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# The Plant Press

## THE ARIZONA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

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### RAGGED TOP AND THE IRONWOOD FOREST NATIONAL MONUMENT

JOHN WIENS

I have worked in the botany department, at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum since 1985. During that time, I've been involved in many interesting research projects. On my own, I hike in the local desert and note plant distributions. I am amazed at the number of species of plants in the region, and the difference in floras among the various ranges. The Desert Museum has joined with me in sponsoring a flora of the Avra Valley Watershed. This watershed is the back yard of the Desert Museum, and we are anxious to document its flora. We will create a base line list of the plants and their distributions, and hope to be able to study any future changes, including encroachment of exotic plants.

In 1991 I published a flora of the Silverbell Mountains (Wiens, 1991), which lies just south of Ragged Top. My original intent was to continue putting forth species lists of all the local areas, trying to reason as to why certain plants do, or do not, occur on a site. Although my field work has continued, my only other flora published in the Plant Press has been that of Pan Quemado (Wiens, 1996), a group of hills southeast of the Silverbell Mountains. I recently published the vegetation and flora of Ragged Top in Desert Plants (Wiens, 2000).

#### The road to protection

Ragged Top has dodged the "development bullet" several times in the 14 years I've been going to the area. In 1988, it was proposed for federal wilderness status. The U.S. Geological Survey tested soil, water, and wash sand samples for mineral value. Their findings of traces of gold not only contributed to Congress decision to reject a Ragged Top wilderness, and led to a flurry of new mining claims in the area. By 1991 a land swap nearby, involving State Trust Land and the local mining company, ASARCO, closed the door on the wilderness issue. 1996 brought the threat of a National Guard aviation training site (which fell through) and a 20 acre open pit mine for landscape granite (currently being reclaimed).

In the late 1990's the Desert Museum conducted a research project to study the desert ironwood (*Olneya tesota*), its biology, range, habitat, plant and animal associations, human uses, and threats to the species and its habitat (including Ragged Top). Analysis of data from this study showed that exceptionally dense populations of desert ironwood, with the highest numbers of associated plant and animal species, occur at Ragged Top. The results were published as The Ironwood Primer by Pima County (Nabhan et al., 2000).

At the same time, Secretary of the Interior, Bruce Babbitt, came to Arizona seeking recommendations of areas worthy of National Monument status. Pima County government was (and still is) doing a series of studies which are the core of The Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan. Pima County saw the possibilities, let Secretary Babbitt know, and called for further input from the community. A wonderful overview of the area,

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Native Plant Enthusiasts -

It is the end of an era for the Arizona Native Plant Society. I am deeply saddened to inform you that Horace Miller passed away a few weeks ago. Everyone who has been a member, for even a short time, is fully aware of the significant contributions Horace has made to the community. Horace was an incredibly thoughtful, intelligent, and warm-hearted human being. He also had a fabulous sense of humor! I can remember so many times over the years that he made me smile with his typed notes and cheerful Christmas cards. After a potluck in 1996, he wrote me a card thanking me for the "gastronomical delights". Prior to surgery earlier this year, Horace informed me that he would be "dancing again soon". I can clearly picture him dancing right now. Horace's positive energy will continue to inspire others into the next era of ANPS.

At the last Board meeting Jeff Kreamer made a wonderful suggestion (which was unanimously approved): to rename our publications grant: The Horace P. Miller Publications Grant. Donations are being accepted by ANPS in honor of Horace for this grant. The Board will seek additional ways to honor Horace. Please send your ideas to me at [bkye@desertmuseum.org](mailto:bkye@desertmuseum.org) or call me at The Desert Museum at 8833009.

ANPS is just starting to get its infrastructure in place and the steam generated to chase down some big picture goals for the organization. The Board had a very productive meeting on May 6. Our board is now complete with Ken Morrow as our new Vice President. Gail Virtes is the new State Treasurer. Marilyn Hanson joins us as the Recording Secretary, and Barry McCormick has also been enthusiastically voted onto the Board. We had some easy decisions to make, such as naming our grant after Horace, and we also had some tough decisions to make. For example, due to financial considerations and lack of volunteer support, we have decided to cancel the Chiricahua workshop this year.

The Board will focus our small volunteer force on the coordination of a large state meeting next spring. Please bear with us as we temporarily, as my mother says we need to, "pull our shucks in". As our organization gains strength with more volunteer participation, we can look forward to furthering our education and conservation mission in unprecedented ways.

A major step toward achieving a solid infrastructure for ANPS is to hire an Administrative Assistant. This expanded position, recently approved by the Board, will provide the base services to allow for distribution of ANPS posters, book-lets, T-shirts, and other educational materials. In addition, this point person, will facilitate membership and volunteer coordination. Please refer to the position description in this issue for a summary of responsibilities and qualifications. Contact me if you are interested, or know someone who might be able and willing to be essentially a communication hub for ANPS.

