

Bulletin of the  
**NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY of OREGON**

To increase the knowledge of members and public in identification  
and conservation of the native plants of the Pacific Northwest

Volume 20 No. 10

October 1987

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1987 The Year of the Oregon Endangered Species Act

CHAPTER NEWS

Blue Mountain

20 Oct., Tues.

Meeting, 7:30pm. Blue Mountain Community College, Morrow Hall, Rm. 105. Agenda to be determined. For information contact Bruce Barnes (276-5547).

Corvallis

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For information contact Dan Luoma (758-8063).

Emerald

12 Oct., Monday

Meeting, 8:00pm. Amazon Community Center, 2700 Hilyard, Eugene. "Searching the Cascades for Penstemon florabundus: A Member of the Snapdragon Family." Dave Danley from the Sun River Nature Center will entertain and inform you with his lively presentation.

9 Nov., Mon.

Meeting, 8:00pm. Amazon Community Center. "Pockets of Wildlands; Oregon's Research Natural Areas." Sarah Greene, a Research Forester, from the USFS will introduce you to the many special habitats that are being preserved in the NW.

14 Dec., Mon.

Christmas Social. Dessert Potluck and Slide Show.

High Desert

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For information, contact Joyce Bork (389-5579).

Mid Columbia

7 Oct., Wed.

Join in a sharing experience!!! Meeting at 7:15pm in the Dalles at Pietro's Restaurant, 3320 West 6th Street. Cub Scouts from Pack 753, The Dalles, with leader, Ann Nesse, will show their native plant displays collected from the past season's field trips in the Columbia River Gorge. Then members of the Mid Columbia Chapter will show the Cub Scouts their photography slides of native plants. Come earlier, 6:30pm, for pizza and socializing.

North Coast

1 Oct., Thur.

Meeting, 7:30pm. Oregon State Parks meeting room, 3600 Third St., Tillamook.

24 Oct., Sat.

Field Trip - Cape Lookout State Park. Meet at the day use parking lot at 2:00pm.

Portland

3 Oct., Sat.

Field Trip: Fall color trip in Washington. Meet at 8:00am at the K-Mart on 122nd and Sandy. Second meeting place is at Yale State Park near Cougar, Wash. (Rest station is near.) at 9:00am. Drive 70 miles to an easy trail with 700 ft. elevation gain to 4,000 ft. in Sheep's Canyon on southwest St. Helen's. Leader is Carroll Dubuar (234-4135).

- 10 Oct., Sat. Field Trip to Cape Meares area (Tillamook). See historic light house, octopus tree and coastal hiking trails. Meet at 8:00am at the Safeway parking lot in Cedar Hills Shopping Center at the junction of Hwy. 217 and Hwy. 26 (Sunset Hwy.) Second meeting place at 9:45am is Cape Meares Parking Lot. Hike less than 3 mi. in coastal climax forest, mushrooms may be showing. Leader is Mary Lou Thomas (292-8260). For information call Charlene (284-3444).
- 13 Oct., Tues. Meeting, 7:00 pm. First United Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson St., Portland. Nick Dodge will give a program on Silver Star Mountain in Washington.
- 17 Oct., Sat. Field Trip to the Mt. Hood area. Trail chosen will depend on weather conditions Meet at 8:30am at the K-Mart on 122nd and NE Sandy. Leader is Shep Wilson (228-7823).
- 24 Oct., Sat. Work Party at Tom McCall Preserve at Rowena area of the Columbia Gorge. Meet at the K-Mart at 7:30am, Second meeting place is 9:00am at Mayer State Park. This will be in cooperation with The Nature Conservancy. Bring lunches, water and work gloves. For information call 228-9561. Refreshments to follow at Susan Kofahl's house in Mosier. (See separate announcement.)
- 31 Oct., Sat. Field Trip in the Ramona Falls area. Meet at 9:00am at Heidi's Restaurant on Hwy. 26. Hike 6 mi. loop trail. See half buried conifers from prehistoric mountain slides. Leader is Maxine Wilson (655-1523).
- 7 Nov., Sat. Field Trip to see fall color along a portion of Trail #2000. Meet at 8:30am at the K-Mart on 122nd and NE Sandy. For information contact Charlene (284-3444).

## Siskiyou

- 8 Oct., Thur. Meeting, 7:30pm. Room 171, Science Building, SOSOC. The Nature Conservancy Preserve Steward, Cathy McDonald, will present a slide show of the flora and fauna of TNC's Preserves in Oregon, including local areas such as Eight Dollar Mtn. and Table Rock.

## Willamette Valley

- 19 Oct., Mon. Meeting, 7:30pm. First United Methodist Church, corner of SE Church and State Streets, Salem. (Use the Church Street entrance.) Lynn Glenn and Barbara Halliday of the Willamette Valley Chapter will present a slide program on "Utah Relatives of Oregon Great Basin Plants."

## Wm. Cusick

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For information, contact Rachel Sines (963-0674).

### WORK PARTY AT ROWENA PRESERVE - Sat. October 24

Meet at 9:00am at Mayer State Park Viewpoint with lunch and gloves for a work party in cooperation with The Nature Conservancy effort to clean up dump sites on the Tom McCall Preserve. Refreshments will follow at Susan Kofahl's house, 2050 Mosier Creek Road. Call 478-3576 for more information.

