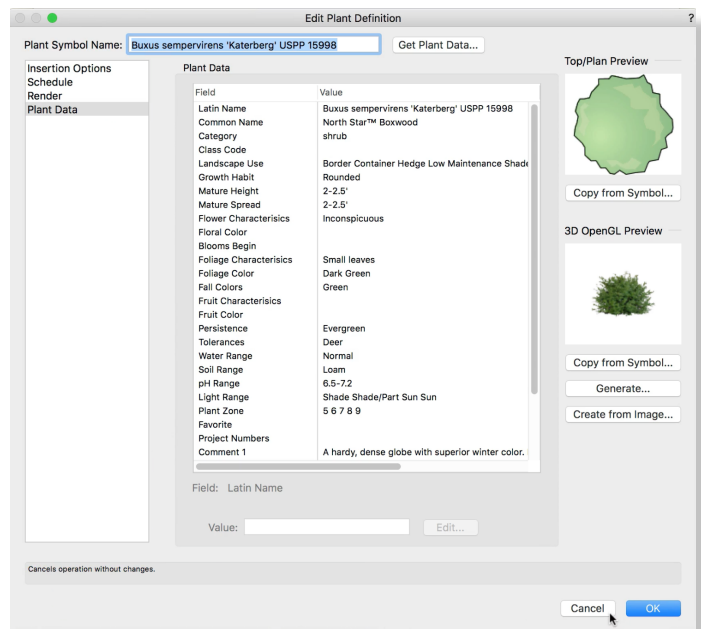


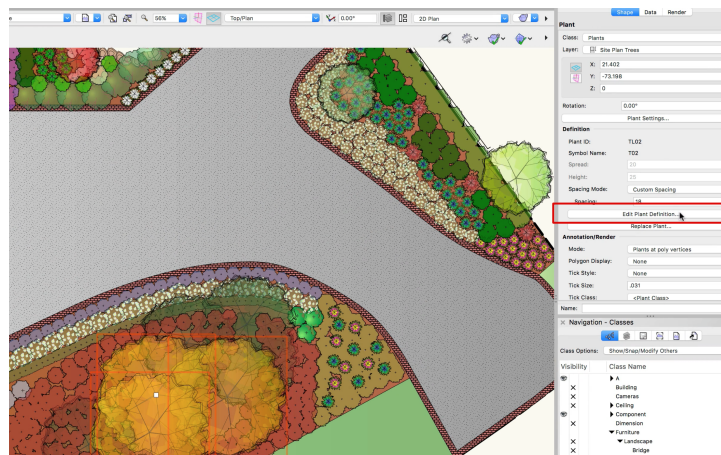
# SITE DESIGN

## PLANT DEFINITION – SETTINGS AND DATA

Let's take a look at the insertion options, schedule information, render settings and botanical data of the Plant Definition. To access this information, we need to open the Edit Plant Definition dialogue. The Edit Plant Definition dialogue can be accessed in many different ways. First, we can go to the Plant Tool and the Plant Tool Preferences in the toolbar. Then, select a Plant Definition and Click the Edit Plant Definition button in the bottom left corner.

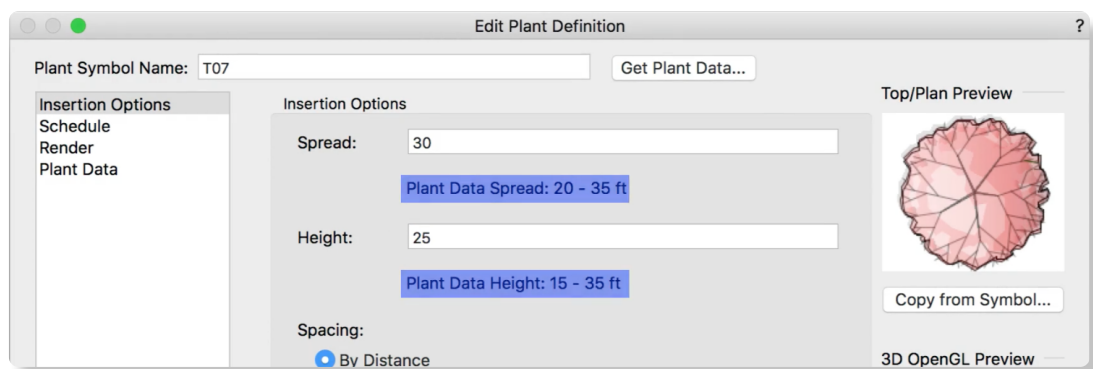


We can also access the definition dialogue in the Object Info Palette. To do this, select a placed plant object and click the Edit Plant Definition button in the Object Info Palette.

