MISSISSIPPI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 1991

FROM THE EDITOR:

An outpouring of contributed material for the newsletter has come my way. Thanks! If your contribution has not made it in this newsletter, be patient--it will appear in other issues.

REMINDERS:

MNPS members are reminded to pay their 1991 dues, if they have not already done so. We still need an article or two on native grasses. Buffalograss, while not native to Mississippi, is native to Texas and Oklahoma, and is reported to do well in heavy clay soils in Zone 7. It is one of the few native grasses used as a lawn grass. Has anyone had experience with growing this species in Mississippi? RSVP. Thanks again. The next issue deadline is April 15th.

ESSAY CONTEST: STORYBOOK ON NATIVE PLANTS AND LANDSCAPES. Deadline is May 15, 1991. For details, see December 1990 MNPS Newsletter, page 10.

LOGO CONTEST. Support for Bob's version (December 1990 issue) is strong, with one member suggesting a few minor changes to the lettering. We have extended the deadline for the LOGO contest until March 15th, to give artists a little more time to complete their sketches before the Board of Directors makes its decision in April.

Here's another entry. The B+W version is below. The color version is a simple, but refined composition of light green, dark green, yellow, red, orange, and blue-violet, with an outline in black. (I'll bring the color version for viewing to the Percy Quin field trip.) This is by Susan Haltom of Meridian:

# THE WHY AND HOW OF HABITAT RESTORATION

In 1992, we will officially recognize the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the European conquest of the western hemisphere. It was a harsh world back then. When the Europeans, Africans, and Asians said goodbye to their families in the Old World, it was very likely a permanent goodbye. The New World natives often were not pleased with their new neighbors. Though both peoples depended heavily upon raw resource extraction, the Old World peoples exploited the environment to a degree unimagined by even the most sophisticated Mayan. It was a terrible clash in lifestyles. Both sets of ancestors viewed their relationships to the environment and each other very differently.

In the first 470 or so years, there was not much that stood in the way of resource extraction. It was less than a century ago that smokestacks blotting out the sky was looked upon with pride. The strength of America was in its broad agricultural and industrial base. Deserts were waste areas to be irrigated, swamps were waste areas to be drained. Marshes and estuaries were filled, channeled, and drained for construction. Hills were leveled, valleys filled, and mountains roaded to make resources more accessible.

In the past 30 years, our society has undergone a soul-searching reappraisal, and a massive transformation in our relationship to the environment. It is a common axiom that the value of a resource is inversely related to its availability. Thus, virgin forests and prairies were at one time common and cheap. Many in our society feel that the last remaining tracts of natural areas in North America should be protected because their value is much greater as untouched areas than the sum of their mineral, forest, and potential cropland values. This is a profound change--wilderness, to smokestack, to wilderness.

As with much of Eastern North America, in the South one can pretty much forget about virgin forests. Forests today represent the third or fourth generation after harvesting. As one drives through much of the South's abundant forests, one is still at least 2 generations from visualizing plant communities as they might have existed prior to Old World domination.

Ecology is a difficult science. It is a black-box type science, i.e., it is unable to describe mechanisms directly. All that can be done is to describe what is seen, and perhaps infer causality. "Habitat" and "plant community" may be defined in textbooks, but these are terribly slippery terms. As soon as investigations are made, simple relationships become immensely complex. Do smokestack emissions cause acid rain? Are chlorinated hydrocarbons depleting the ozone layer? What causes global warming? These questions are fundamentally difficult and unanswerable at present in terms of cause and effect.

Even a simple problem of natural plant community restoration is seemingly insoluble. If one cannot agree on what a natural plant community is, how can one possibly restore or reclaim or even manage one? Because there are rarely any objective "natural" plant community descriptions, one can only guess how long restoration will take. In

general one must resort to expert opinion concerning its appearance, species composition, and the relationships among organisms. We are fortunate to have MNPS members like Sidney McDaniel, Travis Salley, Gail Barton, Robert Poore, Philip Barbour, Felder Rushing, Vic Rudis, etc., who are willing to share their knowledge, time, and practical experience.

