



Bulletin

of the

Native Plant Society of Oregon

Dedicated to the enjoyment, conservation and study of Oregon's native plants and habitats

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NOVEMBER 2011

Restoring Invasion-resistant Wet Prairies in the Willamette Valley

Autumn Mead, Institute for Applied Ecology Intern

This article was written by Autumn Mead, a 2011 Native Plant Society of Oregon/Institute for Applied Ecology (IAE) intern in the Conservation Research Program. Our interns participated in rare plant monitoring, restoration, floristic surveys, seed collection, and other research projects conducted by IAE staff throughout Oregon. For more information on internship opportunities, please contact IAE at andrea@appliedeco.org, 541-753-3099 ext. 401 or visit www.appliedeco.org. We also encourage you to visit our new blog, 'Adventures in Conservation Research' (<http://research.appliedeco.org>), where our interns have described several of the projects on which they worked this summer. We thank NPSO for contributing to botanical education and work experience.

-Andrea S. Thorpe Ph.D., Institute for Applied Ecology, Corvallis, Oregon

Wetlands and wet prairies provide vital ecosystem services such as water filtration, nutrient cycling, wildlife habitat and flood control. In 1972, wetland areas became nationally protected under the Clean Water Act which enforces a policy of "no net loss". Despite these regulations, we continue to see a decline in wetland habitat by draining for agricultural and real estate development and flooding for recreational lakes. The policy of "no net loss" permits the development of wetlands provided an area equivalent in size is restored elsewhere. However, we currently have no foolproof method of restoring degraded wetlands or even managing existing wetlands.

Recently, the Institute of Applied Ecology (IAE) has partnered with the Lane Council of Governments and the City of Eugene to test techniques for wet prairie restoration in the Willamette Valley. To date, less than 1% of the Valley's historic wet prairies remain intact. Restoration of this increasingly rare and precious ecosystem has encountered challenges in maintaining native diversity while maintaining

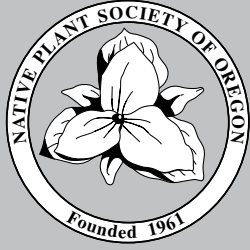
resistance to invasion by exotic species. The goal of our research is to develop dependable methods for establishing and maintaining diverse native wet prairie plant communities. A diverse community of native plants is the key to creating a healthy, stable and invasion-resistant system which can provide essential wetland ecosystem services.

Within the Willamette Valley, regular, low-intensity disturbance prevents encroachment of prairies by woody species. Once a restoration area has been seeded, it typically takes three years for the plants to reach maturity. Then, as early successional species are lost, the level of diversity declines. Overall, there seems to be a trade-off between maximizing cover of native species and maximizing native diversity. The dominant species in our study plots is tufted hairgrass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*), a native perennial grass, which effectively keeps invasive species out but also tends to prevent other native species from becoming established. One of the goals of our project is to determine disturbance regimes that

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Native Plant Society of Oregon

World Wide Web

<http://www.NPSOregon.org>

E-mail Discussion List

To join, send a message to majordomo@tardigrade.net, with the following in the body of the message:
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or correspond directly with Officers and Committee Chairs listed on the inside of the back page.

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Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors of the articles. They do not represent the opinions of the Native Plant Society of Oregon, unless so stated.

Membership Renewal Time is Almost Here!

Just a quick reminder that the next issue of the *Bulletin* (December/January) will contain a preprinted remittance envelope included to make sending in your 2012 dues payment easy and convenient. But you don't have to wait. If you want to renew early, you can use the form on the inside back page of this issue of the *Bulletin*. Enclose the form and your check in a regular envelope and send it to:

Clayton Gautier, NPSO Membership Chair
3927 Shasta View St.
Eugene OR 97405-4442

Before you renew, please take a quick look at the address label on your *Bulletin*. If 2012 or a later year appears along top edge of the label (or if it's blank), you do NOT need to renew—your membership is good through the end of next year. Don't forget that year-end is a good time to consider making a tax-deductible contribution to one of our special funds. The Leighton Ho Memorial Award is used for research projects in Western Oregon. The Rare and Endangered Plant Fund supports work with our most threatened plants. The Augusta Rockefeller and Jean Davis memorial scholarships are awarded annually to botany students at an Oregon college or university. You may also include a contribution to the Oregon Flora Project along with your dues.