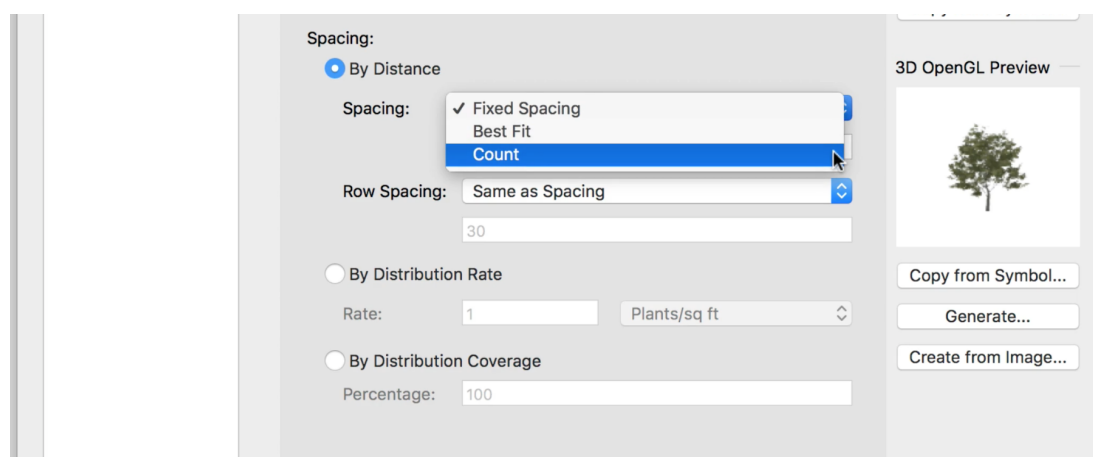


Finally, we can right-click on a Plant Symbol in the Resource Manager and choose Edit Definition. The Plant Symbol must be in the active document for this method to work.

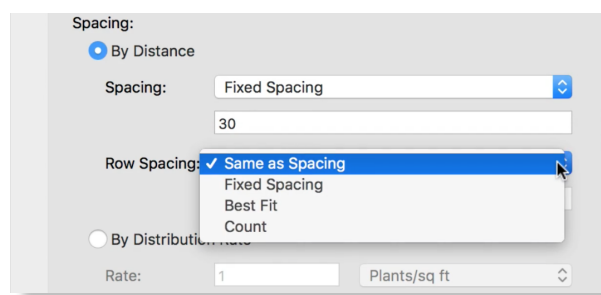
The first pane in the dialogue is the Insertion Options. Insertion Options control the default values for Spread, Height, and Spacing. The Spread and Height are typically set to the average size for the chosen species. The typical Spread and Height range will be displayed underneath these fields if this information is in the plant data. We'll take a look at plant data in a moment.



Spacing has some additional options. It can be set by distance, distribution rate, or distribution coverage. By Distance has a general Spacing setting as well as a Row Spacing setting. Spacing can be set to Fixed, Best Fit, or Count.



Row Spacing can be set to the same value as the general spacing option or have a custom value set, using the fixed, best fit, or count options.



Spacing can be set By Distribution Rate, which will be Plants/sq ft(sq m). It can also be set By Distribution Coverage. Plants are spaced according to the Spread. 100% indicates full coverage.

The Schedule pane sets general information for the plant including:

**Latin Name**

**Common Name**

**Plant/Tag ID**

**Scheduled Size**

**Quantity Type:** This includes Count, Dripline area, and Boundary area.

**Price Code**

**Price**

**Comment:** Here you can add custom comments to display on either the schedule or plant tag.

All of this information can be displayed in a Plant Schedule or on the Plant Tag.

