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**Welcome to the 15th volume of the *Native Plants Journal*.** It's hard for me to imagine that so much time has passed, seemingly in the blink of an eye. My regular day job, working as a scientist for the US Forest Service, is pushing me to examine how we, as the providers of native plants for a myriad of good and essential reasons, will respond to the increasing threats of invasive species, land conversion, and changing climate. The bottom line in having healthy ecosystems in the future, both maintaining those we have and restoring those we've lost, is ensuring biodiversity. Our work is essential to that goal. Through our everyday activities in our nurseries and farms we can meet that challenge. As you start this year's crop, remember the important role you play.

I'd also encourage you to keep in mind that, although we are plant people, our work yields benefits to other creatures. Headline news reports the drastic demise of monarch butterfly populations blamed mostly on the eradication of Midwestern US milkweeds. Populations of North American bats are dropping rapidly because of an introduced pathogen. These unfortunate developments do, however, reinforce the need for high quality habitat, which is diverse in nature. It's our mission to meet that need, and, although I don't want it to sound glib, these maladies provide marketing opportunities for us. Suburbanites uninterested in planting "weeds" in their backyard gardens may do so if it helps the monarch butterfly. Okay, I'll step off my soapbox now.

I think we have another good issue! As you may have guessed, it has a couple of articles about how native plants can help threatened creatures. We also have some practical information about the germination requirements of some southwestern US forbs, identifying those squirrely squirreltails of the Intermountain West, the effects of media on outplanting performance of Florida wildflowers, selecting willows and poplars for use in New York City, and propagating redbay that are resistant to disease.

**R Kasten Dumroese**



**On the cover:** Bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis* L. [Papaveraceae]). Photo by Betsy Strauch

*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.

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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).

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*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.

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**Photo credits opposite page:** (top) *Zinnia grandiflora* Nutt. (Asteraceae) and *Glandularia bipinnatifida* (Nutt.) Nutt. (Verbenaceae) by Rosemary L Pendleton; (middle) Salicaceae trees growing in speedling trays by Ronald S Zalesny Jr; (bottom) evaluation trial site of *Elymus elymoides* (Raf.) Swezey "ssp. C" (Poaceae) near Millville, Utah, by Dale C Nielson.



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