### SAN JUAN ISLANDS IN THE SPRING? ? ? ? ?

The field trip chairman for the Portland Chapter, Charlene Holzwarth, would like to know how much interest there is in an NPSO field trip to the San Juan Islands north of Puget Sound, Washington, next spring (probably in March).

NPSO has never had a trip to this location, so it would be new territory for us. Members of any of the chapters and interested people are welcome to join us. Please contact Charlene if you are interested: 2524 NE 34th Ave., Portland, OR 97212 (284-3444).

### NATIVE ANEMONE MATERIAL NEEDED FOR RESEARCH

University of Michigan graduate student Sara Hoot is seeking seed and/or rootstock of certain species of Anemone as soon as possible. The material is needed for chloroplast DNA work and morphological studies of section Anemone. Species needed are: A. multifida var. hirsuta; A. multifida var. saxicola; A. drummondii var. drummondii; A. drummondii var. lithophila; and A. parviflora. Materials should be sent to: Sara Hoot, Dept. of Biology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1048.



# Legislative Notes

STATE BOARD MEETING - October 17, Eugene

FEDERAL NEWS: Congress has resumed consideration of the Endangered Species Act reauthorization and appropriations. This a five-year reauthorization bill.

STATE NEWS: Both celebration parties for the passage of the Oregon Endangered Species Act were well attended by legislators, state agency personnel, and NPSO supporters. We were honored to have Secretary of State Barbara Roberts attend both the Portland and Corvallis celebrations.

Even though there are two years before the next legislative session, it is time to begin working on amendments. We shall need to concentrate our efforts on a few key issues. I am planning the next legislative meeting for:

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Saturday, November 7th  
Forestry Sciences Laboratory  
3200 Jefferson Way  
Corvallis  
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

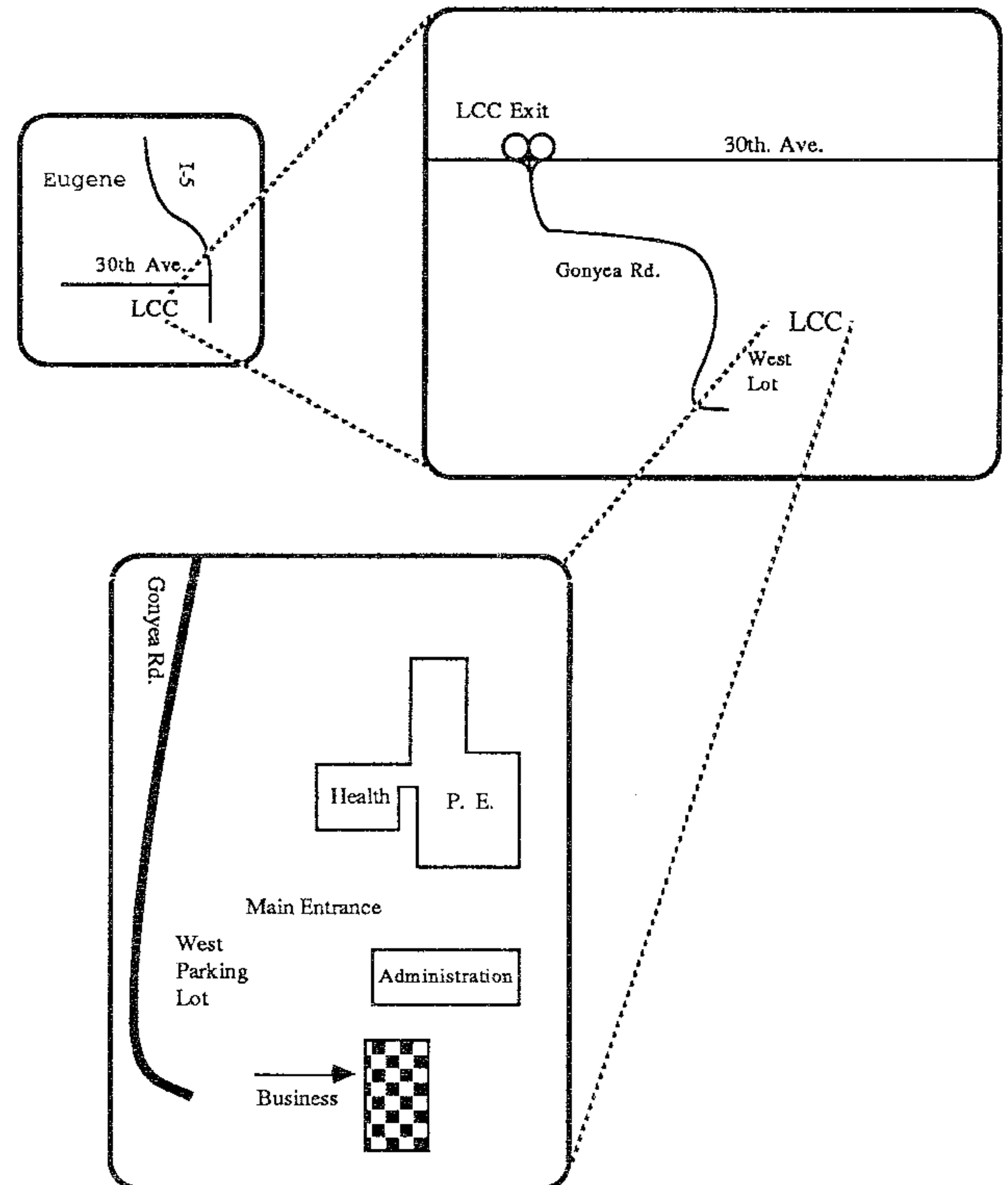
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The agenda has not been set for the meeting and I encourage you to send me ideas on amendments. I am especially interested in any ideas on funding the program. Contact me if you are interested in attending the meeting. (754-0893)

*Esther*

Esther Gruber McEvoy  
State Legislative Chair

NPSO BOARD MEETING  
Business Ed. Building, Rm. 212  
Lane Community College, Eugene, Ore.  
Saturday, October 17, 1987 11:00 am



## ATTENTION COLUMBIA GORGE LOVERS

The following are addresses to which you might write to acquire the following pertinent publications.

