

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

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PUBLISHING

Native Plants Journal (ISSN 1522-8339) is published 3 times each year (Apr, Aug, Dec) by Indiana University Press.

GST No. R126496330

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It's late June and a beautiful day here on the Palouse, the region of eastern Washington and northern Idaho characterized this moment by rolling hills bathed in a billion shades of green. Spring and winter wheat, garbanzo beans, lentils, peas, and barley wave gently in the breeze. As the sun sets, the shadows on the hills add a wonderful texture to the scene. A century ago this land was covered by Palouse Prairie, one of the richest, in terms of plant diversity, biomes in the world. Here in Moscow, Idaho, I suspect the prairie was integrating into shrub-steppe habitat dominated by hawthorn with stringers of ponderosa pine. Not too much farther to the east, the conifer forest dominated. Unfortunately, there's not much left of the Palouse Prairie. Fortunately, I have the honor of owning a remnant piece of the past.

I'm sitting on my deck overlooking that nice, but small, north-facing remnant of Palouse Prairie. The flowering season is coming to an end, but the lupines and cinquefoils are hanging in there, as is the sticky geranium. A few gaillardia add a splash of color. Spikes of Idaho fescue and blue-bunch wheatgrass are nodding. Black-headed Grosbeaks are singing their warbling mantras from the treetops, Orange-crowned Warblers are sulking in the hawthorn, and Brewer's Sparrows are cheerfully doling out their vibrant buzz-y singsong that goes on and on and on. It's hard to concentrate on editing the proofs of this behemoth of an issue, but the company I'm keeping is making the job tolerable. Sometimes it's a good thing to step back and actually enjoy, from the core of our being, the natural world that makes us do the jobs we do. It's doubtful any of us went into the nursery and seed business to get rich; we do what we do because we love what we do. Aren't we lucky?

You hold in your hands our fourth Native Plant Materials Directory. It's an evolution in progress, and I know we still don't hold the perfect recipe. But I do know this is the most up-to-date directory available, and I hope you find it useful. Also in this issue are the other things you expect to see: some great how-to articles and some quality research. If you ever wondered about propagating *Arctostaphylos* from cuttings, Borland and Bone provide explicit directions. How about producing a North American cycad? Check out this low-tech method. As I write this, wild fires are raging in the western US. Read about the effects of chemically made firebreaks on plants. Perhaps woody invasives are preventing you from seeing the native forest—we have a great review article on the most pervasive woody invaders in the eastern hardwood forests and a companion article on how to get rid of them. And, if wetlands are your passion, read about propagating a common emergent.

As always, enjoy the issue and tell your friends about *Native Plants Journal*.

R Kasten Dumroese



On the cover: *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* (L.) Spreng ssp. *adenotricha* (Fern. & J.F. Macbr.) Calder and Tayler (Ericaceae) growing at Howling Wolf, Boulder County, Colorado. Photo by Jim Borland

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.

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All submitted manuscripts will be peer-reviewed by 2 referees to ensure the objective of *Native Plants Journal* is met.

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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:

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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. 2004. The PLANTS database, version 3.5. URL: <http://plants.usda.gov> (accessed 20 Jan 2005). Baton Rouge (LA): National Plant Data Center.

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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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: white-bark 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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Contact the Editor:

Kas Dumroese
Editor, *Native Plants Journal*
USDA Forest Service, SRS
1221 South Main Street
Moscow, Idaho 83843–4211

telephone 208.883.2324
kdumroese@fs.fed.us

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Photo credits opposite page: (top) *Sagittaria latifolia* Willd. (Alismataceae) by Leslie Hunter-Cario; (middle) sanitation is key to rooting cuttings of *Arctostaphylos* Adans. (Ericaceae) by Mike Bone; (bottom) *Aquilegia caerulea* James (Ranunculaceae) by Roger Kjelgren.