



# MINNESOTA PLANT PRESS

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VOLUME 3 NUMBER 3 NEWSLETTER OF THE MINNESOTA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY FALL 1984

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## NEW MINNESOTA PLANT IMMIGRANT



The Annual Eriogonum (Eriogonum annuum Nutt.) is normally found from the plains of Nebraska to Texas, New Mexico, and south into Mexico and has been reported on dry sites in the western Dakotas, Montana, and Wyoming. However, several populations consisting of about 200 plants were discovered in 1982 growing on sparsely vegetated sandy areas in the Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge near Zimmerman. This species is new to Minnesota and is, in fact, the only member of the large North American genus Eriogonum ever recorded from this state.

Based on seeding records, the accidental introduction of the Annual Eriogonum at the Sherburne Refuge probably occurred at least six years ago during the planting of contaminated prairie-grass seed obtained from Nebraska or the western Dakotas. The conditions under which it can compete successfully with established Minnesota plants appears to be very narrowly defined; however, in 1983 its numbers at Sherburne had increased some four or five fold, indicating that it may very well become a problem on open sandy areas at this site. Its presence has been called to the attention of the refuge staff, and its future development is being monitored.

—Steve and Charles Argue

Minnesota Native Plant Society Membership Registration  
Mail to: MNPS, 220 Biological Sciences Center, Univ. of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108

\_\_\_\_\_ New Member

\_\_\_\_\_ Renewal

Membership Categories:

\$8.00	_____ Individual	\$6.00	_____ Senior (over 62 or retired)
\$10.00	_____ Family (Two or more related individuals at same address)	\$15.00	_____ Institution
\$6.00	_____ Student (Full-time)	\$25.00	_____ Donor

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

U. OF M. CAMPUS ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

## NEW OFFICERS ELECTED

At the June 25 meeting of the Executive Board of the Minnesota Native Plant Society, the following slate of officers were elected:

President-Welby Smith  
Vice-President - Steve Eggers  
Secretary - Deb Brown  
Treasurer - Roger Eliason

The assigned terms for the Officers of the Executive Board are as follows:

1983-1984  
Deborah Brown  
Evelyn Moyle  
May Wright

1983-1985  
Margaret Kohring  
Welby Smith

1984-1985  
Neil Anderson

1984-1986  
Harriet Mason  
Steve Eggers  
Roger Eliason

## CORRECTION

In the last issue of the Minnesota Plant Press, notice was given that information would be mailed to all MNPS members regarding the sale of Rickett's Wildflowers of the United States by the New York Botanical Garden. Due to an unavoidable mixup this will not occur. The information is listed below if you are interested in purchasing the set or any separate volumes.

Volume	Price \$
1 - Northeastern States	54 (2 parts)
2 - Southeastern States	74 (2 parts)
3 - Texas	(out of print)
4 - Southwestern States	81 (3 parts)
5 - Northwestern States	74 (2 parts)
6 - Central Mountains & Plains	81 (3 parts)
Index	28 (1 part)

The entire set (except volume 3) can be purchased for \$350.

Order from:

Scientific Publications Department  
New York Botanical Garden  
Bronx, NY 10458  
212-220-8700

# OCTOBER SEED EXCHANGE

The annual native Seed Exchange of the Minnesota Native Plant Society will be held on October 3, starting at 7:30 pm in the Palmer Classroom Building on the St. Paul campus.

Dr. May Wright will begin the evening with a presentation of methods that can be used to germinate the seeds, including meeting special needs of some of the seeds. Materials such as various potting mixtures and containers will be discussed and displayed. Dr. Wright will also tell how to find additional information on germinating certain species.

Seeds will then be made available to participants. A species list will facilitate seed selection and pick-up this year.

## SUBMITTING SEEDS FOR EXCHANGE

All seeds to be exchanged must be Minnesota natives that are free of pests and disease. Please follow this guideline:

1. Collect only a small percentage of seeds from a plant and plant community.
2. Be sure fruits are fully mature before picking.
3. Label seeds with scientific and common names, collection site and date of collection.
4. Store in a cool, dry place and check seeds periodically for insects and mold.

When submitting seeds for the exchange, please add your name, address and phone number to the identification label.

Please submit seeds by mail before September 26 by mailing to:

Dr. May Wright

Seeds can also be dropped off at these locations before September 26:

South Minneapolis--Peg Kohring,  
Southeast Minneapolis--Deb Brown,  
St. Paul Campus--Deb Brown,  
St. Paul, West Side--Chris Soutter,  
Maplewood--Chris Soutter,  
White Bear Lake--May Wright,

Seeds that could not be submitted before September 26 can be brought to the exchange and turned in before the workshop begins.

