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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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I just returned from a, albeit way too short, visit to the Maritimes of Canada. I had opportunity to visit several reforestation nurseries, to see some great scenery and nice fall colors, and to eat a couple of lobsters. As always, I noted that those of us who grow native plants are all cut from the same cloth. Any one of us could be dropped down in a circle of growers anywhere in North America and it would be like visiting old friends. I think that's one of the greatest things about our profession. While in eastern Canada, I saw some innovative things that I feel should be shared with our greater native-plant-growing community, and I'll be working with those folks to prepare some articles for *Native Plants Journal*. I know everyone is way too busy, but if you are a grower or planter and have some interesting way of doing things (and even if you don't think it's innovative, the rest of us likely will), drop me an e-mail.

Putting the finishing touches on volume 8 this past week, I reflected on everyone who makes this journal possible and realized how fortunate I am to work with such great people. Kudos to my associate editors for keeping manuscripts moving through the process, especially when the subject matter is out of my range of expertise. Special thanks to Candace Akins, my right-hand woman, who is always ready, willing, and able to get manuscripts over the finish line. One of the things that makes *Native Plants Journal* special is the color and the layout; a hearty thank you to Amy Grey for her talent and creative solutions. Thanks also to Suzy Franko for her cheery disposition and can-do attitude, and our colleagues at Indiana University Press for keeping the logistics in order. Our advertisers help us keep subscription prices low; I thank them for their support. We strive to provide a quality publication, and reviewers of manuscripts help us do that. My thanks to the following professionals for reviewing content this year:

Bob Allison

James P Barnett

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And finally, thank you to all the authors who submitted manuscripts, and to all of you subscribers. Your support is appreciated.

**R Kasten Dumroese**



On the cover: *Ratibida columnifera* (Nutt.) Woot. & Standl. (Asteraceae). Photo by Susan R Winslow

*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.

*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).

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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 CuCO<sub>3</sub>-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. 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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**Photo credits opposite page:** (top) *Liatris punctata* Hook. (Asteraceae) by Susan R Winslow; (middle) subirrigation system at the USDA Forest Service Lucky Peak Nursery by Justin Schmal; (bottom) *Gaillardia aristata* Pursh (Asteraceae) by Susan R Winslow.