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Subscription rates are:

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US\$ 216 print and electronic
US\$ 184 electronic only

Individuals US\$ 76 print and electronic US\$ 65 electronic only

For eign postage is \$31.

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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

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In my From the Editor letter published in the spring 2023 issue of Native Plants Journal, I announced my intention to resign my position as Editor-in-Chief. Since that time, I have been searching diligently to find a person I could trust to carry the journal forward. I am pleased to announce that I have recruited the perfect person for the job. Heidi Kratsch, Professor at the University of Nevada-Reno, has accepted the position of NPJ Editor-in-Chief.

I would like to provide you with an introduction to your new editor. Heidi earned a BS degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, an MS degree at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, and a PhD at Iowa State University. For most of her career, she has been involved with research and education related to native plants. Her initial position was at Utah State University where she held a position in the Department of Plants, Soils, and Climate. There she specialized in the use of native plants to conserve water in urban landscapes. She was instrumental in organizing a regional working group to consolidate the efforts of public programs in the western United States with interest in native plant development and education.

In 2004, Heidi accepted a horticulture specialist position at the University of Nevada-Reno. She continues to press forward with her efforts to advance the cause of native plants for wildland restoration and creation of urban habitats. Among programs Heidi has developed are the creation of native plant demonstration gardens and propagation and outreach education associated with the Great Basin Native Plant Selection and Increase Program.

Heidi is an accomplished author and editor. She has published papers on topics associated with native plant research and descriptions of native plant materials with potential for habitat development. Additionally, she has served an 8-year term as an associate editor for the Native Plants Journal and is just wrapping up a 3-year term as an editor for the Journal of Extension.

Please welcome Heidi as the new Editor-in-Chief. Our journal is in good hands.

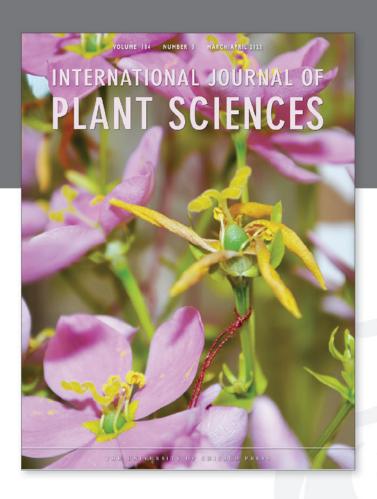


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On the cover: Northern blazing star (*Liatris novae-angliae* (Lunell) Shinners var. *novae-angliae* [Asteraceae]) growing on the Kennebunk sandplain, Maine (see article on page 101). Photo by Emilie Wilder

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Photo credits: (top) Adaxial leaf faces from 10 randomly selected wood-poppy (Stylophorum diphyllum (Michaux) Nuttall [Papaveraceae]) plants showing qualitative differences in leaf dissection pattern and lobe shape, photos by Jaxon Reiter; (middle) Hispaniolan pine (Pinus occidentalis Swartz [Pinaceae]) seeds on moist blotter paper, photo by Christina St John; (bottom) Hispaniolan pine (Pinus occidentalis Swartz [Pinaceae]) seedlings, 2 wk old, photo by Christina St John.

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