"A Study of the Historic Columbia River Highway 1987"  
Jeanette Kloos  
Region 1 Office, Oregon State Parks  
3554 SE 82nd Avenue  
Portland, OR 97266

"Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area--Final Interim Guidelines--1987"

USDA Forest Service  
Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area  
902 Wasco Ave.  
Hood River, OR 97031

## PACIFIC NW FOREST MANAGEMENT MEDIA WORKSHOP

This conference will be held at the Sheraton Inn at the Portland Airport on Sat. October 10. Presentations will be given on Forest Ecology and Management topics. There will be tours for those interested on Friday and Sunday of that weekend. Sponsors are the National Wildlife Federation, National Audubon Society, Oregon Natural Resources Council, and Portland Audubon Society. For more information, please call the National Wildlife Federation at 503/222-1429 or ONRC at 236-9772.

By Stuart Garrett (High Desert Chapter)

Many Oregonians take our native plant species for granted. They assume that our plant communities have always existed as they currently do and always will. However, on a geological time scale the distribution of vegetation and the types of plants will vary greatly. In Oregon, geologic factors have played a major role in these changes. Some of the changes were gradual while others were cataclysmic.

A partial listing of these geologic occurrences over the last 150 million years in Oregon ( which includes the time-span for the evolution of flowering plants ) would include:

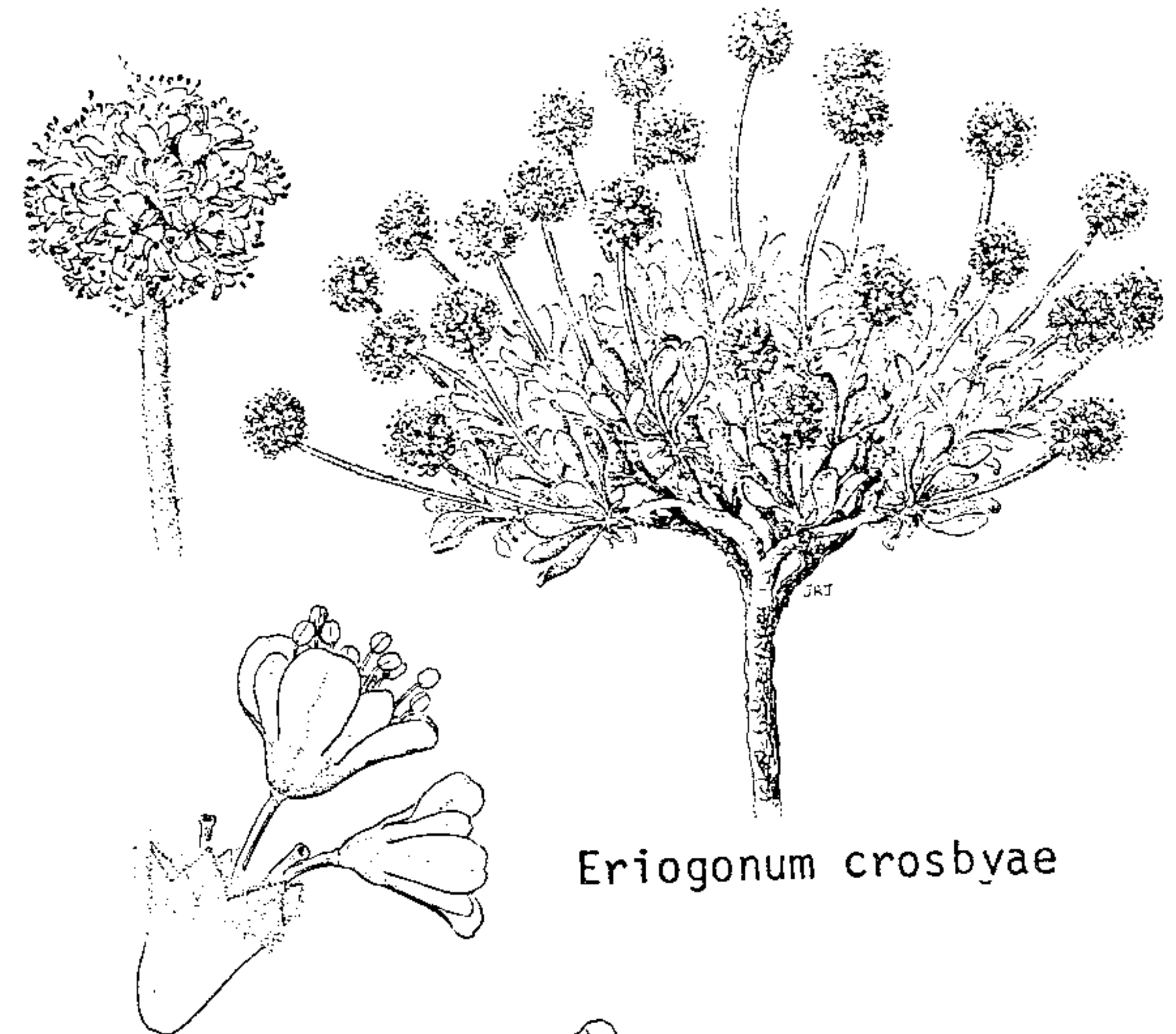
- The erosion and formation of major mountain ranges such as the Cascades.
- The extensive eruption of the Columbia River Flood Basalts.
- Major fluctuations in sea level.
- The astonishing Bretz Floods through the Columbia River Gorge.
- Glacial advance and retreat over the Cascades and other areas.
- The rafting and attachment of foreign parts of the earth's crust to the coast.
- Extension and faulting of southeastern Oregon in the basin and range province.
- Volcanic eruptions such as Mount Mazama.
- The formation of vast inland seas.
- Erosion of unusual rocks which left behind atypical soils.

