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FROM THE EDITOR

The unsung heroes of any publication requiring peer review are the reviewers. Reviewing manuscripts takes time and effort, and usually the effort goes under-appreciated by employers. The following 27 professionals reviewed manuscripts during 2005, and I am very grateful for their service. Their efforts help ensure the quality of articles published. Kudos to special editor Diane Haase—she orchestrated reviews for several manuscripts that will be published in the next issue.

John C Brissette
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Another group of dedicated professionals have given years of service to the initiation and development of Native Plants Journal. These folks have served as Contributing Editors, and their chief assignment was to help find high-quality material for inclusion in the journal. Their efforts have paid off—manuscript submission is steady if not gradually increasing. It’s time for the journal to switch over to Associate Editors to facilitate the review of manuscripts, so this is the final issue with Contributing Editors. Carol and Jerry Baskin, Susan Buis, Thomas A Jones, Scott Lambert, Thomas D Landis, J Dan Pittillo, Steven E Smith, and S Ray Smith have all served the entire 6 years. My other Contributing Editors were Jennifer Kujawski, Mary Yurlina, and Thomas G Barnes. Tom also served several years as the book review editor. Well done, friends.

In your hands is the lucky 13th issue of NPJ. As always, it is full of articles that run the gamut in describing the practical methods for growing and planting native plants. Ellen Colodney answers the age-old question about where bears defecate (and why that’s important to growers); David Nelson improves the use of Indian paintbrush in landscapes; and we discuss new applications for native plants on roadsides, the ins-and-outs of seed commerce, how plants with frozen root plugs can be successfully outplanted, and the specifics on how to grow some interesting plants from the East and the West.

As always, thank you for subscribing, and be sure to tell your friends about Native Plants Journal.

R Kasten Dumroese

On the cover: *Triteleia grandiflora* Lindl. var. *grandiflora* (Liliaceae) (formerly *Brodiaea douglasii* S. Wats.) used for hillside erosion control along an Idaho highway. Photo by Dan Bryant.
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 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.

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 native plants. Accepted papers will be published with a “Refereed Research Article” designation.

All submitted manuscripts will be double-blind peer-reviewed by 2 reviewers 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 but not author names. Abstracts should be double-spaced and brief (100 to 150 words or less) 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 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 findings 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 (first time only) 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:


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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 (Hydrophyllaceae). The standard source of 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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