Late season gems: Newberry's gentian (*Gentiana newberryi*) blooming in September. This rare species is found in Oregon only in a few places in the High Cascades.

TANYA HARVEY

NPSO CALENDAR

State

July 13–15, 2012

2012 NPSO Annual Meeting. Save the date! The 2012 NPSO Annual Meeting will be hosted by the Siskiyou Chapter at the Siskiyou Field Institute's Deer Creek Center, Selma, Oregon.

Blue Mountain

For information on Blue Mountain Chapter call Jerry Baker, 541-566-2244.

At the moment, Blue Mountain chapter is still dormant, but we hope to start chapter activities in the Fall. For additional information, contact Jerry Baker at 541-566-2244.

Cheahmill

For more information, visit the chapter Web site, www.oregon-nativeplants.com. To be added to the e-mail list for upcoming programs and events, please contact cheahmillchapternpsocomcast.net.

November 22, Tuesday, 7 pm

Talk: Alpine and Forest Flowers of the Matteredvispa Basin (Part I). Dan Luoma, professor of botany at Oregon State University, and Joyce Eberhart will share their photos and experiences from a week of botanizing in the Swiss Alps. They were led on an outstanding wildflower adventure by longtime NPSO member and professor from Linfield College, Karen Sturgeon. Location: McMinnville Library, Carnegie Rm., 225 N.W. Adams St., (corner of HWY 99W and S.W. Second St.). Contact: Paul Studebaker at 503-472-1868.

Corvallis

For information on upcoming events, or to be on the Corvallis chapter e-mail list, contact Esther McEvoy at co_president@NPSOregon.org or 541-754-0893.

November 5, Saturday, 8 am

Field Trip: Mushroom Hike. Dan Luoma will lead experienced and novice mushroom hunters on a hike—itinerary

to be determined by the weather and fungus availability—to identify and gather the succulent fungi. This will be an all-day outing, so please bring rain gear, a basket, waxed paper or bags, and lunch, water, etc. Meet at the OSU parking lot southwest of The Beanery, 26th and Monroe a bit before 8 am. For more information, call Dan at 541-752-8860.

IMPORTANT NOTE TO FIELD TRIP PARTICIPANTS

Field trips take place rain or shine, so proper dress and footwear are essential. **BRING WATER AND LUNCH.** Trips may be strenuous and/or hazardous. Participation is at your own risk. Be prepared to sign a release form indicating this. For a sample copy check out the NPSO website. Please contact the trip leader or chapter representative about difficulty, distance, and terrain to be expected on field trips. Dogs are not allowed. All NPSO field trips are open to the public at no charge (other than contribution to carpool driver) and newcomers and visitors are always welcome. You must pre-register for all events. National Forests require a Northwest Forest Pass for some field trip locations. Permits can be acquired at forest headquarters and ranger districts.

NOTICE TO FIELD TRIP CHAIRS AND LEADERS

The Forest Service and other agencies have set policies limiting group size in many wilderness areas to 12. The reason is to limit human impacts on these fragile areas. Groups using wilderness areas should be no larger than 12.

November 14, Monday, 7:30 pm

Meeting: How did Native Americans use native plants in Oregon? A speaker from the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde will talk to us about the plants that Native Americans used and how they used them for food, shelter, transportation and clothes. Join our speakers before the meeting for dinner at Nearly Normals, near 15th and Monroe at 6 pm. Location: Avery House in Avery Park, Corvallis. Contact: Louise at 541-753-0012

December 12, Monday, 7 pm

Meeting: Corvallis Annual Holiday Party. Join us at the house of Loren and Flo, 3420 SW Willamette Avenue, Corvallis. Please bring slides or digital images of your botanical adventures to show and a dessert to share with the group. Contact: Loren at loren.russell@comcast.net.

Emerald

Visit the Emerald Chapter Web site at <http://emerald.npsoregon.org> to learn more about the latest chapter events, plant lists and botanical information about Lane County plants and those who love them.