All of these occurrences have left a legacy of modern plants which are struggling to adapt to a new environment. New species are evolving to meet changing conditions while older species are disappearing because they can no longer survive the changing environment. Let us examine some specifics.

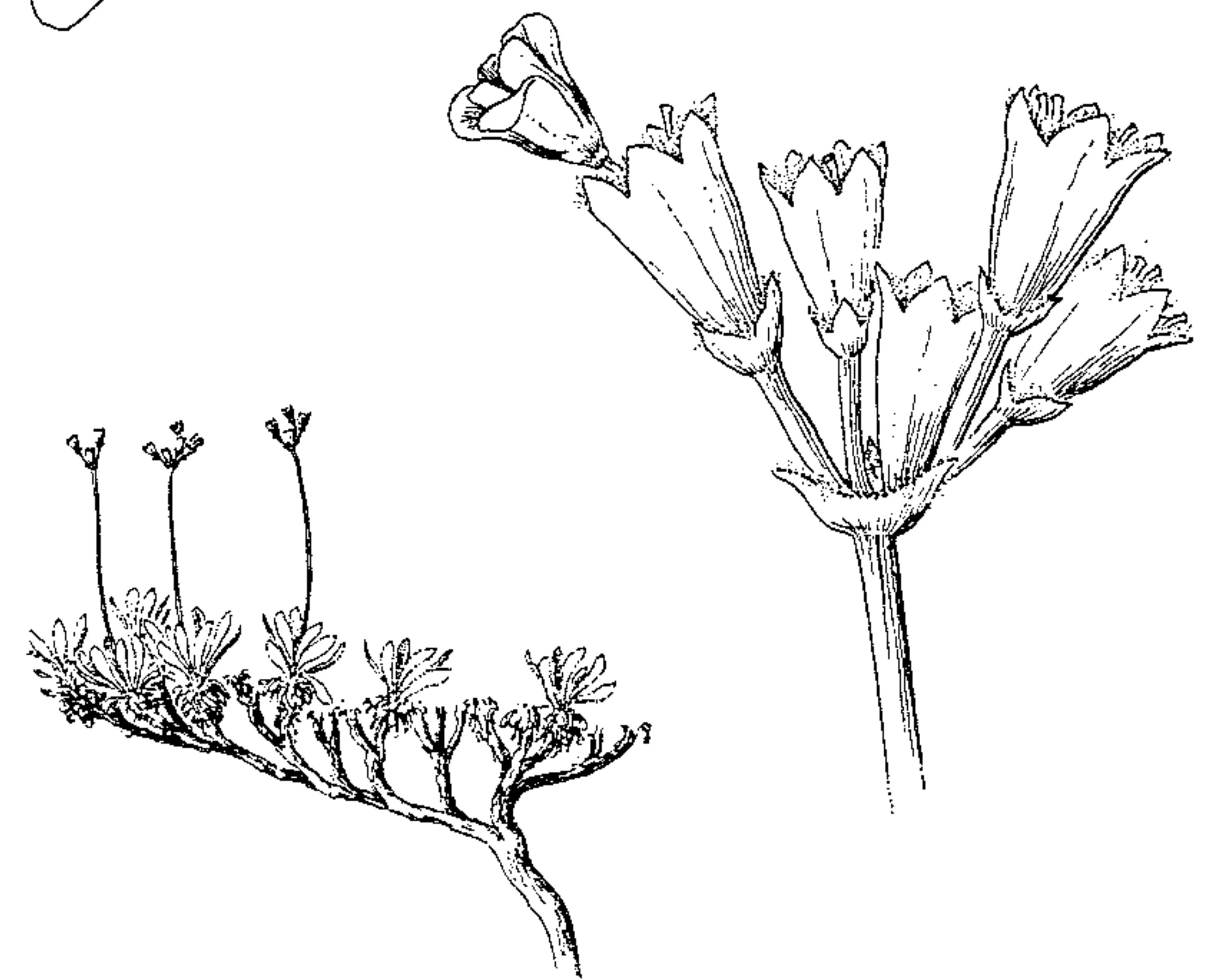
The most obvious effect of Oregon's geology on its plant geography is the division of the state into "wet" and "dry" sides by the Cascade Range. This geologically recent botanical division has important economic and cultural consequences for all Oregonians. Changes in climate and rainfall are responsible for Oregon's most famous endemic plant - the Redwood.