## GERMINATION RECORDS

People germinating seeds are encouraged to keep a record of their methods and results. A form for this purpose will be available at the Seed Exchange. By collecting information on what does and does not work, we can increase our knowledge of propagation of native species.

If response to this project is good, the information will later be printed for distribution.

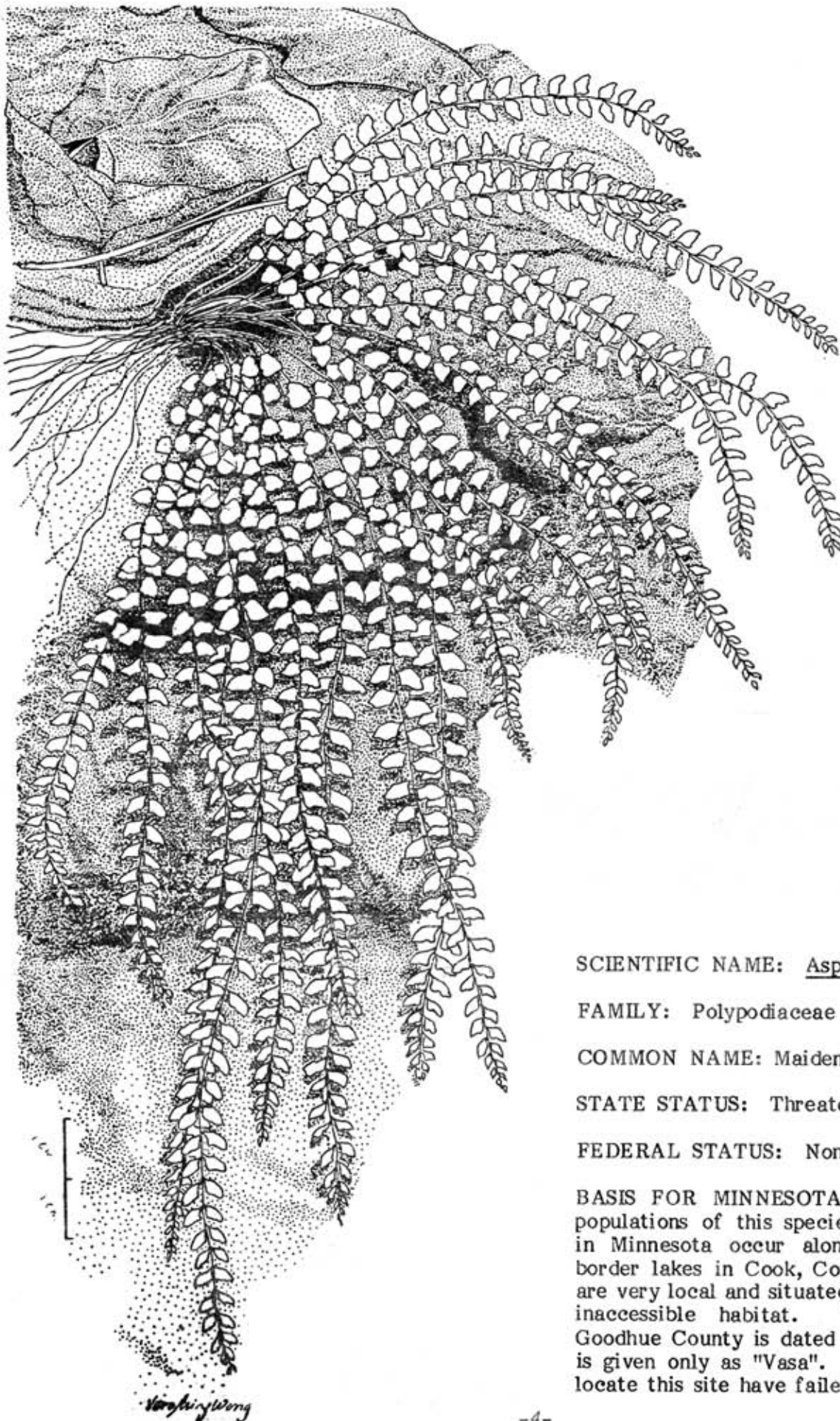
Chris Soutter

## TREASURER'S REPORT

March 15 to August 10, 1984

Receipts	\$182	182
(Membership dues)		
Expenses	242	242
(Printing and mailing)		
Balance on Hand		\$1289
Reconciliation		
Draft Account	\$654	
Savings Account	615	
Petty Cash	20	\$1289

# SPECIES



SCIENTIFIC NAME: Asplenium trichomanes L.

