

MINNESOTA PLANT PRESS

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NEWSLETTER OF THE MINNESOTA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

87/88

MANY, MANY THANKS to all the members (especially the students) who volunteered their time and energy to help make our first MNPS Symposium a rousing success! Many thanks also to Esther McLaughlin, who served tirelessly as Symposium Coordinator. MANY, MANY THANKS also to Charlotte Menzel, our refreshments coordinator this year.

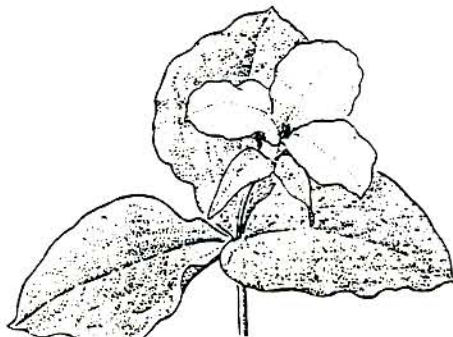
This special issue of the Minnesota Plant Press is designed to be a last reminder of the upcoming summer field trips. No additional notices will be sent.

SUMMER CAMP-OUT --- 24-26 June

The first annual MNPS summer camp-out will be held in the Aitkin area (about 3 hrs. driving time from the Cities) of central Minnesota, from Friday evening through Sunday afternoon. Several field trips are being planned: old cedar swamps, bogs, hardwood forest, and mushroom hunting; leaders will include Ms. Audrey Engels (area botanist) and Dr. David McLaughlin (UM-mycologist). Field trips will occur on Saturday morning and afternoon with time out for lunch. Additional exploring can take place Sunday morning. Bring plenty of mosquito dope!

A limited number of camping spaces (tent or hard-sided trailers) are available on the Engels' property; these are primitive conditions with outhouses, some electrical hookups, and a barn in case a rain shelter is needed. You will need to plan your own meals; at least one grill will be available and, of course, several restaurants can be found in Aitkin (about 25 mi. away) or McGregor (about 15 mi. away). For those of you who do not like to camp, motels are to be found in the Aitkin area. Call the Aitkin Chamber of Commerce (218-927-2316) for more information.

There is no fee for camping at the Engels' property, but preregistration is necessary, BEFORE 10 June. Call Anita Cholewa 612-625-0215 or Audrey Engels 218-845-2412. Maps and further details on the field trips will be mailed to registrants in June.



Large-flowered trillium
(*Trillium grandiflorum*)

from Monserud & Ownbey, 1971

SUMMER FIELD TRIPS

The following day trips have been arranged by MNPS for your enjoyment and education. Old clothes and sturdy walking shoes are the best attire. Ankle-high waterproof boots are suggested for the Savage Fen trip. Bring a bag lunch, field guides, and binoculars (some of the areas are also exceptional birding spots). Carpooling is encouraged. For further information or assistance with carpooling, call Robin Fox 612-642-9118.

Shattuck-St. Mary Nature Trail and River Bend Nature Center

Date: Saturday, 7 May, 1988

Time: 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Meeting Place: Huckleberry Inn in Faribault. From the Twin Cities take I-35W south to Faribault. Take the first exit and stop at Huckleberry Inn.

Leader: Mr. Orwin Rustad, biology teacher at Shattuck-St. Mary School.

Shattuck-St. Mary owns a small tract of deciduous hardwoods through which trails have been placed advantageously. Two spring gems to be found here are the Minnesota trout-lily and the showy orchis. River Bend Nature Center is nearby with similar vegetation.

James McKee Prairie*

Date: Saturday, 18 June

Time: 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Meeting Place: Maplewood Nature Center, 2659 East 7th Street in Maplewood. There will be a brief introduction at the Nature Center before proceeding to the prairie, which is another 1.5 miles north.

Leader: Chris Soutter - former naturalist at Maplewood.

James McKee Prairie is an undisturbed remnant of wet-mesic prairie in Ramsey County. It is notable for its purity and diversity -- over 150 species of native plants occur on this three-acre site. The Prairie is owned by the City of Maplewood and managed by Maplewood Nature Center. Wear old shoes, long sleeves and pants, as this is a damp prairie.

*** Registration required - this trip will be limited to 25 participants in order to control impact on the prairie community. Call the Nature Center at 612-738-9383.

Strandness Prairie

Date: Saturday, 20 August

Time: 11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Meeting Place: Canon Bowl Restaurant at the top of the hill in Glenwood. From the Twin Cities take I-94 to Sauk Center, then go west on Hwy. 28 to Glenwood. Approximately 3-hour driving time. Carpooling encouraged.

Leader: Dr. Ellen Ordway - biology teacher at UM-Morris.