The approach taken at the Crosby Arboretum is simple, and is one that can be applied in home gardens as well:

(1) assume that the gross environmental parameters (weather, soil, etc.) are relatively unchanged prior to Old World settlement;
(2) introduce plants that are found in similar, less disturbed habitats;
(3) manage by trying to maintain natural conditions;
(4) monitor the changes through time.

Of these steps, numbers (2) and (4) are the most difficult. Depending on the community type, maintaining natural conditions may include reintroducing natural disturbances. And one should not simply jump from one's vehicle and madly dig from roadsides or natural areas--such actions could jeopardize the very species and communities one is trying to restore.

Staff and volunteers at the Crosby Arboretum have rescued and transplanted bog sod from an area that is to be flooded by a pond. This cut sod was planted to Pinecote (the Native Plant Center). Holes the size of the sod were cut and pressed into place. The soil is naturally so saturated that there is little chance of the sod drying before mid-summer. Transplanting sod during the late fall or winter probably results in the best survival rate. This year a propagation program is to be started in a big way. This should allow growing some plants in large quantities for this and other restoration projects without depending solely on rescue efforts for plant materials.

Monitoring poses a problem. Standard sampling techniques are readily available, but a great deal of time, knowledge of the flora, and finances are needed to do this. I laud Will and Cary McDearman in this regard. They have spend many hours studying life in bogs and savannahs. Knowledge that these and other scientists acquire are invaluable to natural resource managers, botanical gardens, and nurserymen--as well as gardeners who want a little piece of New World native flora that we are all indebted to.---CHRIS WELLS, The Crosby Arboretum Botanist.

## GREEN-DRAGON

Unusual plants often are encountered while on MNPS field trips. Last April 1990, our field trip to Bluff Experimental Forest near Vicksburg was no exception.

One of the more uncommon woodland plants we saw was green-dragon, Arisaema dracontium. The species, also known as dragon-root, is named for its reproductive parts. Flowers are arranged on a spike which protrudes from a large green bract. The illustration at left is by Mrs. Gray Leyton. She writes that she especially enjoys watching the plant unfolding. In flower, they actually look like dragons, with their heads high, their wings about to spread, and their tails just leaving the ground.

Green-dragon is easily recognized by the leaf, whose blade is divided into 5 to 15 segments. The spike (spadix) and bract (spathe) structures are typical of the Calla family (Araceae), whose members also include the more familiar philodendron, anthurium, and calla-lily. In Wild Flowers of the U.S., by H.W. Rickett, the spathe is green with a tinge of blue at the base. Green-dragon is closely related to another woodland native, the jack-in-the-pulpit, A. triphyllum, but is much less common.

Cultivation of A. dracontium is similar to jack-in-the-pulpit, A. triphyllum. The genus forms corms which can be transplanted when dormant. Phillips' wildflower guide suggests that A. dracontium can take more sun than A. triphyllum, but both are best suited to woodlands and moist shaded areas with abundant organic matter. Interplanting with shading-loving ground covers, particularly in low, wet areas, is an attractive combination.---VIC RUDIS

## HAWTHORN USES AND CULTURE

Native Americans, Asians, and Europeans have used Crataegus for food and medicine (primarily as a heart stimulant, and very possibly, a good one) for centuries (Hobbs & Foster 1990). And, of course, animals utilize the flowers and fruits to a large extent. Thus, the desirability of hawthorns for these purposes has always been high. Sadly, these plants (with the exception of the Washington Hawthorn, C. phaenopyrum) have been largely ignored by the general gardening and horticultural community.

The word Crataegus is of ancient Greek (Vines, 1960), and means "strong", in obvious reference to the tough, dense wood produced by hawthorns. This strengh somehow translates into the growth form of most hawthorns, for the mature specimens of the larger species certainly convey a strengh of character. Twigs are robust, gray, and mottled throughout with shades of flaky, or exfoliating bark. Larger trees (25-30 feet, with 8-12 inch trunks) often display a twisted, contorted, or bowed trunk, which, when combined with the fluting, produce a wonderful "wizened" effect. Indeed, this effect is not unwarranted, for many hawthorns are particularly long-lived, especially when allowed adequate open space. In fact, most hawthorns (with the notable exceptions of C. brachycanthus, C. viridis, and C. marshallii) cannot tolerate an overhead canopy for very long.

