**Plant of the Month:** February  

**Scientific Name:** *Thuja occidentalis* 'Congabe'  

**Common Name:** Fire Chief™ Globe Arborvitae  

**Selected by:** Director of Horticulture Brendan Huggins

As winter’s chilly fingers turn January and February into a bone chilling cold, we often can forget about the beauty of the plants that make this season so fascinating. The structural image of an ancient oak, bare of its leaves, or the deep, dark green of a holly hedge remind us of spring releasing us from our winter malaise. However, I have chosen to single out a plant which can provide us with a pop of color in winter. *Thuja occidentalis* 'Congabe' is typically found as Fire Chief™ Globe Arborvitae.

The fall color of this plant is typically a burnt red. The color alone can make quite a statement in the winter, as pictured in Photographs A and B. Both photos are from January 16th, 2018. An additional reason to include this plant as February’s Plant of the Month is its incredibly gold new growth, as seen in Photograph C. This photo is from June 26th, 2017.

The range of color in one plant is exceptional and one that can definitely add to anyone’s gardens. If you would like to use this plant at your home, take into considerations the ideal growing conditions, which will result in a relatively small plant with a mature height of 4 feet tall. This plant likes full sun and regular watering to achieve optimal growth and coloring.