November 21, Monday, 7:30 pm

Meeting: History of the Oregon Flora Project. Dr. Stephen Meyers, taxonomic director of the Oregon Flora Project, presents a short history of the Project. His talk will include events and details that some of us are not aware of and a summary of the current project work that is being accomplished. He will also discuss future plans, with an emphasis on the online presence and the upcoming book *The Flora of Oregon*. Location: EWEB Training Room, 500 E. 4th Ave., Eugene.

December 19, Monday, 7:30 pm

Event: Holiday Social and Slide Show. Bring 10 to 12 slides (traditional or digital) and a snack to share if you wish. Location: EWEB Training Room, 500 E. 4th Ave., Eugene. For information call 541-345-5531.

High Desert

The High Desert chapter is inactive at this time. If you are interested in participating in organizing chapter events, please contact membership@nps.org.

Klamath Basin

For information on the Klamath Basin Chapter, contact Sarah Malaby at 541-884-5703 or smalaby@cs.com.

Mid-Columbia

For information on the Mid-Columbia Chapter, contact Sara Wu at wusara96@yahoo.com.

November 10, Thursday, 7 pm

Meeting: Timber Harvest Practices. Chet Behling, Stewardship Forester at the Oregon Department of Forestry, will share information about different types of timber harvesting practices. Included will be consideration of water resources protection, post-harvesting clean up, and replanting. Location: Boardroom, Building 1, Columbia Gorge Community College, The Dalles.

December 8, Thursday, 7 pm

Meeting: Year-end Party and Photo Sharing. We'll gather to share photos and stories of new finds, special places, and engaging projects, with time to get to know new members and to share holiday goodies. Location: Boardroom, Building 1, Columbia Gorge Community College, The Dalles.

North Coast

For information on the North Coast Chapter call Janet Stahl at 503-842-8708.

Portland

If you would like to receive the chapter's semi-official e-mail newsletter, The Calochortus, e-mail Don Jacobson at donjphoto@gmail.com.

*Please note that starting January 12, 2012, the Portland chapter's program meetings will be held at the **Metro Council Building, 600 NE Grand Ave,**

Portland. Join us at the Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church through December and at the Metro building starting January.

November 10, Thursday, 7 pm

Talk: Tualatin Riverkeepers' Restoration at Gotter Prairie and Munger Natural Area. John Goetz, Ash Creek Forest Management, will share his wealth of botanical knowledge regarding these two areas. Gotter Prairie is a 170-acre natural area located at the confluence of the Tualatin River and McFee Creek in Scholls, Oregon. Gotter Prairie is an uncommon, wet prairie habitat and a home to rare Pacific Northwest species. Chorus frog, Pacific salamander, red-osier dogwood, Garry oak, white-breasted nuthatch and yellow-breasted chat are just a few of the species living at Gotter Prairie—public land held by Metro Parks and Greenspaces. Location: Mount Tabor Presbyterian Church, 5441 SE Belmont Street, Portland (on the corner of SE 54th Ave and SE Belmont Street). Contact: Billy Don at 503-515-1708.

December 8, Thursday, 7 pm

Members Party: Slide Sharing. Bring your electronic or traditional slides of our native flora for our annual year end celebration of our wildflower season. Bring goodies to share. Location: Mount Tabor Presbyterian Church, 5441 SE Belmont Street, Portland, OR (on the corner of SE 54th Ave and SE Belmont Street). Contact: Billy Don at 503-515-1708.

Siskiyou

The Siskiyou chapter e-mails meeting reminders and last-minute information such as field trip cancellations. To be added to the list, please send your e-mail address to Kristi Mergenthaler at coprolitemergie@yahoo.com.

November 17, Thursday, 7:15 pm

Program: Wildflower Odyssey. Kenneth DeCamp will show his movie—a photographic journey through the mountains of northern California and southern Oregon. Southern Oregon University, Science Bldg., Room 118. Refreshments at 7:15, meeting and

program at 7:30. Contact: Kristi at 541-941-3744. Please note change in room location.

December 8, Thursday, 6:30 pm

Holiday Potluck & Presentation: Tundra Blooms and Reindeer—Botanists Backpacking in Lapland. Bob Korfhage and Cindy Roché share stories and pictures from their 113-mile backpack hike on the Kungsleden in northern Sweden. Talk begins around 7:30. Please bring a potluck dish, table service (plate, silverware, glass, cup), and packets of seeds to contribute for the native plant seed exchange. Beer and wine are permitted. Talent Community Center, 206 E. Main in Talent (the old city hall, a large white clapboard building one block from Camelot Theater). Contact: Kristi at 541-941-3744. Please bring a food donation for the Talent Food Project.