Plant Symbol Name: T07

Get Plant Data...

Insertion Options  
Schedule  
Render  
Plant Data

Schedule

Latin Name: Arbutus x 'Marina'

Update From Plant Database

Common Name: Marina Strawberry Tree

Plant/Tag ID: TL07

Scheduled Size: 36" box

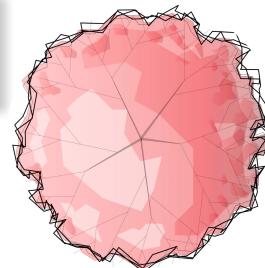
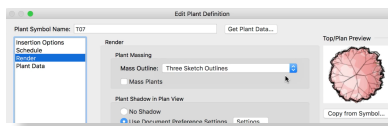
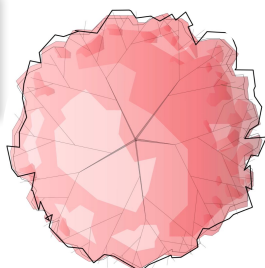
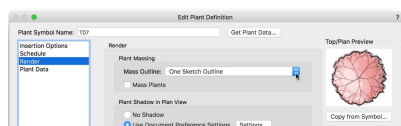
Quantity Type: ☒ Count  
Dripline area  
Boundary area

Price Code (SKU):

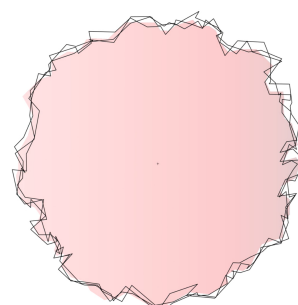
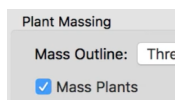
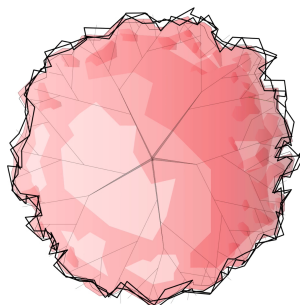
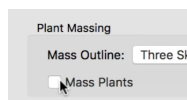
Price: 0

Schedule comments:  
Multi trunk, provide specs

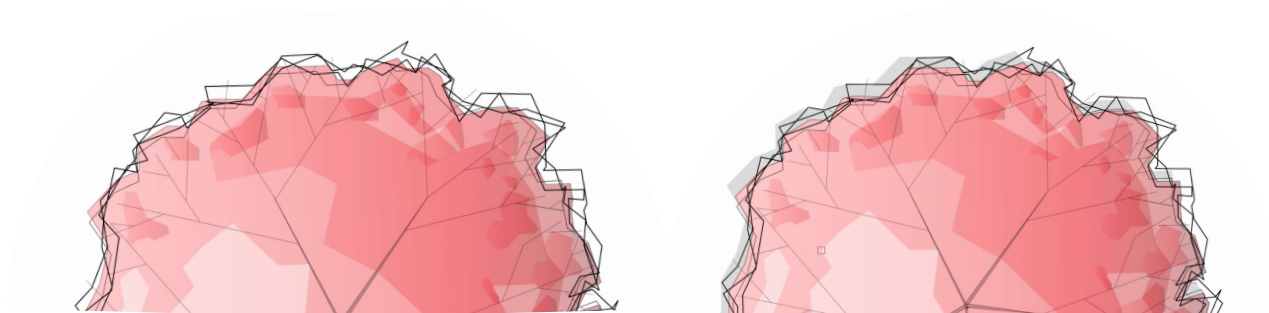
The Render pane allows you to configure the 2D styling effects, including outlines and shadows. The first section here is Plant Outline and Massing. This creates additional outlines for the plant. As you make changes to the render settings, the Top/Plan Preview thumbnail will update to show the effect. There are several Outline options including No Outline, Tight Outline, One Sketch Outline, Two Sketch Outlines, and Three Sketch Outlines. The pen attributes of the outline is controlled through the Attributes Palette.