An endemic plant is a plant that is restricted to a particular geographic locality. Once found over much of the state in warmer and moister times, it is now limited to a narrow strip along Oregon's southern coast.

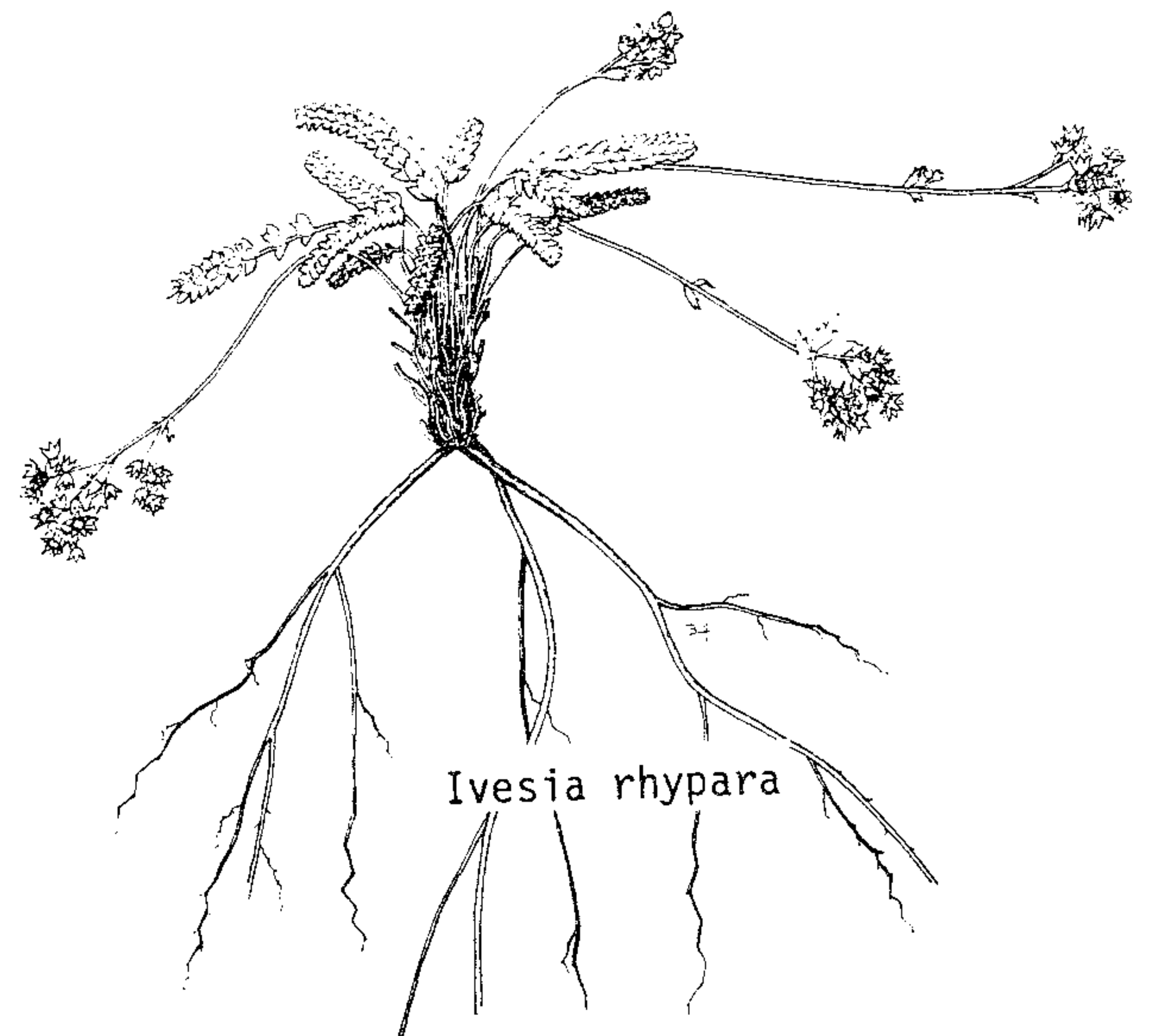
Just inland from this area is an accumulation of unusual serpentine soils in the Klamath Mountains. This area supports Oregon's largest collection of rare plants. Plants growing in these soils have adapted to the high levels of metals such as iron and magnesium found in them. Species such as the Koehler's rockcress, racemed goldenweed, Howell's mariposa lily, Vollmer's lily, Purdy's levisia, Western bog aster and others are not found elsewhere in the state.