The spines, which have resulted in the common name "hawthorn", are a sticking point (pardon the pun) for many native plant people who are considering a small ornamental tree for their yards. Thorny growth evolved as a protective measure against grazing or browsing animals. As most thorny-branched trees mature, they tend to lose their spines on the upper branches. In any case, thorns are welcomed by nesting birds, many of whom will use hawthorns solely for this reason. I personally believe that thorns add to the overall aesthetic character of a plant.

The primary ornamental point of attraction with most plants is the blooming habit, and with hawthorns, there's plenty of that to go around. Hawthorns bloom in compact, round-topped clusters (corymbs) of smallish, white flowers. Fruits begin forming soon after Spring blooming subsides. Fruits are exceedingly slow to mature (with the exception of the mayhaws) from green into various shades of reds and yellows. Final fruit maturity occurs by mid-Fall, and are thence utilized by a large variety of birds and mammals throughout the winter months. Generally, the flesh of these small pomes is dry and mealy but are usually sweetish.

With respect to field identification, hawthorn foliage is perhaps the most perplexing character of all. I am currently amassing a collection of mounted leaves from hawthorn specimens found around my home. For the most part, each single specimen (representing 5 species) has exhibited an average of 6 leaf forms, or shapes. Leaf shape within and between various species of southern hawthorns can oscillate through rhombic, spatulate, obovate, oblanceolate, elliptical, to near deltoid. Leaf margins can be anywhere from entire, to crenate, to serrate, to dentated, or to lobed. About the only consistent thing to say about hawthorn leaves is that they are mostly small.

Ecologically, most hawthorns are classed as "pioneer plants" along with the likes of wax myrtle, groundsel (Baccharis), ragweed, goldenrod, and others. Such plants thrive on disturbed soils created by agricultural, timber, pipeline, roadway, and waterway (dredging and bridge building) activities. As a group, they are outrageously hardy and can tolerate most any soil situation and moisture regime. As a rule, pioneer species are short-lived, quickly making way for the next species to come the next successional stage. But, unlike the others, hawthorns

demonstrate their ancient--nearly primitive--developmental history by being mostly long-lived, particularly for being such small trees.

With such a long list of interesting, even mysterious attributes, hawthorns surely have earned an opportunity for wider use.

Parsley Haw (C. marshallii), due to its leaf shape, hardiness, blooming habit, small size, and relative shade tolerance, has slowly gained momentum within Deep South landscape design circles. And like all hawthorns, it's great for wildlife. [Illustration is from Halls, L.K. 1977. Southern fruit-producing woody plants used by wildlife. GTR-SO-16. New Orleans, LA: USDA-FS, Southern Forest Exp. Stn. 235 p.]

Blue Haw (C. brachycantha) is the only blue-fruited hawthorn. The fruits areedible and reportedly make good jelly. It is among the largest (to 35 feet) of the hawthorns. It, too, is relatively tolerant of high shade. Cock's-spur Hawthorn (C. crus-galli) is smaller (12-20 ft.) with long, lusterous, maroon thorns. Its fruits are deep, candy-apple to fire engine red, and stand out dramatically against its bare, pale-gray branches on winter days. Texas Haw (C. texana) and Barberry Haw (C. berbifolia) are two that I don't know much about, but would like to try - mainly because R. A. Vines (1960) says that they're sweet and juicy. Speaking of sweet and juicy, how about the mayhaws (C. opaca and C. aestivalis)? They're the finest jelly-makers most folks have ever laid a lip to. They produce the largest (about 1-inch) blooms, and bloom very early, right alongside redbud (Cercis canadensis).