Umpqua Valley

Visit www.umpquavalley.npsoregon.org for more information on chapter activities.

Willamette Valley

For program information, contact John Savage at 503-399-8615 or Alexandra Ninneman at 503-391-4145.

William Cusick

Visit our Web site at <http://williamcusick.npsoregon.org> or contact Laurie Allen at 541-805-0499 for updates and general information.



True flowers of Bunchberry (Cornus unalaschensis)

TANYA HARVEY

OTHER EVENTS

Siskiyou Field Institute

Information: Phone 541-597-8530 or visit www.thesfi.org.

November 4–6, Friday–Saturday

Course: Mushrooms! with David Lebo, MS. Learn about the biology, ecology and field identification of both edible and poisonous mushrooms in this perennial favorite SFI class. On Friday, we'll prowls the Illinois Valley for fungi. Saturday, we'll scout for mushrooms on the Six Rivers National Forest and along the Oregon coast. Sunday—more 'shrooming along the northern California coast. Beginners and the fungi-literate are welcome! Tuition is \$130 (lodging not included), scholarships are available and advance registration is required.

November 11, Friday

Course: Edible Mushrooms of Southern Oregon and Northern California with Eric McEwen. Search the woods and learn how to safely identify and collect the edible mushrooms of southern Oregon and northern California. Discover key characteristics for identifying many varieties, including: morels, boletes, oysters, chanterelles and matsutakes. Poisonous mushrooms known to occur in the area will also be reviewed. Use all your senses—and your hiking muscles—as you develop skills to recognize which mushrooms to harvest, and which ones to leave behind. Tuition for this class is \$50, scholarships are available and advance registration is required.



NORM JENSEN

Yellow sand verbena (Abronia latifolia) pushing up through the sand on a wet morning at Bandon State Beach on October 1. Will this season ever end?

NPSO Items for Sale

Booklets on Gardening with Native Plants. Emerald Chapter's three booklets about native plants of the southern Willamette Valley are *Native Herbaceous Plants in Our Gardens*, *Native Shrubs in Our Gardens*, and *Native Trees in Our Gardens*. \$9.35/set of three, mail order. Individual booklets sold from the NGAP booth at Down-To-Earth, or by check made out to "Emerald Chapter NPSO" with "NGAP Gardening Guides" in the memo line to P.O. Box 902, Eugene OR 97440-0902. Also see online in PDF format at www.emeraldnpso.org. Click on "Gardening with Native Plants."

Field Guide to Shrubs of Southwest Oregon. An 80-page, pocket-sized field guide identifies 56 of the most frequently-encountered shrubs in SW Oregon and describes each species in detail with words and photos, including habitat, leaves, twigs, fruit, and flowers. Dichotomous keys, illustrations of common plant parts and glossary included. Janet Walker, NPSO Siskiyou chapter member, and Max Bennet, Forestry Agent with Jackson/Josephine Counties. \$7/copy; checks payable to "OSU Extension Service." Mail to Shrub Guide, Jackson County Extension, 569 Hanley Rd., Central Point, OR 97502.

Poseidon's Necklace. Don Begnoche, Siskiyou chapter, has issued an Oregon field guide covering the coastal section, mile by mile, from Astoria to Brookings. Genesis of the coastal landscape and flora found on dunes, headlands and montane slopes; over 500 landscape and floral photographs as well as geologic maps and illustrations. PDF format on a CD. \$19.95 + \$2.50 s/h. Mail checks to Don Begnoche, 439 Herbert St., Ashland, OR 97520.

2011 NPSO Annual Meeting Photo Contest

NPSO would like to thank Mark Turner for volunteering to judge the photo contest. Congratulations to contest winners and to all who participated. Your photographs are lovely!



Category: **Botanical Close-Up**

Photograph: **Beargrass Detail**

Photographer: **Karen Phillips**

Camera: Canon Rebel XT

Location: Along the T.J. Howell Botanical Drive in Josephine County.