*Eriogonum crosbyae*



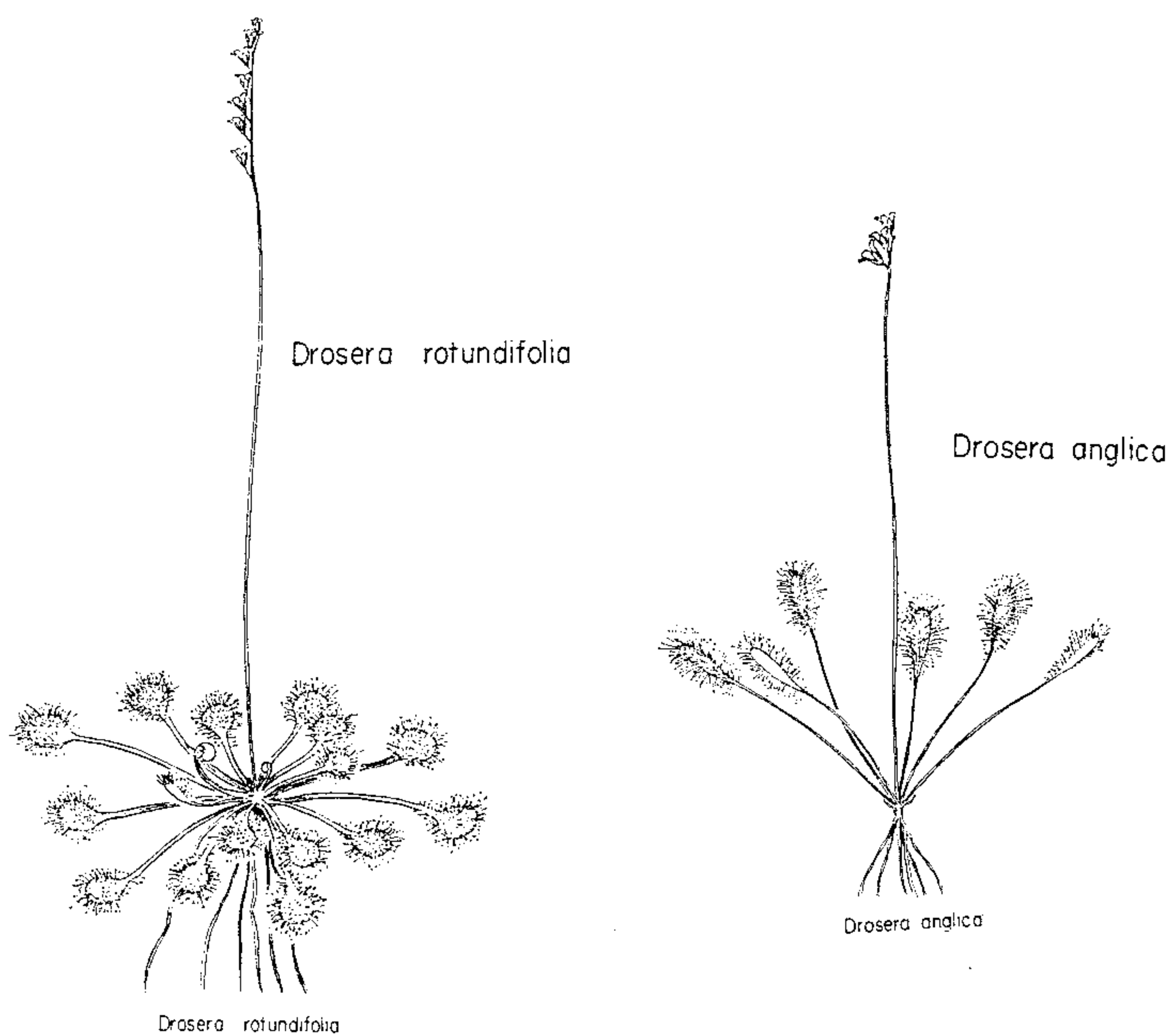
*E. cusickii*



*Ivesia rhypara*

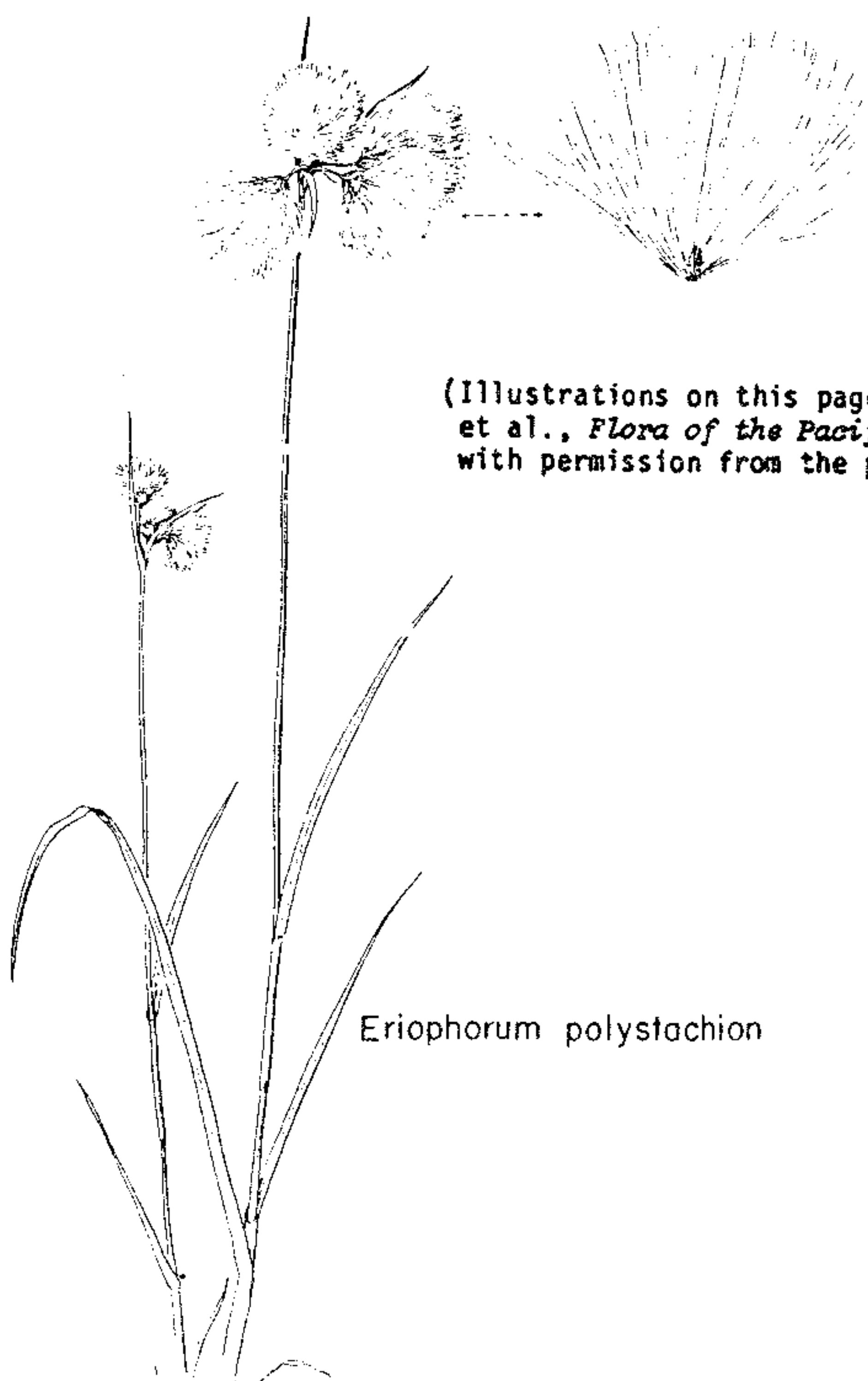
(Illustrations from Threatened and Endangered Vascular Plants of Oregon: An Illustrated Guide.)