Many thanks to Margie Norem for her years of dedicated service distributing the booklets and assisting ANPS in a myriad of other ways. Margie continued to fit ANPS in her increasingly busy schedule over the years. She has very kindly offered to smooth the transition by coaching the Administrative Assistant, who we hope will be joining us soon.

Thank you for your continued support and patience as we look forward to strengthening our contributions to communities throughout Arizona. ANPS has a lot to offer with the combined knowledge of its members. I welcome your ideas to improve our organization. I am just an e-mail, or phone call away ([bskye@desertmuseum.org](mailto:bskye@desertmuseum.org) or 8833009). I also welcome you to visit me here at The Desert Museum, which strongly supports my involvement with ANPS.

There is a clear need to educate the public about native plants and the importance in conserving biological diversity. The Arizona Native Plant Society has great potential to take a strong leadership role in this pursuit. We are building the human and financial resources to help preserve the natural history of Arizona. With wise stewardship of native plant resources, we are empowered to protect our signature habitats and the "sense of place" of our beautiful state.

With confidence in great expectations for ANPS, Barb Skye, President

### HONORING HORACE

Memorial donations are being accepted in honor of Horace for The Horace P. Miller Publications Grant. Send to the ANPS P.O. Box 41206, Sun Station, Tucson, AZ 85717. Also, anyone wanting to send cards to Horace's brother: William C. Miller (Bill & Sue), 3361 Reliez Highland Rd., Lafayette, CA 94549. If you would like to be notified of a memorial event which will probably happen in mid-summer, send an

## OUTSTANDING NATURALISTS VII: HOWARD SCOTT GENTRY

The previous naturalists profiled in this series were all active in the nineteenth century. Howard Scott Gentry was a twentieth century naturalist who shared many characteristics with those earlier pioneer naturalists. Phil Jenkins' description of Gentry shows the similarity with the nineteenth century botanist: "He was the pioneer. He was the first botanist in the area he went into. He spent a lot of years doing difficult field work under difficult conditions, getting a-round by burro and by foot..." (*AZ Daily Star* 3 April 1993)

Many readers of this newsletter knew him personally. Most of the information in this article is taken from the 1995 Journal of the Southwest, especially Diana Hadley's article based on a series of oral histories. This full issue was published to accompany the reissue of Gentry's *Rio Mayo Plants*

Gentry was born in 1903 in a small town in the southern California desert and grew up on a dairy farm in the Imperial Valley. In the 1920s he and his brother Bruce started college and both continued their education by alternately working a year on the farm and going to school. Gentry graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a degree in vertebrate zoology at the start of the Great Depression.

While he was at Berkeley he worked at the herbarium and became interested in the Rio Mayo in Sonora, Mexico. When he determined that little was known about the flora and fauna of the area, he was determined to find a way to study there. Because of the shortage of jobs, he solicited orders from herbariums and other collections in order to finance his trip. This was the beginning of a long career of free lance collecting.

The Nogales border crossing was a formidable barrier, but after a week the brothers got permits to take their roadster across the border and they journeyed down the unpaved roads south of the border to the Sierra Madres.

The next trip was financed by people who wanted collections, and by Gentry and his brother working as produce packers in the Imperial and San Joaquin valleys of California where as efficient workers they earned more than \$2 an hour. Gentry's collections were so good that Forrest Shreve offered him an office at the Carnegie Desert Laboratory in Tucson. He was based there for the next six years while he collected flora, fauna, and fossils (the most lucrative part of his work). In 1941 he started graduate work at the University of Michigan. He was still a student when The Carnegie Institution published his *Rio Mayo Plants*.

During World War II he went to work for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's emergency rubber project and traveled extensively in Mexico looking for plants

that would provide a rubber substitute. For many years after that he worked for USDA on plant introductions, with emphasis on plants with economic value.

He retired from USDA in 1971 and returned to the South-west where he resumed his previous work, specializing in agaves. (See the list below for his publications on agaves). He continued his interest in introducing plants with economic value through his association with the Desert Botanical Garden and the Gentry Experimental Farm where he tested new species.

An article in the *Phoenix Gazette* (May 5 1981) was headlined "Desert Flora Expert Finds Rat Time, Too." Gentry had found a biodegradable rat poison extracted from the root of a Mediterranean plant which he grew at his farm in California. He said that one great advantage of "Red Squill" is that children and other animals vomit it out immediately, while rats do not and thus eventually die.