FAMILY: Polypodiaceae

COMMON NAME: Maidenhair Spleenwort

STATE STATUS: Threatened

FEDERAL STATUS: None

BASIS FOR MINNESOTA STATUS: The only populations of this species known to be extant in Minnesota occur along a narrow strip of border lakes in Cook, County. The populations are very local and situated in a fragile, although inaccessible habitat. The collection from Goodhue County is dated 1895 and the location is given only as "Vasa". Repeated attempts to locate this site have failed and it may be gone.

# STATUS SHEET



**PREFERRED HABITAT IN MINNESOTA:** This species occurs on ledges and crevices on moist, east-facing cliffs and occasionally on associated talus. Minnesota populations belong to the diploid subspecies trichomanes which apparently prefer noncalcareous rocks.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Populations of this species may still survive on sandstone exposures in southeastern Minnesota. This is probably where future inventory work would be concentrated.

## SELECTED REFERENCES:

Butters, F. K. and E. C. Abbe. 1953. A floristic study of Cook County, Northeastern Minnesota. *Rhodora* 55: 21-55; 63-101; 116-154; 161-201.

Moran, R. C. 1984. The Asplenium trichomanes complex in the United States and adjacent Canada. *Am. Fern Jour.* 72(1): 5-11.

**PREPARED BY:** Welby Smith, Botanist,  
Natural Heritage Program.





# BOOK REVIEWS

The Pine Tree Book, by Russell Peterson.  
Brandywine Press, NY. 1980. 144 pages. \$7.95 paper.

Here is an excellent example of a book that is appalling full of errors both in fact and typography. Why are we reviewing it here? Because it is a sampling of what to be wary of when you're looking for a tree guide.

While it is an attractive book, well illustrated by Patricia Wynne, there are as many as 24 errors in the frontpiece, a pictorial chart of conifer relationships — which is fairly typical. While other errors are simply misspelled latin names there are, more importantly, frequent occurrences of misinformation that border on irresponsibility. On one page the author asserts that the bristlecone pine does not grow in the Sierra Nevada and that lodgepole pines grow 200 feet high. (Both are false.) Peterson also claims that the eastern white pine is the largest United States pine, while a few pages later he correctly asserts that the western white pine is "larger and more robust" than the eastern one.

Make sure your selection of tree guides is written by an authoritative personage. Caveat emptor.

Wildflowers of the Northern Great Plains, by F. R. Vance, J. R. Jowsey and J. S. McLean. 1984. University of Minnesota Press. 336 pages. 2nd (revised) edition.

This latest edition is a definite must for those who rely on simple keying out of specimens or that enjoy perusing through color photographs of wildflowers. It boasts 654 color photographs, in a volume devoted to 400 of our most common wildflowers and some selected less common species. The color photographs are of top quality and permit close-up examination of the flowers as well as the plants on their native habitat.

The book covers both woodland and prairie wildflowers, arranging them in typical taxonomic order. Also included in the volume is a dichotomous key to the families. Line drawings and sketches have also been included, intended to clarify some particular aspect unique to the species or genus.

I think you'll find this a valuable addition to your library — both as a field guide and for casual enjoyment.

Jewels of the Plains: Wildflowers of the great plains grasslands and hill, by Claude Barr. University of Minnesota Press. 1983. 256 pages. \$19.95.

One of our members suggested that others be made aware of this excellent guide to prairie flora. If you're looking for an authoritative guide, this is the one! The buyer can judge this book by its cover — an excellent color photograph of one of our Anemones. While most guides to flora succumb to purely keying out specimens, this one will delight you with pleasant pictures, luring you back out to those prairie delights time and again.

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## MNPS DIRECTORY

### Officers — 1984/1985

Welby Smith, President  
Steve Eggers, Vice-President  
Deb Brown, Secretary  
Roger Eliason, Treasurer  
Evelyn Moyle, Director-at-large  
May Wright, Director-at-large

### Committees

Peg Kohring, Programs  
Jan Grew, Publicity  
Barbara Coffin, Conservation  
Neil Anderson, Newsletter  
Nancy Sather, Legislation Spokesperson

Sandy Hansen, Typist

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If you have a news item, article or other information that should be included in the next issue of the Minnesota Plant Press, please send it to the editor.