Drosera rotundifolia

Drosera anglica



Eriophorum polystachion

(Illustrations on this page are from Hitchcock et al., *Flora of the Pacific Northwest*; used with permission from the publisher.)

Further to the east in Southern Oregon we enter the basin and range province. Extension of the earth's crust for the last 17 million years has created unusual habitats for plants. Oregon's only true biologic deserts are found here. They harbor Mormon tea, greasewood, salt brush and other plants able to tolerate the alkaline conditions of southeastern Oregon's deserts.

The low elevation non-desert areas here support Crosby's buckwheat, Cusick's lupine, Columbia cress and Cusick's buckwheat. In the high mountains are found relict populations of plants that remain after the retreat of the glaciers. These include Steen's Mountain paintbrush, golden buckwheat and Steen's Mountain thistle.

In far southeastern Oregon lie the Owyhee Uplands. Areas such as Leslie Gulch show the remnants of this area's violent volcanic past. The tuffaceous and rhyolitic rocks and soils in this area harbor Packard's mentzelia and grimy ivesia, whose range includes adjacent Idaho.

The Blue Mountains are home to a variety of older marine rocks which are remnants of the oceans that once covered Oregon. In the Wallowas we find fraternal paintbrush, Greenman's lomatium and dwarf golden-daisy which are only found in northeastern Oregon.

The John Day Valley volcanics are home to three endemic species. The volcanic ash in the area grows yellowhaired paintbrush, John Day chemactis and John Day cinquefoil.

The vast eruptions of Columbia River basalts which flooded eastern Oregon and eastern Washington in Miocene times now cover northeast Oregon with thousands of feet of lava. Their erosion can leave a characteristic biscuit-scabland topography which is home to the Tygh Valley locoweed, obscure buttercup and the umbellate spring beauty.

The Columbia River Gorge is the only sea-level passage through the Cascades. Both northern and southern species reach their limits here. Some plants are left from the retreat of the Ice Age and the only other place they are found is on alpine peaks. Some plants are found only in the gorge. Barrett's penstemon, Howell's bentgrass, gorge daisy and long-bearded hawkweed belong in this last category.

The eruption of volcanoes such as Mount Mazama, South Sister and Newberry has mantled Central Oregon with pumice. Peck's penstemon, the Oregon moonwort, Crater Lake rockcress and the Mount Mazama collomia are found only in this region and nowhere else in the world.

The retreat of the glaciers in the Cascade Range has left a series of bogs which contain remnants of a now more northerly biota. Arctic birch and cottongrass are some examples.

Changes in sea level on the coast have left boggy areas which support not only the rhododendron and Sitka spruce but also the insect-eating sundew plant and the rare carnivorous pitcher plants.

The alpine areas of the high Cascade peaks in recent geologic times have seen the retreat of the glaciers and now support sparse vegetation. Plants limited to these sometimes soilless areas include silvery raillardella, Cascade aster, Cascade smelowskia and golden alpine draba.

The relationship of Oregon's geology to its native plant life is not always obvious. It is, however, very important to our everyday lives and is fascinating in its complexity.

(This article was published in the April 16, 1987 issue of the Oregonian.)



The first national gathering to consider the restoration of all natural resource types and the redesign of urban areas will be held on January 13-16 at the University of California, Berkeley. The conference is organized by the Restoring the Earth project of The Tides Foundation, San Francisco, and cosponsored both by the College of Natural Resources and the Center for Environmental Design Research of the University of California, Berkeley. It will bring experts in natural resource restoration and management together with a broad selection of academic, government, industry, foundation, labor, public health, and environmental representatives. Participants will help create new solutions to the nation's environmental problems, through restoration of damaged resources.

