

American SALON

BEAUTY LIVES HERE

GREEN CARD

Your ticket to creating an earth-friendly salon

WEDDING BELLES

Elegant looks for the bride's big day

Ray of Light

Lisa Shepherd's latest collection captures the spirit of spring



TOP: Phyto founder Patrick Alès grows endangered plants and ingredients for Phyto products at his 900-acre property in France. BOTTOM: Research on plant cytology is also conducted at the arboretum.

GARDEN STATE

Patrick Alès' fascination with plants led him to create **Phyto** in 1967, but it also inspired him to acquire a 900-acre property located near Châteauroux, France, in 1992, which he developed into an extensive arboretum with the help of his wife, Jacquie, and daughter, Patricia. In the garden, called La Lienne D'Alès, Alès cultivates endangered trees and plants, in addition to Phyto ingredients, without fertilizer or pesticides and using rainwater from wells for irrigation.

"The garden was born with personal desire and passion," Alès says. "The plants in the South of France are good for the hair and skin; however, the plants are limited. I wanted to create a garden where I could grow plants in the most natural environment possible. In addition, I wanted to try to preserve certain rare plants that are close to extinction. That's why the plants in this garden are selective, protected and catalogued."

The extensive collection boasts 342 different kinds of plants, including 64 species of hosta (which also serves as the Phyto logo), 800 types of roses and 35 species of oak trees. Alès grows numerous plants for use in Phyto products as well, including Platycodon, edelweiss, amaranth and sunflowers. "We also have a lot of ginkgo trees," he says. "With 5,000 trees, we have the second biggest plantation in France!" —L.A.



SUIT UP

A staple in European spas and hotels for more than 16 years, **Fashionizer Spa Uniforms** recently made its U.S. debut with an exclusive line of earth-friendly apparel for men and women. The uniforms are made from breathable organic cotton that's grown without the use of chemicals, pesticides or heavy metals. The collection features 34 contemporary styles, including the Aquari tunics and MYA pants seen here, that are designed to flatter each silhouette, project a professional image and be fashionable at the same time. The Fashionizer Spa Uniforms team can also create a custom design that fits your brand. fashionizerspa.com —L.M.



Polished to Perfection

The brainchild of Los Angeles-based celebrity manicurist Debbie Leavitt, **Sheswai** nail lacquers are free of formaldehyde, toluene and DHP (dibutyl phthalate). The eco-chic collection of nail hues, ranging from soft and sheer to dark and lovely, come in bottles topped off with caps made from sustainably harvested

wood. Says Leavitt, "All seven shades are great classic colors that are in perfect sync with what's hot for spring." sheswai.com —K.D.