# FIELD TRIPS

## TRIP TO PRAIRIE RESTORATIONS, INC.

Date: August 25

Time: 10 am at the Nursery

Description: This trip will include a tour of our plant and seed production areas at the nursery. Greenhouse propagation, field production and seed processing will be discussed. Following lunch at the nursery we will travel 5 miles east to tour our seed production farm and also a small but highly diverse wet prairie remnant. An auto tour of the Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge 4 mi. west could close out the afternoon.

Directions: Five miles south of Princeton and 0.6 miles west of Highway 169 on Sherburn County Road.

Bring: Lunch, hiking clothes and field glasses. Water and a rest room are available at the nursery.

Leaders: Ron Bowen, John Bowen, Robin Suhsen, Lois Miller

Further Information: Call Ron Bowen

## MUSHROOM HUNT

Date: September 5

Time: 6:30 pm

Place: Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden

Directions: Go west of Minneapolis on Highway 12; take the Wirth Parkway exit; go north (left hand turn). Meet in the parking lot north of Eloise Butler, ie. the second right-hand turn.

Leader: Dr. Elwin Stewart, Department of Plant Pathology, University of Minnesota, St. Paul Campus.

Description: MNPS members have expressed an interest in a fall forage for mushrooms. This trip is planned in lieu of a September meeting.

## A FEN IS MORE THAN A SWAMP: BLACK DOG PRESERVE

Date: September 22, 1984

Time: 9 am to noon

Description: Black Dog Preserve is a unique fen and prairie complex in the metropolitan Twin Cities area. The preserve is a joint project of the Minnesota Chapter of the Nature Conservancy and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Meeting place: Coming south from Minneapolis on 35W, take the Cliff Road exit immediately after you cross the Minnesota River. Follow the road east back under the freeway and then turn left onto Cliff Road. Park on the south end of the MTC Park and Ride Lot.

Leaders: Bob Djupstrom and Peg Kohring. Bob is Supervisor for the Scientific and Natural Areas Program of the Department of Natural Resources. Peg is Assistant Director for the Minnesota Chapter.

## FALL ODYSSEY: ITASCA'S PINES AND BOGS (CLEARWATER COUNTY)

Date: October 13, 1984

Time: 9 am - 3 pm

Description: Itasca, the oldest of Minnesota State Parks, is a refuge for towering 200-year old pines, soaring bald eagles and lumbering black bears. The 2,000-acre Itasca Wilderness Sanctuary, located within the park, will be the focus of this trip. A car caravan through the ten-mile wilderness drive (alive with fall colors, we hope!) will include several stops for hikes into the Sancturay.

Meeting place: In the parking lot for the Douglas Lodge, located in the park. This is a car caravan trip. Be sure to bring a bag lunch and "bog-stomping" boots.

Leaders: Ben Thoma and Paul Rundell. Ben, a biology teacher at Willmar Community College, is the park's head naturalist, with 25 years of experience at Itasca. Paul is the Regional Resource Coordinator for the DNR out of Bemidji, and a certified bog fanatic.

ATTENTION!  
 HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR THIS YEAR? YES NO  
 IF NOT, PLEASE FILL OUT THE FORM ON THE INSIDE OF THE FRONT COVER.

Minnesota Plant Press is published by  
 the Minnesota Native Plant Society,  
 220 Biological Sciences Center,  
 1445 Gortner Avenue,  
 University of Minnesota,  
 St. Paul, Minnesota, 55108

## CALENDER OF EVENTS

Aug 25 Trip to Prairie Restorations led by Ron Bowen, John Bowen, Robin Suhsen and Lois Miller. 10 am.

Sept 5 MNPS monthly meeting will be a mushroom walk at Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden led by Dr. Stewart 6:30 pm.

Sept 22 Nature Conservancy trip to Black Dog Preserve (Dakota County) 9 am.

Oct 3 MNPS monthly meeting: Seed Exchange by Chris Soutter and Dr. Wright.

Oct 13 Nature Conservancy trip to Itasca Wilderness Sanctuary. 9 am.

Nov 7 MNPS monthly meeting: Fern Workshop by Harriet Mason

Dec. 5 MNPS monthly meeting: Minnesota Mosses by Jan Janssens.



Minnesota Plant Press is published by the Minnesota Native Plant Society, 220 Biological Sciences Center, 1445 Gortner Avenue, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55108. Welby Smith, President; Steve Eggers, Vice-President; Deb Brown, Secretary; Roger Eliason, Treasurer; Evelyn Moyle and May Wright, Directors-at-large; Neil Anderson, Editor. Minnesota Plant Press may be obtained through membership in the society: Single — \$8.00, Family — \$10.00, Student — \$6.00.