Topics to be covered include restoration of coastal ecosystems and estuaries; rivers and lakes; streams and fisheries; rangelands, prairies, mined lands, forests and wildlife; atmosphere and climate; dry lands and agricultural lands; urban environmental planning; and control of toxic wastes. Formal refereed papers will be presented at scientific and technical sessions. Non-technical sessions will include accounts of restoration successes and discussions of policy issues, legislation, litigation, trends and resource conflict resolution. The program also includes keynote panels, plenary sessions, workshops, films, and exhibits.

Information is available from: Restoring the Earth Conference, 1713 C Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94709, or telephone (415) 843-2645.

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Cornus canadensis  
by Julie Kierstead

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BULLETIN

Editor . . . . . Jan Anderson  
 1960 Lovejoy #2, Portland, OR, 97209; 243-9242

The NPSO Bulletin is published monthly. Copy is due by  
 the 10th of the month & should be sent to the editor.  
 News, articles, photos, drawings, & non-copyrighted  
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 In case of special formats, e.g. plant keys,  
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\* author--specify whether byline is desired  
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\* instructions as to whether item is to be  
 used in entirety or excerpted at editor's  
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\* source & date if item is not original

ILLUSTRATIONS: black & white prints, ink  
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SCIENTIFIC NAMES should follow Hitchcock &  
 Cronquist's *Flora of the Pacific Northwest*  
 where possible. Use of both scientific &  
 common names is encouraged. Genus & species  
 names are underlined or italicized.

RETURN OF ORIGINALS: Manuscripts & illustra-  
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 NPSO members & the public. Your suggestions  
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# # #

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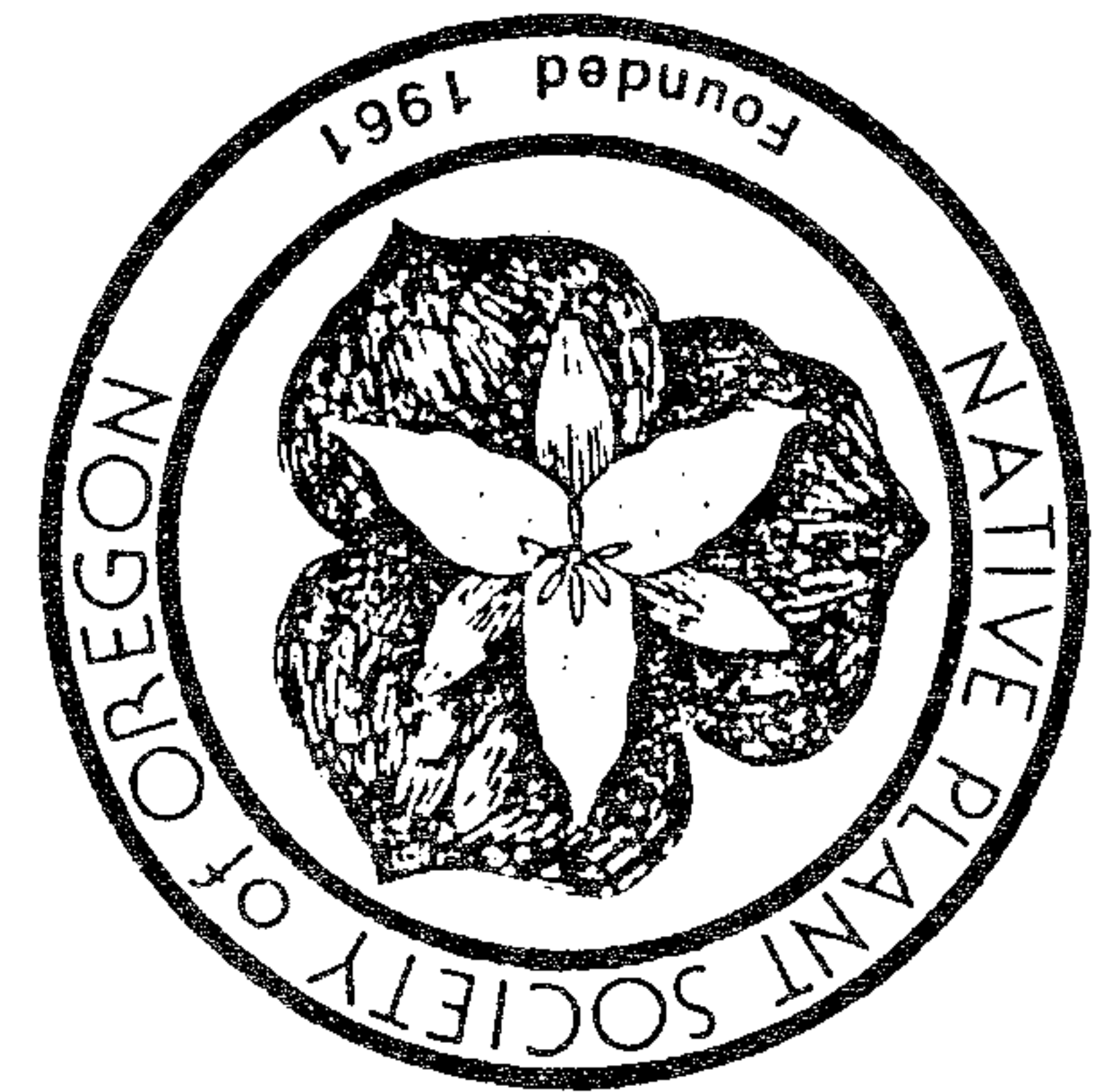
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