References include: Hobbs, C. and S. Foster. 1990. Hawthorn--a literature review. HerbalGram No. 22, Spring 1990.
Vines, R. A. 1960. Trees, shrubs, and woody vines of the Southwest. Austin, TX: Univ. of Texas Press.---BILL FONTENOT, Louisiana Project Wildflower, Lafayette, LA.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Washington hawthorn and parsley hawthorn have done well in an exposed location and in typical Starkville clay soils. For anyone contemplating growing these, please be aware that these produce a sickly-sweet odor which may be objectional during the 2-week flowering period. Both species have done well in an exposed location and in typical Starkville clay soils. Large specimens of Washington hawthorn are at NBC bank in Starkville. A 3-page-length article on mayhaws by Bill Fontenot will appear in a future issue of the newsletter.]

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 22 Louisiana Project Wildflower's 4th Annual State Meeting, Lafayette, LA. Contact LA Dept. Transportation and Development.

March 7-8 Fourth Spring Landscape Seminar, MS State University. Contact: Dept. Landscape Architecture. Phone 325-3012.

March 12 "Naturalist Lecture" on Gulf Coast pitcher plant bogs: preservation, ecology, and evolution by guest speaker Dr. G. Folkerts, MS Museum of Natural Science, Jackson. Phone 354-7303.

March 15-17 Spring Plant Sale, Mobile Botanical Gardens, AL. Contact Martha Fagerstrom 205-342-0555.

March 23 Spring Plant Sale, Crosby Arboretum, Picayune, MS. Sale begins at 10 AM for members and 12 noon for nonmembers. Contact Chris Wells, phone 798-6961.

April 5-7 MPNS Weekend Field Trip, Percy Quinn State Park, near McComb. See details this issue.

April 25-27 Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage, Gatlinburg, TN. Contact: Dr. Ed Clebsch, 437 Hesler Biology Bldg., Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-1100. Phone 615-974-2256.

May 18 Harold Prairie Field Trip, near Forest, MS. Half-day tour of a remnant prairie on the Bienville National Forest for MNPS members and guests, led by Ken Gordon of the MS Natural Heritage Program. Meet at 8:30 AM at the USDA Forest Service Headquarters, Highway 35 and 1 mile south of Interstate 20.

June 1 Tour of native prairie donated to the Institute for Botanical Exploration, MS State Univ. Meet at 8:30 AM at the Sessums General Store. For more information, contact Sidney McDaniel, 325-7570.

June 14-16 Conference for Conservation and the Use of Native Plants of the Gulf Coastal Plain, New Orleans, LA. MNPS is a co-sponsor. Contact John Mayronne, Native Nurseries, 317 Theard, Covington, LA 70433. Phone 504-894-5424.

## SPRING FIELD TRIP - Percy Quinn State Park

Our first field trip is planned for the week-end of April 5-7 at Percy Quinn State Park, near McComb, MS. We have reserved the group camp, which can handle accomodations up to 100 (50 males, 50 females). These are bunk type beds - we furnish our own linens. Minimum number of 35 people needed to get the rates below. Please check accommodations needed and return the form, with a check, to the address at bottom of page 10. If you are staying in the group camp, tell them when you come through the gate and you will not have to pay the $2.00 per car entrance fee.

There will be no meal on Friday night. There will be a slide show presentation starting at 7:00 PM at the dormitory conference room. On Saturday night, we will have slide presentations and a PLANT SALE.

If you have slides that you think would be of interest to the group, please bring them for showing on Friday or Saturday night. There is a 4 mile trail around the back of the lake at Percy Quinn State Park, plus other small trails. We plan to break up into small groups so we will be able to hear and see without any problem. Leaders include Randy Warren,

Chris Wells, and Sidney McDaniel. Also, there will be a Board of Directors meeting to discuss increasing membership fees, the essay contest (see Dec 1990 issue), Logo selection, and other matters. [NOTE TO MEMBERS: let MNPS officers know of your concerns and interests!]

For those who wish to do some early morning bird watching (on your own), be sure to bring your binoculars. Breakfast is served at 8 a.m. so there will be time to work this in.