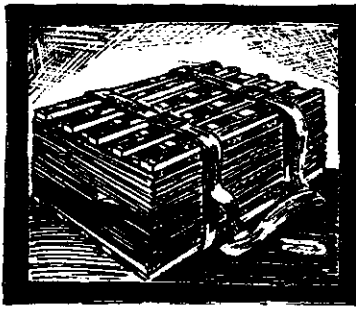
A trip with Gentry was an adventure, as described by John Hilton in his book (See below). Here is an excerpt.

"The two weeks passed without our knowing where they had gone. Each day blended into the next. There was something about the place that made one stop and look off over the distant hills, fading away in the haze, and wonder why we waste our time trying to live 'civilized' lives in another world."

Gentry's collection of more than 25,000 plant specimens is the heart of the Desert Botanical Garden's herbarium.

### Works by and about Howard Scott Gentry

- Gentry, H. S. 1972. The agave family in Sonora. U.S. Agricultural Research Service; 195 p. Agriculture Handbook no. 399. Washington.
- Gentry, Howard Scott. 1978. The agaves of Baja California. California Academy of Sciences.
- Gentry, H. S. 1982. Agaves of Continental North America. University of Arizona Press. Tucson.
- Gentry, H. S. 1942. Rio Mayo plants: a study of the flora and vegetation of the valley of the Rio Mayo, Sonora. Washington, D. C. 328 (i.e. 330). Revised and edited by Paul S. Martin et al. 1998. University of Arizona Press. Tucson. 558 p.
- Gentry, H. S. 1942. The Wariho Indians of Sonora-Chihuahua: an ethnographic survey. Washington : U.S. G.P.O. p. 61-210, in U.S. Bureau of American Ethnology. Anthropological Papers, nos. 63-67. Bulletin, 186.
- Hadley, D. and B. Baylor. 1995. "Listening to My Mind". Howard Scott Gentry's Recollections of the Rio Mayo. Journal of the Southwest. Summer 179-245
- Hilton, J. 1947. With Gentry in Sonora: A Selection from Sonora Sketch Book.



## ARIZONA HERBARIA II: THE ARIZONA - SONORA DESERT MUSEUM HERBARIUM

JOHN F. WIENS

Few people know that an herbarium resides at the ArizonaSonora Desert Museum because

of its small size and that it is not open to the general public. It is currently under the guidance of botany collections manager Barb Skye and myself, but the work is done by volunteers. The Desert Museum is located in the scenic Tucson Mountains, 12 miles west of Tucson. Our mission is to inspire people to live in harmony with the natural world by fostering love, appreciation, and understanding of the Sonoran Desert. Our botany department provides and maintains hundreds of species of regional plants for garden and habitat exhibits to support that goal.

Our herbarium had its beginnings thirty years ago with a volunteer named Al E. Garwood (Gar to his friends). He came from Ottawa, Canada, where he worked in the herbarium at Queen's University. Upon retirement, he began spending winters in Tucson and volunteering at the Desert Museum. Gar began collecting the local plants of Avra Valley and the Tucson Mountains in 1971 and continued through 1980. Don Ducote, curator of the botany department at the time, set Gar to work creating a herbarium at the Desert Museum. The first herbarium case was full by 1973. Gar especially enjoyed creating herbarium sheets, saying that they should be not just pressed plants, but works of art. Mark Dimmitt came on board as curator in 1979. He added collections from the Sweetwater area of Tucson Mountains, where he lives, and continued encouraging Gar. In the early 1980s a sizable contribution of plants came from Gene Joseph, nursery horticulturist at that time, who with Paul Martin and Chuck Hansen, studied the Sierra de Alamos in southern Sonora. Bob Perrill, assistant curator of botany in the early 1980s, added collections from his work with Jacqui Soule on the Rio Cuchujaqui of the same region. Other early contributing collectors included Muffin Burgess, Tony Burgess, Vicky Phelps, Merriam Fritts, and Mike Mentus.

Gar left the Desert Museum around 1985, but not before spending a season training Mark Goldberg for his position. Mark is an amazing self-taught botanist who started as a docent at the Desert Museum in 1982. In 1983 he began working with Gar, helping with collecting, labeling, and mounting specimens. Mark immersed himself in the job with much enthusiasm. By 1987 he

was also volunteering at the University of Arizona's herbarium (ARIZ). He spent a great deal of time collecting specimens from museum grounds and the Tucson area. Meanwhile, specimens continued to come to our herbarium from others. In the mid-80's George Montgomery, our head horticulturist, began adding local grasses to the collection while researching plant needs for the future mountain woodland and grasslands exhibits. My work in the 1990s at Ragged Top, the Picacho Mountains, and other areas around Tucson has also contributed many sheets. With the help of Connie Foster, another Desert Museum docent, Mark was in the process of cataloguing and computerizing the entire collection when vision problems forced him into semi-retirement two years ago.