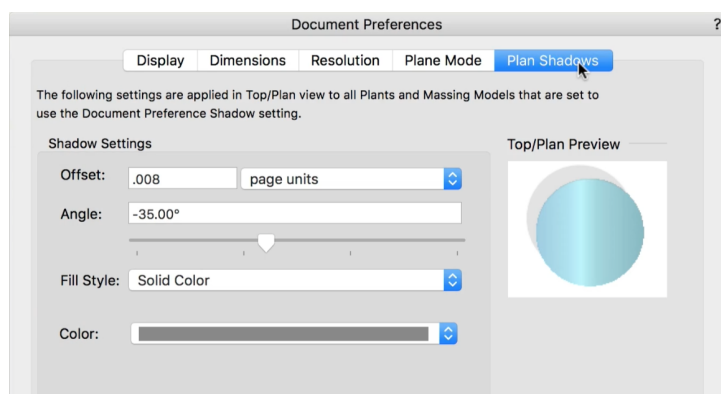
You can also apply the Mass Plants option, which will hide details of plants that overlap. This creates a continuous outline for a plant mass. The 2D attributes of the massed group is controlled by the back most polygon in the 2D graphics of the plant. The 2D details can also be hidden by using visibility control of the Plant-Component classes. To see an individual rendering for each plant, leave this option unchecked.



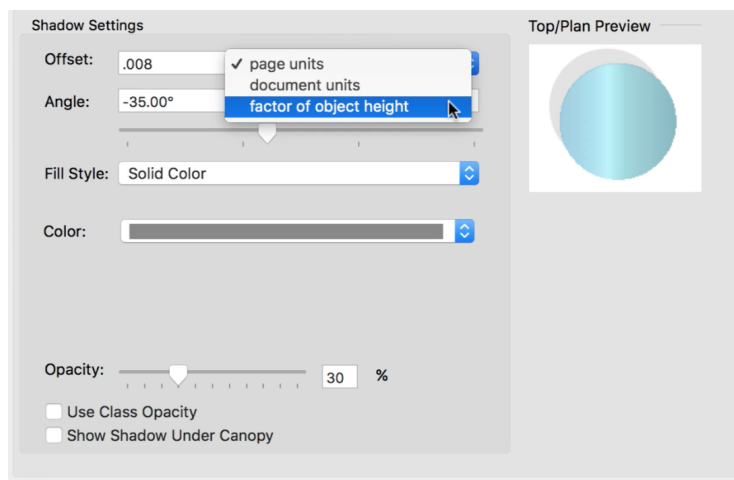
The next section is Plan Shadows. These settings control 2D shadow effects. These will only appear in a Top/Plan view. You can choose to use a universal document wide shadow setting or set custom shadow settings per plant.



The document Plan Shadow settings are accessed through the Settings button or by going to File > Document Settings > Document Preferences > Plan Shadows.

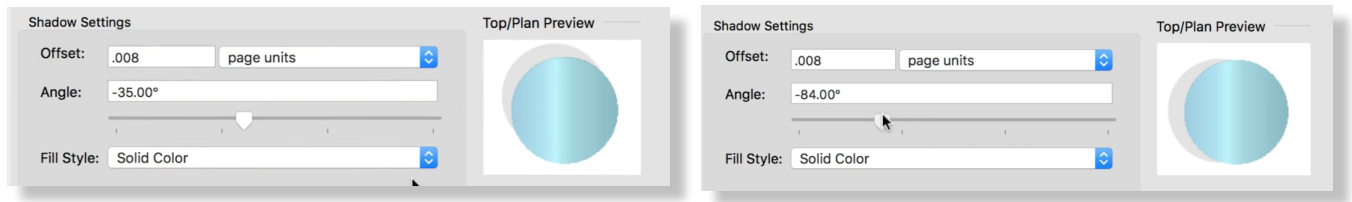


Whether you set a document wide Plan Shadow setting or a custom setting, the options are the same. The Offset, Angle, Fill Style, and Opacity can be adjusted. The Offset can be set using Page Units, Document Units, or Factor of Plant Height. The Factor of Plant Height option will calculate the offset based on the height set for the Plant in the Insertion Options. This is great for getting a realistic varied shadow effect.