Directions to Percy Quinn State Park - Take Exit 13 off Interstate 55 south of McComb and follow signs from there.

On Sunday, April 7, we will leave Percy Quinn after breakfast (by 9 a.m.) and go to Meadville, MS to John Allen Smith's (with Homochitto Outdoors), where he will lead us on a trip to see wild silky camellias, stands of Liatris spicata, various orchids, and many other interesting trees and plants. We will plan to be through by 12 or 12:30. There is a place in Meadville where we can get fried chicken, etc., for lunch upon departure.---FAYE SWAN, Coordinator.

## HAWTHORNS: MIDDLE-AGED HYBRID MUTANTS?

Hawthorns (Crataegus sp.) represent one of the most enigmatic plant groups in the northern hemisphere. Proper identification has traditionally been frought with uncertainty. And despite the courageous attempts by botanists, this genus has remained mysterious and obscure.

Biogeographical and paleontological research has been conducted by Phipps (1983) to discover the origins of Crataegus. From this work, Phipps is convinced that hawthorns arose out of central Asia, probably about 50 million years ago. From that point, they radiated eastward into Europe, and westward across the Bering land bridge into North America. Phipps believes that ancient Crataegus populations may have collapsed in the more northerly areas as a result of glacial activity at the onset of the Pleistocene epoch, about 2 million years ago. Since glaciers did not penetrate into the Southern U.S., this left the southern populations to continue their adaptational processes unabated. Later, when climatic conditions allowed, Asian hawthorns made a second migratorial push into northern U.S. and Canada. So what is in North America today is a group of northern hawthorns that bear some resemblance to a common Asian ancestor, and a larger group of southeastern hawthorns that differentiated from their common ancestor so long ago that they currently bear no close resemblance to any Asian species.

Further, these southern species have been developing and adapting for so long that none of them bear close resemblance to one another anymore! The Southeast U.S. has hawthorn species that APPEAR to be unrelated. The vase-shaped growth forms of Green Haw (C. viridis), the unmistakable foliage of Parsley Haw (C. marshallii), and the blue fruits of Blue Haw (C. brachycantha) are good examples. You'd think that these evolutionarily "middle-aged" group would have by now

developed characters in foliage, flower, fruit, bark, or habitat that folks could use to nicely separate them into species. And, to some extent, this has come to pass.

But yet another monkey wrench got thrown into the works at the turn of this century. Elbert Little (1953) explains:

> Crataegus is regarded as an unstable genus, characteristic of openings and exposed areas, which has expanded and evolved rapidly following the clearing of forests, and the origin of vast new areas suitable for colonization. The variable, expanding populations probably produced numerous hybrids. Progeny tests have shown that many of these variations have perpetuated.

And, of course, he was right. The once stable, older, southeastern population received quite a jolt when millions of acres of new habitat opened up. As communities of different hawthorn species moved in, characters such as growth form, leaf shape, fruit size and color, and others began to vary within each particular species. Today, hybridization within many species has reached epic proportions. Check the foliage on a single mayhaw (C. opaca/aestivalis), as an example. You'll see a variation in shapes on a single plant that far surpasses the leaf shape variations displayed by entire genera of some other plant groups! So, you see, as Alice once exclaimed to the Cheshire Cat, "Things are getting curiouser and curiouser!" But wait, there's more.

Many of the hybrid forms display a strange little reproductive phenomenon known as an "apomictic" character. It seems that certain organisms possess the capability of producing offspring without the involvement of the sex cells. Fruits with viable seeds may appear in places where ovum and pollen never dreamed of meeting. Normally, apomictic individuals arise from the hybridization of closely related species, where the progeny end up possessing 2,3,4, or more times the normal chromosome number of their parents. This condition is known as polyploidy. So basically what we've been talking about here is a bunch of hybrid "mutants" that don't even need eggs or pollen in order to reproduce. That's almost scary. Hopefully, you now have an idea of what was, and still is, facing botanists who attempt to tackle Crataegus taxonomy.

