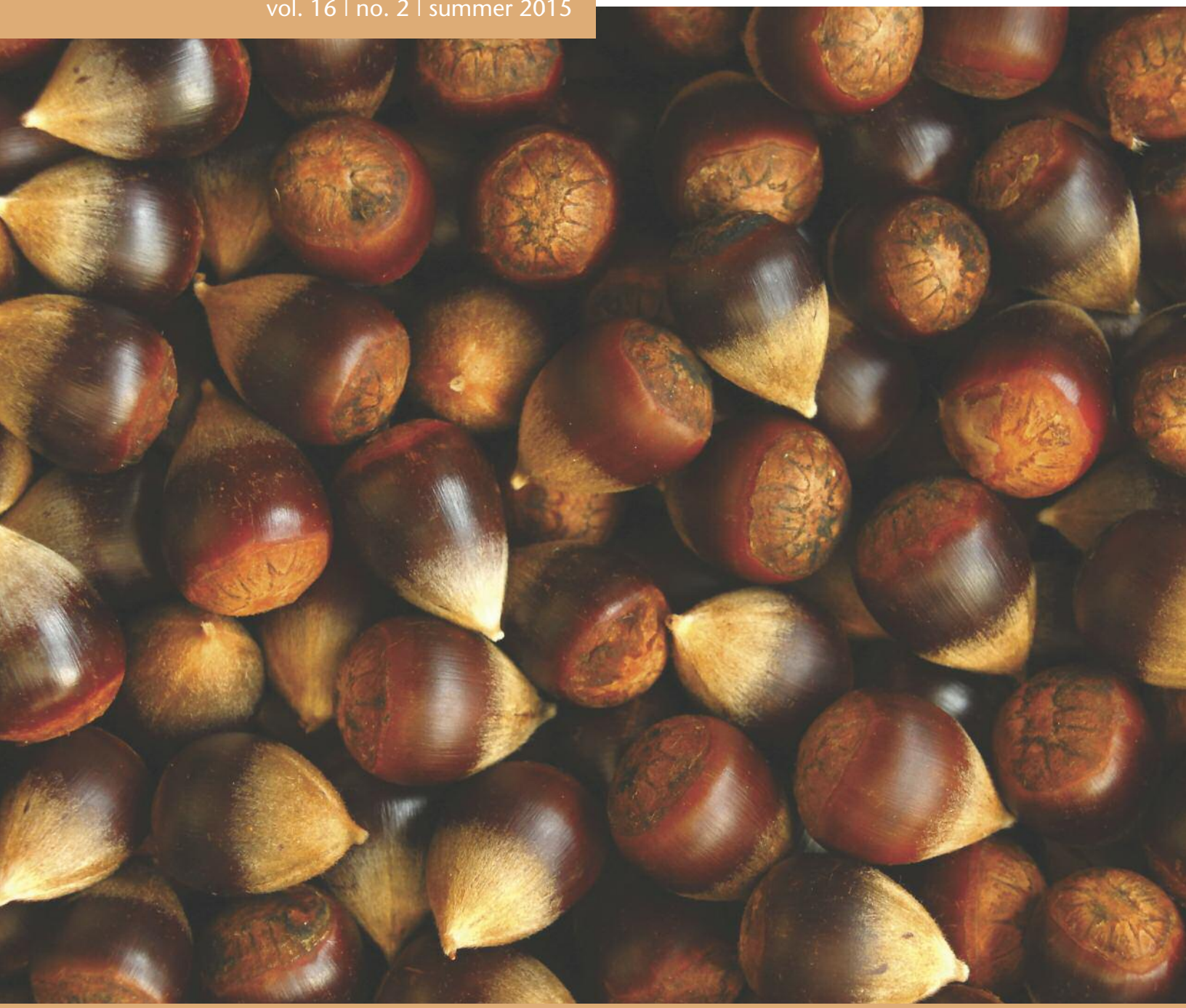
NATIVEPLANTS

JOURNAL

vol. 16 | no. 2 | summer 2015



includes NATIVE PLANT MATERIALS DIRECTORY

NATIVEPLANTS
JOURNAL

An eclectic forum for dispersing practical information about planting and growing native plants.