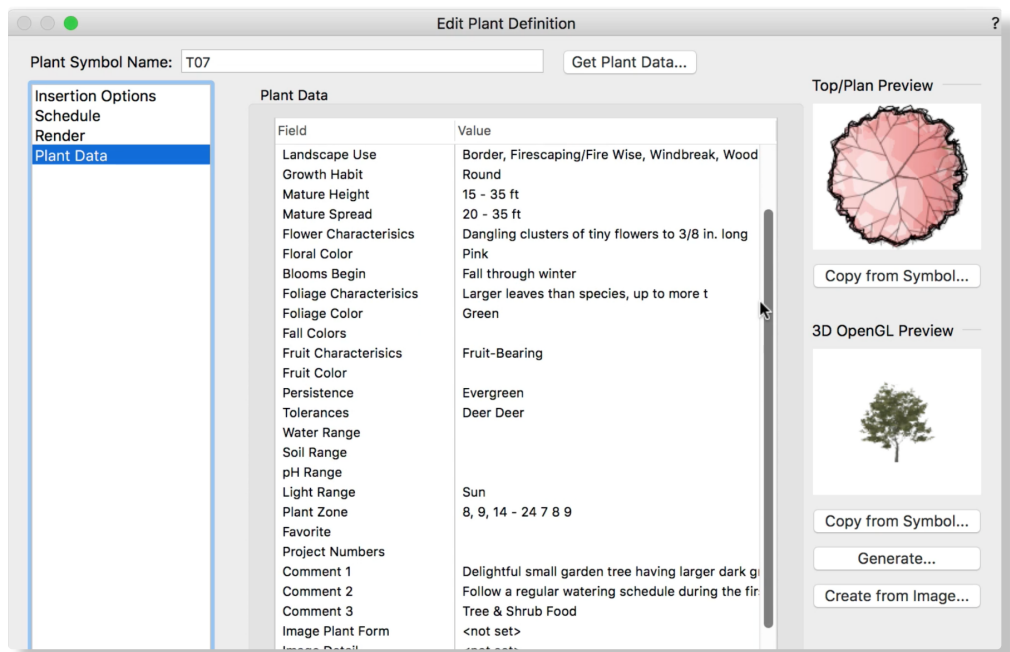
The Angle for the shadow is set by an exact angle value or by using the slider to adjust the angle. A value of 0 degrees here has the shadow to appear going straight upwards.



Fill Style can be set to a Solid Color, Hatch, Image Fill, Gradient, or Tile. The Fill can also be set by a Class Attribute setting. The Opacity percentage can be set directly or by using the slider. There are options to use a class opacity setting as well as to show the shadow under the canopy.

Please note that choosing a custom setting for the shadow options will override the document plan shadow setting. For a consistent look, it is a good idea to use the document preference setting for plan shadows. For example, if we want the shadows for all of the plants in our project to show down and to the right, we just need to make sure all of the plants are set to use the document preference setting option and adjust the offset and angle options in document preferences.

The Plant Data pane contains all of the data for the plant. This includes basic information like the Latin and Common Name, as well as more detailed information like tolerances, water, and soil needs.



All of this data can be entered manually or pulled from the Vectorworks Plant Database. We will cover how to pull this plant data from the database in another chapter. To manually enter data, just select a field and either enter the data in the Value box at the bottom or click the Edit button to easily enter longer comments.

Blooms Begin	Fall through winter
Foliage Characteristics	Larger leaves than species, up to more t
Foliage Color	Green
Fall Colors	Red, Or
Fruit Characteristics	Fruit-Bearing
Fruit Color	
Persistence	Evergreen
Tolerances	Deer Deer
Water Range	
Soil Range	
pH Range	
Light Range	Sun
Plant Zone	8, 9, 14 - 24 7 8 9
Favorite	
Project Numbers	
Comment 1	Delightful small garden tree having larger dark g
Comment 2	Follow a regular watering schedule during the fir
Comment 3	Tree & Shrub Food
Image Plant Form	<not set>
Image Detail	<not set>

Field: Fall Colors

Value:

All of the information and settings changed in the Plant Definition will be applied to all instances of the plant in the document that are set to use the Plant Definition settings. In the next chapter, we will talk about individual plant instance settings and how they can vary from the Plant Definition settings.