Strandness Prairie is a tallgrass prairie that has never been plowed or grazed. There are wet, mesic, and dry portions in the 37 acres, providing a feeling of the vastness of the original prairie. Two hundred plant species are known to occur. This is an excellent time to see many in bloom.

Savage Fen*

Date: Saturday, 27 August

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Meeting Place: Bay & Bay Transmission building parking lot. Take highway 13 west through Burnsville and Savage. At the stoplight, highway 13 makes a 90° turn to the south towards Prior Lake. Make the turn and follow highway 13 for 1/2 mile to 128th Street, which will be on the east (left) side. Follow 128th Street for about 1/3 mile turn south (right) before the deadend, to Bay & Bay Transmission.

Leader: Steve Eggers - wetland ecologist with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. Steve has also been inventorying and mapping the Savage Fen complex for several years.

At the base of 100-foot high bluffs of the Minnesota River Valley lies a 500-acre, sloping peat deposit. Cold, calcareous groundwater bubbles to the surface creating numerous springs and seepages. Calcium and magnesium salts, dissolved by the passage of the groundwater through dolomite bedrock, precipitate at the surface creating a harsh, alkaline soil condition. Only a select group of calcium-tolerant plants can survive these conditions - the calcareous fen community, the rarest of Minnesota's wetland types. We will be observing a 30-acre parcel recently designated as a Scientific and Natural Area. Five plant species listed as State Threatened in Minnesota and two on the Special Concern list have been documented within this parcel.

***Registration required - due to the sensitive nature of this plant community, participants will be limited to 16. Call Steve at 612-220-0371 (work).

OTHER FIELD TRIPS

(For more information on TNC-sponsored trips, call Julie Muehlberg at 612-379-2134.)

4 June - Bur Reed Bog and Wahoo Woods Federal RNA, sponsored by TNC.

Leader: Nancy Berlin, Public Affairs Specialist

Meeting Place: Perkins Restaurant in Grand Rapids

25 June - Schafer Prairie Preserve, sponsored by TNC.

Leader: Ed Cushing, UM Ecologist

Meeting Place: at the preserve, west of Glencoe

13 August - Minnesota Prairie Day

The DNR is sponsoring several trips on "Minnesota Prairie Day." For maps or more information, call the SNA Program at 612-296-3344 or write: SNA Program, Box 7, 500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55146.

The second annual Minnesota Prairie Day will honor a significant part of Minnesota's natural heritage: the native prairie that once covered more than one-third of the state. Less than 1% of the original 18 million acres remains today. Prairie Day was established to provide an opportunity for the public to view some of the finest remnants of native grasslands in the state and to learn about the special flora and fauna of these areas. The event is sponsored by the Scientific and Natural Areas Program, and features guided tours of selected sites throughout the prairie region of the state:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Nearest City</u>
Pembina Trail Preserve/ Crookston Prairie SNA	Crookston
Glacial Lake State Park	Glenwood
Prairie Coteau SNA	Pipestone
Iron Horse Prairie SNA	Hayfield
Helen Allison Savanna SNA	St. Paul

Tours will last from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at each site. Biologists with expertise in prairie natural history will be on hand to guide the tours, identify wildflowers and grasses, point out special prairie birds and other animals, and answer questions.

16-17; 23-24 August - Fen Foray in Fayette Co., Iowa, sponsored by the Iowa DNR

For more information contact: Mark Leoschke, Bureau of Preserves and Ecological Services, Department of Natural Resources, Des Moines, Iowa 50319 or call 515-281-5145.

20 August - Jeffers Petroglyphs and Red Rock Prairie
Leader: Nancy Sather, DNR Botanist
Meeting Place: Jeffers Cafe in Jeffers

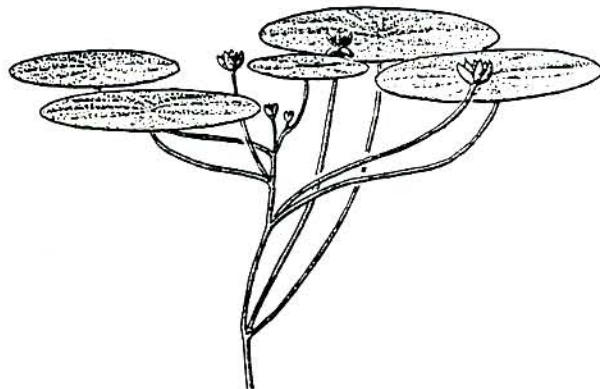
27 August - Strandness Prairie and Staphinson Prairie
Leader: Ellen Ordway, UM-Morris Biologist
Meeting Place: Glenwood

10 (or 17) September - Dedication of Savage Fen as a new Scientific and Natural Area
For more information, call Steve Eggert at 612-220-0371.

