Soon after the company foundation in 1919, Nippon Shinyaku Co., Ltd started the project for domestic production of Santonin, an anti-parasite agent for roundworms, whose production was severely restricted in Russia in those days. In 1927, we discovered a new santonin containing plant (Artemisia maritima) in Europe and named this plant "Mibu-yomogi" after the place of our Headquarters in Kyoto. In 1934, Yamashina Experimental Farm was established in Yamashina, a southern part of Kyoto, for the purpose of breeding of Mibu-yomogi for santonin production. In 1953 this Experimental Farm was re-organized to the Nippon Shinyaku Institute for Botanical Research in order to continue the breeding of Mibu-yomogi and to develop new medicines from medicinal plants. In 1994 this institute was re-named into "Botanical Museum" in Japanese and opened to the public under the reservation system.

By the breeding investigation of santonin containing plants, we developed an excellent breed "Yamashina No.2" for santonin production and two splendid crossbreeds by artificial breeding. As a result of R & D of medicinal plants, we have still 4 kinds of ethical drugs. Through this background, we will show an example of a botanical garden owned by a pharmaceutical company.