

# NATIVEPLANTS

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*includes* VEGETATIVE AND SEED PROPAGATION PROTOCOLS



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

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Among the numerous hats I currently wear, I serve as president of the Idaho Native Plant Society. This past week, I presided over the Idaho Rare Plant Conference, an event the Society sponsors every other year to review the status of Idaho's 400+ species of rare and threatened plants. We routinely complete this activity to provide guidance to state and federal agencies responsible for monitoring and protecting these species.

I had a marvelous time at this conference, partly a result of the wonderful speaker panel incorporated into the meeting and partly due to the opportunity to rub shoulders with like-minded people. I find it very satisfying to work with researchers, educators, and interested citizens who feel urgency to protect the best aspects of a world wherein much of what we love is under constant threat.

To close the meeting, I shared a few lines of prose written by Edward P. McGinley, which he wrote and presented at last November's Eighth Annual Western Native Plant Conference held in Olympia, Washington. Within that extensive piece, he wrote,

The secret is, there is no secret. . . .

Coming to terms with this is a critical first step.

And a terrifying one at that.

As humans appear to be gearing up

To either wipe themselves out,

Or spend the rest of their existence

Lamenting and regretting what was lost.

We cannot let fear stop us,

Because, only we can fix it.

I think these words make a good case for the work to which most of us have dedicated our lives.



**Dr Stephen Love**  
Editor-in-Chief

**On the cover:** *Phacelia sericea* (silky phacelia [Hydrophyllaceae]) on Sawtell Peak in Island Park, Idaho. Photo by Stephen L Love



## REFEREED RESEARCH

- Storage time, light exposure, and physical scarification effects on *Artemisia cana* seed germination 4  
**Autumn D Watkinson, M Anne Naeth, and Shelley Pruss**

- Fertilizer and container requirements of *Balsamorhiza sagittata* and *Phacelia hastata* var. *hastata* under greenhouse production 15  
**Charissa M Bujak and Tracy A O Dougher**

- Development of a vegetative propagation protocol for *Asclepias tuberosa* 27  
**Mary Lewis, Matthew Chappell, Paul A Thomas, Donglin Zhang, and Ockert Greyvenstein**

- Population dynamics of *Viola pedata* on deep sandy soils in a fragmented and degraded landscape 35  
**Janet L Gehring, Caitlin Foster, and Alan Yepsen**

## GERMPLASM RELEASE

- Notice of release of seven little bluestem populations selected for canopy morphology: selected classes of germplasm 45  
**Tim L Springer**

- Notice of release of Guadalupe Germplasm white tridens: a selected class of natural germplasm 54  
**Anthony Falk, Forrest S Smith, Colin S Shackelford, John R Bow, Keith A Pawelek, John Lloyd-Reilly, Shelly D Maher, and Brandon Carr**

## PROPAGATION PROTOCOL

- Propagation protocol for blowout penstemon (*Penstemon haydenii*), a federal endangered species of the Nebraska Sandhills and Wyoming 65  
**Richard Gilbert, Tara Luna, and Greg Wright**

- Seed propagation protocol for endangered Shivwits milk-vetch 70  
**Laura Schrage and Kathleen Dilley**

## GENERAL TECHNICAL

- An assessment of the native and invasive horticultural plants sold in the mid-Atlantic region 74  
**George Coombs, Denise Gilchrist, and Patricia Watson**

- Fifth summary of the native seed germination studies of Norman C Deno: species with names beginning with letters P and Q 83  
**Prepared by Stephen L Love and Candace J Akins**

- AUTHOR GUIDELINES** 112

**Photo credits:** (top) Blowout penstemon seedlings (*Penstemon haydenii* S. Watson [Plantaginaceae]), photo by Richard Gilbert; (middle) root plug of an arrowleaf balsamroot and roots of the same species grown in a square container (*Balsamorhiza sagittata* (Pursh) Nutt. [Asteraceae]), photos by Charissa M Bujak; (bottom) Shivwits milk-vetch seedlings (*Astragalus ampullarioides* Welsh [Fabaceae]), photo courtesy of Zion National Park.



REFEREED RESEARCH

Storage time, light exposure, and physical scarification effects on <i>Artemisia cana</i> seed germination	4
<b>Autumn D Watkinson, M Anne Naeth, and Shelley Pruss</b>	
Fertilizer and container requirements of <i>Balsamorhiza sagittata</i> and <i>Phacelia hastata</i> var. <i>hastata</i> under greenhouse production	15
<b>Charissa M Bujak and Tracy A O Dougher</b>	
Development of a vegetative propagation protocol for <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	27
<b>Mary Lewis, Matthew Chappell, Paul A Thomas, Donglin Zhang, and Ockert Greyvenstein</b>	
Population dynamics of <i>Viola pedata</i> on deep sandy soils in a fragmented and degraded landscape	35
<b>Janet L Gehring, Caitlin Foster, and Alan Yepsen</b>	

GERMPLASM RELEASE

Notice of release of seven little bluestem populations selected for canopy morphology: selected classes of germplasm	45
<b>Tim L Springer</b>	
Notice of release of Guadalupe Germplasm white tridens: a selected class of natural germplasm	54
<b>Anthony Falk, Forrest S Smith, Colin S Shackelford, John R Bow, Keith A Pawelek, John Lloyd-Reilley, Shelly D Maher, and Brandon Carr</b>	

PROPAGATION PROTOCOL

Propagation protocol for blowout penstemon ( <i>Penstemon haydenii</i> ), a federal endangered species of the Nebraska Sandhills and Wyoming	65
<b>Richard Gilbert, Tara Luna, and Greg Wright</b>	
Seed propagation protocol for endangered Shivwits milk-vetch	70
<b>Laura Schrage and Kathleen Dilley</b>	

GENERAL TECHNICAL

An assessment of the native and invasive horticultural plants sold in the mid-Atlantic region	74
<b>George Coombs, Denise Gilchrist, and Patricia Watson</b>	
Fifth summary of the native seed germination studies of Norman C Deno: species with names beginning with letters P and Q	83
<b>Prepared by Stephen L Love and Candace J Akins</b>	

<b>AUTHOR GUIDELINES</b>	112
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