16-18 September - Bryological Foray at Black River Falls, Wisconsin, sponsored by the Milwaukee Public Museum. For more information, contact: John Christy, Botany Section, Milwaukee Public Museum, 800 West Wells Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233.

Water shield
(*Brasenia schreberi*)

From Mansueti & Ownbey, 1971.



RESEARCH EXPLORATIONS WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Research Explorations, an exciting new research enhancement program offered through University of Minnesota Continuing Education and Extension, allows interested citizens to participate directly in University faculty field and lab research. Potential volunteers apply for a project of choice, depending on interest and expertise. Those selected contribute time, talent, and supplemental funding to cover the cost of their involvement in the research. As a donation to the University, contributions and travel to and from the project are tax deductible. Planning is underway to make graduate credit available for some 1988 opportunities. Projects often run from two to four weeks, though individual project needs vary, and while many projects occur in summer, some are held during other times of the year. Some of the projects include "Taking the 'wild' out of wild-rice," "Manitoba battles mistletoe," and "The impact of soil fertility on crop production." For more information and a program booklet listing 1988 projects, call 612-626-0214.

U.S. NATIONAL ARBORETUM NEEDS ASSISTANCE

The National Arboretum is attempting to correct the mistakes, omissions, and inadequacies of information found in garden books and plant reference guides. One area in which such incomplete or erroneous information has been published is plant hardiness. The Arboretum would like the help of volunteer observers in gathering new information. Two thousand species and cultivars are being evaluated. If you have grown, or are growing, woody or herbaceous plants and would like to become an "official observer," write:

Plant Performance Guide
National Herbarium
3501 New York Ave. NE
Washington, DC 20002

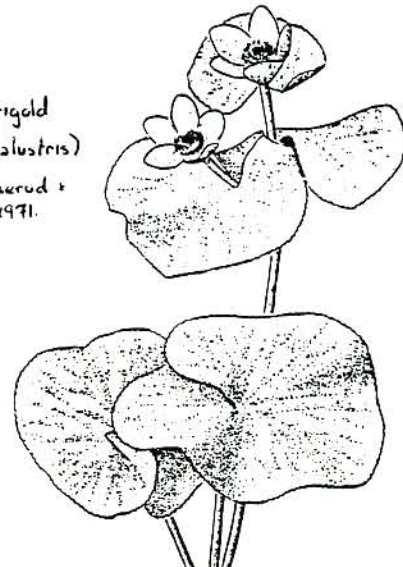
MNPS DIRECTORY

As requested by many of our members, we have enclosed our first attempt at a membership directory. It lists all currently paid members, so if you do not find your name, or if there are errors, please let us know.



Wild sarsaparilla
(*Aralia nudicaulis*)
From Manserud &
Owensby, 1971

Marsh-marigold
(*Caltha palustris*)
From Manserud &
Owensby, 1971.



MNPS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are hoping to have a display in the DNR building at this year's State Fair, and volunteers will be needed to help staff it. If you are interested in helping, please call Robin Fox at 641-9118. MNPS may be able to subsidize your admission fees.

Volunteers are also needed to serve on various committees within our organization. This summer we will begin planning for next year's activities and could use some help from you. The amount of time you want to spend is entirely up to you but if you are interested in helping with any of the following committees, please call the appropriate committee chairman. Thanks!

Education & lectures (arranging monthly speakers or deciding on topics)	May Wright 612-429-7674
Conservation (involvement in state issues)	Harriet Mason 507-931-2225
Field trips (arranging leaders, places, carpooling)	Robin Fox 612-642-9118
Newsletter (helping with addressing, copying, etc.)	Nita Cholewa 612-488-5766 (eve.)
Membership (assisting with records and renewals)	Pat Leacock 612-647-1763 (eve.)
Publicity & welcoming (promotion of MNPS and arranging monthly refreshments)	Robin Fox 612-642-9118
Historian (assisting with MNPS records)	Chris Soutter 612-228-0306

NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At our March Annual Meeting, new board members were elected by the membership and new officers were selected by the Board at the April business meeting. Effective September, 1988:

President: Dave McLaughlin	333-8806; 625-5736 (office)
Vice-president: May Wright	429-7674
Treasurer: Ruth Phipps	457-8908
Secretary: Welby Smith	297-0373
Director-at-large: Steve Eggers	894-0071
Director-at-large: Robin Fox	642-9118
Director-at-large: Harriet Mason	507-931-2225
Director-at-large: John Moriarty	
Director-at-large: Gerald Ownbey	436-5365



Cow parsnip
(*Heracleum maximum*)

From Mansueti &
Ownbey, 1971

Hedge-bindweed
(*Convolvulus sepium*)

From Mansueti &
Ownbey, 1971