It's no wonder that around 1,100 hawthorn species have been proposed for North America in the past 40 or so years. Today, things have settled down a bit, with around 145 world species recognized (Phipps, 1983). In the Southeastern U.S., about 35 species seem to be valid (Duncan & Duncan, 1988). The jury's still out on the number of Deep South species. Thomas and Allen's (1982) treatment of Crataegus lists 13 species for Louisiana--following Little's earlier (1979) treatment--but they indicate the need for much more work.

References include: Duncan, W.H. and M.B. Duncan. 1988. Trees of the Southeastern U.S. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press.
Little, E.L. 1953. Checklist of Native and Naturalized Trees of the U.S. U.S. Forest Service, Agricultural Handbook No. 41.

Phipps, J.B. 1983. Biogeographical, taxonomic, and cladistic relationships between East Asiatic and North American Crataegus. Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden, Vol. 70, No. 4.
Thomas, R.D.; Allen, C.M. 1982. A preliminary checklist of the dicotyledons of Louisiana. Northeast La. Univ. Herbarium, No. 3 (Feb 82)---BILL FONTENOT

Here's the Mississippi list, from the Checklist of Mississippi Species: Blue Haw (C. brachyacantha Sarg. and Englem.), Pear Hawthorn (C. calpodendron [Ehrh.] Medic.), Cock-spur hawthorn (C. crus-galli L.), Parsley Hawthorn, (C. marshallii Eggl.), Mayhaw (C. opaca, Hook. and Arn.), Little-hip Hawthorn (C. spathulata Michx.), One-flower Hawthorn (C. uniflora Muenchh.), Riverhaw (C. viridis L.). Others include: C. alma Beadle, C. ashei Beadle, C. blanda Sarg., C. engelmannii Sarg., C. illustris Beadle, C. iracunda Beadle, C. meridionalis Sarg.---SIDNEY MCDANIEL.

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R E S E R V A T I O N  F O R M
MISSISSIPPI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY FIELD TRIP
APRIL 5 - 7, 1991
PERCY QUINN STATE PARK
MCCOMB, MISSISSIPPI

I. MNPS registration fee: 1 or 2 native plants or $2.00 per adult, payable by mail or at the group camp upon arrival.

II. Lodging on Friday night and Saturday night, also includes three meals on Saturday, breakfast on Sunday. $27.00 (per person)

IIa. (Fill out this section only if you plan to take part in meals) Meals only for those that live in area or will be camping or using other lodging facilities, $4.00 per meal, per person. Please indicate number of meals, if you are registering for more than one person, so they can plan on meals to be served.

Saturday Breakfast_____ Lunch_____ Supper_____

Sunday Breakfast_____ (Meals are $4.00 ea.) Total $_____

Name_____ Phone No._____

Address_____

Complete form above and mail with check, payable to:
Mississippi Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 2151
Starkville, MS 39759

If you are requesting lodging or meals, this form should be mailed no later than March 15, 1991.

Mississippi Sierra Club, Mississippi Nature Conservancy, and similar groups.

-- Lectures, seminars, and slide shows by native plant experts, ecologists, landscape professionals, knowledgeable amateurs, and gardeners.

-- Offer Wildflowers of Mississippi by S. Lee Timme, T-shirts, and related materials for sale to promote the goals of the Society.

-- Facilitating the study of Mississippi flora and monitoring of nature preserves through newsletter announcements, networking with concerned and knowledgeable members, and awarding small grants to support research and education consistent with the Society's goals.

-- Plant and seed exchanges, creating and maintaining displays for public education and appreciation, and plant rescues in areas about to be developed.

## NEWSLETTER AND MEMBERSHIP

The MISSISSIPPI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY NEWLETTER is published 4 times annually. In addition to a calendar of upcoming events, the newsletter contains articles on native plant propagation and identification, notes on plant and seed exchanges, landscape design, habitat preserves and descriptions, reviews of books, activities, and people associated with native and naturalized plants of Mississippi.

Membership is open to any interested individual, family, or organization. If you wish to join us, please mail the application below, indicate the class of membership desired and enclose appropriate dues.