All papers undergo peer review.

Refereed research papers meet high scientific standards. General technical reports provide pragmatic information.

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Subscription rates are:

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US$ 170 print and electronic
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US$ 60 print and electronic
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PUBLISHING
Native Plants Journal is published 3 times each year (Apr, Aug, Dec) by the University of Wisconsin Press
ISSN 1522-8339 E-ISSN 1548-4785

Last April, like many of you, I took the opportunity to attend the National Native Seed Conference in Santa Fe, New Mexico. It was my first time to meet with the core group of people responsible for native plant conservation and restoration on a national level. My personal area of research emphasis is more closely aligned with the horticulture world, so I am more likely to spend my paucity of travel funds attending the annual meeting of the American Society for Horticultural Science. I thoroughly enjoyed the Native Plant Conference. I found myself feeling at home with a group of people who blend dedication for conservation of ecological systems with down-home attitudes. I also learned a few things at the meeting. I increased my knowledge about issues with monarch butterflies and the research efforts being expended to improve their habitat—information that helped me understand why schools in my area contacted me to help create monarch way-stations. I had the opportunity to update my opinions about strategies for managing climate change issues in native habitats. I was educated more fully on the topic of provisional seed zones and the current thinking on source-identified seed. I was intrigued by research reports on native species with which I am unfamiliar. All in all, it was a very enjoyable and educational experience.

But for me, there was more to the meeting than a venue for learning. My main purpose for attending was to promote the *Native Plants Journal* and to interface with potential authors. In my conversations, I discovered that NPJ is held in high regard by those who use it to acquire and disseminate native plant information. During the process, I gained an even greater appreciation for the journal and its goals. *Native Plants Journal* is one of a kind. Rather than being just another publication serving as an outlet for structured research, it seeks to serve a community by publishing practical and useful information that we can use every day. This approach creates some unique issues with quality assurance, but I believe the final results speak for themselves. So, keep sending in your articles. Let's work together on publishing your research.

Stephen Love
Editor-in-Chief

On the cover: Ozark chinkapin (*Castanea ozarkensis* Ashe [Fagaceae]) seeds. Photo by Doug Mitchell

Have a great idea for an article but don't have time or need help writing? Please e-mail. We can help.

Two types of manuscripts are welcome:

General technical articles are not research per se (lack strict experimental design and statistical analysis), but have important information for growers and planters of North American native plants. Articles could include new planting techniques, useful equipment, cultural techniques, habitat restoration, restoration techniques, production trends, technical information, descriptions of new species or cultivars entering nursery production, and so on. *Propagation protocols* are short, concise general articles detailing the specific methods used to propagate a particular plant. *Germplasm releases* are short articles that follow a standard format (see past issues) and announce the release of new plant materials for conservation use.

Refereed research articles (and scientific reviews or commentary) must have sound application of scientific method, appropriate statistical analysis, and state how the research is important to growers and planters of North American native plants. Accepted papers will be published with a "Refereed Research Article" designation.

All submitted manuscripts will be peer-reviewed by 2 referees to ensure the objective of *Native Plants Journal* is met.

MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION

Include a cover letter indicating what type of manuscript is being submitted (refereed or general). Refrain from special formatting. Use of active voice is encouraged. All text except tables and figure captions should be double-spaced. The first page should have title and author information (include full names of authors, their professional titles and affiliations, mailing and electronic addresses, and specify corresponding author to whom all pre-publishing correspondence should be sent).