Judge's Comments: The beargrass detail grabbed me quickly with its clean lines, strong composition, and the storytelling of the individual blossoms opening from the bottom up.



Category: **Landscape**

Photograph: **Prairie City**

Photographer: **Brent Miller**

Camera: Canon Digital Rebel T1i with Canon EF-S 10-22mm f/3.5-4.5 USM lens

Location: Elkhorn Mountains

Judge's Comments: None



Category: **Folks Botanizing**

Photograph: **Photographer Botanist**

Photographer: **J. Donald Imbrie**

Camera: Canon Power Shot S5IS

Location: Logan Valley

Judge's Comments: Clean composition, no distracting elements, good placement of the main subject (the photographer), clear storytelling, technically well done.



Category: **Plants**

Photograph: **Washington Lily**

Photographer: **Karen Phillips**

Camera: Canon Rebel XT

Location: Highway 199 in Selma, Oregon—very late in the afternoon.

Judge's Comments: Clean, bold, graphic, strong composition.

Get Involved!

NPSO has numerous involvement opportunities that need YOU! Most of these require relatively little time and primarily involve email communication. So, what are you waiting for? Consider joining one of the following:

Fellows Committee: This committee coordinates the annual NPSO Fellow nominations and awards. If you'd like to join or have a suggestion from a nominee, contact committee chairs Jan and Dave Dobak at jddobak@pcez.com.

Field Research Grants Committee: This committee reviews field research grant proposals submitted under the guidelines and recommends to the Board which ones to fund. It also reviews ad hoc and cost share proposals outside of the field research grant proposal process. The chair of the committee is Dan Luoma. If you'd like to join, contact Dan at daniel.luoma@oregonstate.edu.

Native Plant Appreciation Week Committee: This committee coordinates the annual Native Plant Appreciation Week Poster contest and encourages local chapters to plan events for Native Plant Appreciation Week. If you'd like to join, contact committee chair Judi Sanders at president@npsoregon.org.

Nominations Committee: This committee solicits candidates for elected positions in NPSO. If you'd like to join the committee, or if you'd like to be nominated or know someone who would like to be nominated, contact committee chair, Dan Luoma at daniel.luoma@oregonstate.edu.

Rare and Endangered Plants Committee: This committee monitors rare and endangered plants and seeks to promote public education and policy changes regarding these plants. The committee needs both a chair and committee members. If you are interested, contact NPSO President, Judi Sanders, at president@npsoregon.org.

Stop... in the Name of Love!

The love of native plants that is! Don't miss the deadline—December 15, 2011—to submit your great photos of Oregon native plants for the 2012 Native Plant Appreciation Week poster contest. Entries must be submitted online on the NPSO Photo Gallery (<http://npsoregon.org/photos/v/2012npaw/>) in the album titled "2012 NPAW Photo Contest." Each person may enter two photos of Oregon native plants (photographed in Oregon with photographer name, species or other description, family, common name, location, and date). Photos will be rated on artistic presentation, appropriateness to the theme, and technical excellence. Complete details can be found at: <http://npsoregon.org/photocontest.html>. If you have any questions, please email Judi Sanders, judi.sanders@gmail.com.

Restoring invasion-resistant wet prairies in the Willamette Valley

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maximize both native diversity and native cover while minimizing invasion by exotic plant species.

Our study area consists of fifty plots that were assigned one of five different management treatments: mowing, haying, burning, grazing or control. After being treated, each plot was divided into four quadrants and seeded with one of four levels of native plant diversity (no added species to a high diversity of native species). Additionally, weed seed was added to each quadrant in a 10 cm x 2 m strip to determine each plot's relative resistance to invasive plant species. Although results from this project are not yet available, while monitoring this summer, we observed that both native and invasive plant diversity and abundance were highest in the plots that received the

burn treatment and lowest in the control and mowed plots. Monitoring will continue through 2013, which will allow us to observe if these relationships change as the plant community matures. This research should provide valuable insight on such questions as how different treatment methods affect exotic species invasion, how the initial conditions of the site influence native perennial grass cover and species diversity and which restoration stages are most vulnerable to invasion.

