

NATIVE PLANTS

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includes POLLINATOR GARDENS AND GERmplasm RELEASES

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

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If my math is correct, as I write this piece we are preparing to print the 19th volume of the *Native Plants Journal*. This relatively new journal has been extremely successful in creating an effective avenue for distributing practical information associated with native plant disciplines. In an effort to meet the needs of on-the-ground practitioners, the journal was designed with some unique characteristics. The journal encourages submission of articles for not only reporting scientifically sound research but also for describing available plant materials and for providing useful ideas and techniques to manage and utilize native plant resources. Articles are printed in color employing numerous photographs and supplemental graphics. This makes the journal practical, attractive, and stimulating to read.

Publishing articles with a wide range of objectives and topics can be challenging. Correspondingly, authoring an article for the journal can be confusing and more complex than necessary because of the potentially broad range of feasible presentation formats. Some changes are in the works to facilitate the development of articles for the journal. The Editorial staff of your *Native Plants Journal* is working on a plan to revise the submission protocols and formatting instructions to assist authors with their publication agendas. We are attempting to re-categorize articles based on information and objective and to define clear publication instructions for each category of article. Our current thoughts are to place articles into one of six classes: Refereed Research, Topic Review, General Technical, Propagation Protocol, Germplasm Release, and First Report (breaking concept or protocol). *Native Plants Journal* has historically published all of these types of articles; however, instructions for preparing each of these distinct types have been insufficient or lacking. Our hope is to remedy this situation, thereby making the preparation process simpler and the resulting articles cleaner and more consistent.

Our ultimate goal is to better serve you, the creators and users of native plants information. In doing so, we hope to further the NPJ objectives of creating dialogue among researchers and field personnel and of keeping information timely and easy to obtain. We welcome your input into this process.



Stephen Love
Editor-in-Chief

On the cover: A ground-nesting mining bee (*Andrena* spp. [Hymenoptera: Andrenidae]) provides pollination services to a flower head of Douglas' dustymaiden (*Chaenactis douglasii* (Hook.) Hook. & Arn. [Asteraceae]). Photographed in 2011 in the Pioneer Mountains, Custer County, Idaho. Photo by Stephen Love

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 CuCO₃-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) black-eyed Susan plants (*Rudbeckia hirta* L. [Asteraceae]), photo by Niels Jorgensen; (middle) Coastal Plains Germplasm little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium* (Michx.) Nash var. *scoparium* [Poaceae]), photo by R Alan Shadow; (bottom) native bees on California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica* Cham. [Papaveraceae]), photo by Thomas D Landis.

REFEREED RESEARCH

Effects of soil compaction on the germination and survival of common prairie forbs and grasses in Wisconsin prairie revegetation 4
Niels Jorgensen, Joslyn Mink, Doug Soldat, John Stier, and Mark Renz

Biochar effects on the nursery propagation of 4 northern Rocky Mountain native plant species 14
Clarice P Matt, Christopher R Keys, and R Kasten Dumroese

GENERAL TECHNICAL

Using native plants to create pollinator habitat in southwest Oregon: lessons learned 27
Thomas D Landis and Suzie Savoie

GERMPLASM RELEASE

Notice of release of Princeton Germplasm of Thurber's needlegrass 40
Thomas A Jones and Thomas A Monaco

Notice of release of Coastal Plains Germplasm little bluestem: a selected class of natural germplasm 47
R Alan Shadow, Garret Thomassie, and Melinda R Brakie

BOOK REVIEW

Essential Native Trees and Shrubs for the Eastern United States: The Guide to Creating a Sustainable Landscape 55

FROM THE ARCHIVE: Native plants in Hawai'i

Native plant restoration on Hawai'i 58
Tara Luna

The Pū 'Olē 'Olē blows and 'Awa is poured: Maui Kumu Keli'i Tau'a welcomes Hawaiian seedlings back to Auwahi 70
AC Medeiros

Flaming Fabaceae: using an alcohol flame to break seed dormancy 74
Nellie Sugii