The second page should contain the title, abstract, and key words. Abstracts should be double-spaced and brief and emphasize results, usefulness, and practicality to growers and planters of North American (Canada, Mexico, and US) native plants. Authors are strongly encouraged to make the first sentence of their abstract describe the most important finding of their work. Include 3 to 7 key words not in the title. Use the PLANTS database as the source for nomenclature (see below). Print an abbreviated title and page number in the upper right corner of this and all subsequent pages. Use line numbering. Construct tables using the table feature of word processing programs.

Follow the second page with the "Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion, References," or some other logical system as headings, followed by figure captions and tables. For matters of style, we generally follow *Scientific Style and Format, The Council of Biology Editors Manual for Authors, Editors, and Publishers,* 6th edition (ISBN 0-521-47154-0).

Use metric (SI) units with US units in parentheses and abbreviate all units, except those without numerical value (for example, "we measured parts per million and found 250 ppm nitrogen"). Use numerals for any countable amount (for example, 3 replicates, 2 populations).

REFERENCES

In the text, please list citations by date, and then alphabetically by author (for example, Smith 1986, 1997; Jones and Smith 1992; Smith and Jones 1992; Doe and others 1998). In the references section, list references alphabetically by author(s) and please do not abbreviate the name of the referenced journal. Examples:

Journal article: Arnold MA, Struve DK. 1989. Growing green ash and red oak in $CuCO_3$-treated containers increases root regeneration and shoot growth following transplant. Journal of the American Society for Horticultural Science 114:402–406.

Entire book: Davidson H, Mecklenburg R. 1981. Nursery management: administration and culture. 2nd ed. Englewood Cliffs (NJ): Prentice-Hall Inc. 450 p.

Article in proceedings: Dumroese RK, Wenny DL. 1997. Fertilizer regimes for container-grown conifers of the Intermountain West. In: Haase DL, Rose R, coordinators and editors. Symposium proceedings, forest seedling nutrition from the nursery to the field; 1997 Oct 28–29; Corvallis, OR. Corvallis (OR): Oregon State University Nursery Technology Cooperative. p 17–26.

Internet source: [USDA NRCS] USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. 2011. The PLANTS database. URL: http://plants.usda.gov (accessed 20 Jan 2011). Greensboro (NC): National Plant Data Team.

Government article: Barnett JP, Brissette JC. 1986. Producing southern pine seedlings in containers. New Orleans (LA): USDA Forest Service, Southern Forest Experiment Station. General Technical Report SO-59. 71 p.

Thesis or dissertation: Wang Z. 1990. Effects of cupric carbonate on container-grown seedlings of ponderosa pine during greenhouse production [MSc thesis]. Moscow (ID): University of Idaho. 67 p.

Personal communication: Hoss GA. 2002. Personal communication. Licking (MO): Missouri Department of Conservation, George O White State Forest Nursery. Nursery Superintendent.

NOMENCLATURE

Use common names with scientific names (including authorities and family names) in parentheses the first time used in the abstract and body of the manuscript (if scientific names with authorities and families are summarized in a table, they need not be repeated in the body of the manuscript). All subsequent use can be either the common or scientific name. Example with common name: whitebark pine (*Pinus albicaulis* Engelm. [Pinaceae]). Example without common name: *Phacelia rattanii* Gray. (Hydrophyllaceae). The standard source of plant nomenclature is the PLANTS database (http://plants.usda.gov). Authors may use common names found in PLANTS or the local vernacular. Other nomenclature sources may be used only if justified. The nomenclature source should be included in the references.

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Before accepted manuscripts can be published, authors must complete a consent to publish form.

Photo credits opposite page: (*top*) rough prairie blazing star (*Liatris aspera* Michx. [Asteraceae]) seeds, photo by Robin Carlson, Chicago Botanic Garden; (*middle*) Piper's daisy (*Erigeron piperianus* Cronquist [Asteraceae]) by Steven O Link; (*bottom*) a midwestern prairie ecosystem at the Chicago Botanic Garden, photo by Robin Carlson.

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