The information that we gain from this study will be combined with the findings of previous research to formulate appropriate wetland management practices for the Willamette Valley. Our findings will be shared with land managers on both a local and national level to help improve the quality of wetland restoration efforts throughout the U.S. If you'd like to receive update on this and related research efforts, please contact Jeff Krueger at JKrueger@lcog.org.

2011 NPSO Annual Meeting Tote Bags Still Available

The Portland Chapter of NPSO is selling the tote bags that were first available at the annual meeting at Lake Creek Camp near Strawberry Mountain. They are light green with beige trim, height is 17.75", width is 18.75", and depth 5.50". Price is \$15.00. To purchase, send a check made out to Portland Chapter NPSO to: NPSO, 2921 NE 25th Ave., Portland, OR 97212.

Get one before they are gone!



Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center Adopt a Botanical Area Program

Are you interested in collaborating in a new volunteer program focusing on Botanical Areas in our National Forests? The "Adopt a Botanical Area" program is a community watchdog program designed to mobilize volunteers to be the eyes and ears on the ground in designated Botanical Areas throughout the Klamath-Siskiyou region. We will use the information collected by volunteers to advocate for continued or increased protections and law enforcement for Botanical Areas. Information: Monica Vaughan at 541-488-5789 or visit <http://kswild.org/get-involved/adopt-a-botanical-area-program>.



Denise Giles-Johnson (standing), Andrea Thorpe (left) and Autumn Meade (right) monitoring weed seedlings at the Wet Prairie Restoration plots.

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____
 Phone _____ E-Mail _____
 Chapter (if known) _____

DUES include monthly *Bulletin* and *Kalmiopsis* when published.
Membership is for the calendar year. New memberships enrolled after July 1 include the following year.

- New Renewal
 Student – \$12 Regular – \$25 Family – \$35
 Sustaining – \$60 Patron – \$125 Life Membership – \$500
 Subscription Only (*Bulletin* and *Kalmiopsis*) – \$25 *Only for those who wish to subscribe, but do not want to have full membership status.*

Is this a change of address? If so, please write your old address here:

Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

CONTRIBUTIONS to NPSO are tax deductible.

- | | |
|--|----------|
| Jean Davis Memorial Scholarship Fund | \$ _____ |
| Leighton Ho Memorial Field Botany Award Fund | \$ _____ |
| Augusta Rockefeller Memorial Scholarship | \$ _____ |
| Rare and Endangered Plant Fund | \$ _____ |
| Friends of the Oregon Flora Project | \$ _____ |

Please make checks for dues and contributions payable to:

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON

Membership in the Native Plant Society of Oregon is open to all.

Send completed form and full remittance to:
Clayton Gautier, NPSO Membership Chair
 3927 Shasta View St.
 Eugene, OR 97405-4442

Membership applications, renewals and changes of address (include old address) should be sent to the Membership Chair. Changes of address may also be e-mailed to Membership@NPSOoregon.org.

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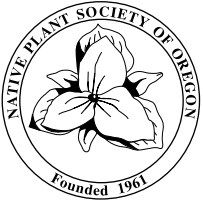
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 RARE & ENDANGERED PLANTS ... Vacant.....

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Friends of the Oregon Flora Project

There are now thousands of new and corrected records in the online Oregon Plant Atlas, and more stunning photographs in the Photo Gallery! Along with this upload of new data, you will notice that the scientific names in the Atlas and Photo Gallery now reflect the nomenclature of our Checklist. We are happy to now be synchronized and providing the public with our most up-to-date information!

Another change that is happening within the Oregon Flora Project is the conversion of our databases to a PostgreSQL database. This entails taking our multiple databases, which are in Microsoft Access, and consolidating certain ones into PostgreSQL tables behind the scene while keeping the Access interface used for data entry and analysis. This better accommodates our growing dataset and will make it easier for us to update online information.

Your financial contributions are an important part of our operating budget. Such support also demonstrates to potential funders the broad impact of the OFP and helps leverage further support. Please be a part of our continuing success by making a generous donation to your Oregon Flora Project!

Contributions can be mailed directly to:

Agricultural Research Foundation, Oregon State University, 100 Strand Ag Hall, Corvallis, OR 97331-2219.

Please make checks payable to the Ag. Research Foundation, and include "Oregon Flora Project-4482" on the memo line.