---------- MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND DUES NOTICE ----------

_____ Renewal _____ New

Please indicate class of membership desired and enclose appropriate dues:

___ Student $2.50
___ Regular $5.00
___ Family $7.50
___ Sustaining $10.00
___ Contributing $25.00
___ Life $75.00

The Mississippi Native Plant Society is an organization dedicated to the scientific and educational exchange of information about native and naturalized plants occurring in the State of Mississippi.

All classes of membership receive the MNPS Newsletter. Please make checks payable to: Mississippi Native Plant Society. Return this form with payment to: Mississippi Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 2151
Starkville, MS 39759

Be sure to include the following information with your payment:

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

_____

Telephone No. (optional) _____

If Mississippi, county of residence _____

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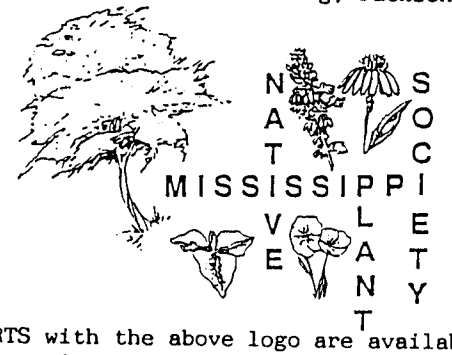


T-SHIRTS with the above logo are available in adult and children sizes in GRAY background. A few in LARGE and EX-LARGE are also available in PINK or WATERMELON background. Cost $8.50 + $1.50 for shipping.

WILDFLOWERS OF MISSISSIPPI by S. Lee Timme is available at a cost of $37.00, plus $2.50 shipping 4th class (an additional $1.00 for 1st class.) Quantity discounts are available for 5 or more books.

ATTENTION WRITERS! ATTENTION ARTISTS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS! If you've got an interest in native plants, here's your opportunity to be "published." Photos and drawings must be capable of reproduction for standard (black and white) photocopy machines. Deadlines for submission of materials is one month prior to the issue date. The deadline for the next issue is April 15th.

In addition, a NEW MNPS T-SHIRT LOGO is desired -- one that incorporates several native Coreopsis species -- as well as native shrubs or trees. Send your designs to the Editor for publication in a future newsletter.

Address sales and newsletter items to: Vic Rudis, Editor, Mississippi Native Plant Society, P.O. Box 2151, Starkville, MS 39759.

NOTE: MAILING LABELS with "FINAL ISSUE" have been marked for deletion. For those interested in continuing to receive the newsletter and share in membership, send dues to: Mississippi Native Plant Society, c/o Sherrie Wiygul, Secretary/Treasurer, P.O. Box 2151, Starkville, MS 39759

MISSISSIPPI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
P. O. BOX 2151
STARKVILLE, MS 39759


As a result of a meeting called by Fred Searcy, Jr. on April 19, 1980 at the Museum of Natural History in Jackson, the Mississippi Native Plant Society drew its first breath. The organization was formed for individuals and groups interested in all aspects of botany, particularly the vascular flora of Mississippi.

There always have been people with a love for the native plants of Mississippi. The overall purpose of the Mississippi Native Plant Society is the furtherance of knowledge about the native and naturalized plant species of the State of Mississippi and the encouragement of an attitude of respect and appreciation for these species.

GOALS are to:

-- Gather and disseminate knowledge about the native and naturalized plant species and their habitats in Mississippi

-- Work for the preservation of these species and conservation of their habitats

-- Inform the public about these species and habitats, including their propagation, importance, ecology, and need for protection

-- Encourage the propagation and use of native plants and habitats in designing residential, commercial, and public landscapes

-- Promote fellowship among all persons interested in the understanding and appreciation of native plants and their habitats

PROGRAMS include:

-- Field trips. In past years, Mississippi locations have included Ocean Springs, Crosby Arboretum, Davis Lake, Tishomingo State Park, Delta National Forest, Starkville, Horn Island and Gloster. Joint meetings are sponsored with the Alabama Wildflower Society.