Our collection gained focus when University of Arizona masters student Renée Rondeau began working on the Tucson Mountain Flora around 1990. She collected specimens for our herbarium, as well as for those of the University of Arizona and Saguaro National Park West. Others who brought us Tucson Mountain plants during that project were Tom Van Devender, Rebecca Wilson, Dave Bertelsen, Philip Jenkins, Paul Martin, and Jeffrey Spaulding. Renée went through our entire collection at that time, annotating and entering into a database the Tucson Mountain specimens. Mark Dimmitt saw our limited herbarium space disappearing quickly, and decided that we needed to direct our space and time more on the local plants. Many of our southern Sonoran specimens were then donated to ARIZ.

Today, ours is an herbarium primarily of Tucson Mountain plants, with current collection efforts being done on the Avra Valley and the watershed to the west. We have begun working on a flora that encompasses those areas. The herbarium is not large enough to be registered in the Index Herbarium at the New York Botanical Garden. However, we unofficially use the acronym ASDM when citing specimens. We have nearly 2,400 specimens of over 2,000 taxa in approximately 100 families. They are organized alphabetically by family, and within those by genus and specific epithet. Housed in the Botany Department building, and not open to the general public, the herbarium is available for use by Desert Museum members and scientists. Please call ahead to arrange for time: 520 8833010 or by Email at [botany@desertmuseum.org](mailto:botany@desertmuseum.org). Check our web site at [www.desertmuseum.org](http://www.desertmuseum.org) for more information on the ArizonaSonora Desert Museum.

# ON THE TRAIL OF THE PALO CHRISTI

## GEORGE FRIERICH

On a recent the Kingman Area Master Gardeners field trip we came across a plant that most of us did not know. Only one person knew that it was known locally as "palo christi." He did not know what the botanical name was. Upon returning home from the trip I went through my rather extensive collection of books on native plants and could not find Palo Christi.

In 1928 when the Kingman Grammar School was built, it was decided to start naming schools after plants from the area. This was the first school to be so named and it was named Palo Christi. When the next one was built, it was named Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos*). The third school was supposed to be named Agave, but there was so much objection to this name that it was finally named Hualapai. That was the end of plant names for schools.

In attempting to find out the botanical name of the plant, I contacted Sharon Hackley, a former teacher at Palo Christi School, who has a vast knowledge of native plants and she told me that the botanical name of Palo Christi was *Canotia holacantha*. I asked her if she knew of any reference where this could be verified. She said that she knew of none. Again I started going through books and found *Canotia holacantha* in only one recent book, *Plants of Arizona* by Anne Orth Epple published in 1995. She uses *canotia* as the common name. It is interesting to note that when Epple came to Arizona around 15 years ago she looked for a comprehensive book on Arizona plants and when she could not find one, she wrote one. I had to go back to 1960 to find another reference to *Canotia*. This was *Arizona Flora* by Kearney & Peebles, first published by The University of California in 1951 and again in 1960 with a supplement. The same authors wrote *Flowering Plants and Ferns of Arizona*, published in 1942 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Another book that had something on the *Canotia holacantha* was *A Manual of Southwestern Desert Trees and Shrubs* by Lyman Benson published by the University of Arizona in 1944. In this book there is a map that shows where the *Canotia* grows. If you draw a straight line from Kingman to Safford, most *canotia* grows on both sides of this line, but does not grow all the way down to Safford. It is very prevalent around and to the south of Kingman. In *Flowering Plants and Ferns of Arizona* there is a photo of one growing in the Harcuvar Mountains of La Paz County. It also grows in Northern Sonora.

Although *canotia* is an Arizona native it is not protected by the Arizona Native Plant law, because, according to the Arizona Department of Agriculture, "This plant is abundant and its survival is not threatened by human activities; thus it was not chosen as a species in need of protection."

Rob Grumbles of The University of Arizona, Mohave County Cooperative Extension has believed for years that the *palo christi* and *canotia* are the same plant but like Sharon Hackley, teacher from Palo Christi School, knows of no reference where this can be verified. The photos, descriptions and keys all indicate that this is the same plant. Although *Flowering Plants and Ferns of Arizona* states that locally, the *Canotia* is sometimes improperly referred to as "Paloverde" and a common name of "Corona-de Christo" is sometimes used locally. Nowhere in any of these references is Palo Christi mentioned.

*Southwestern Desert Trees and Shrubs* states that *Canotia holacantha* is the most abundant of the three crucifixion thorns in the Southwestern deserts. The other two being *Koeberlinia spinosa* and *Koeberlinia spinosa*, var. *tenuispina*. Crucifixion, Christi, these two go together, but where does Palo come in? Palo means stick. Is the name Palo Christi endemic to the Kingman area or is it used in other areas of Arizona? Was it a common name that dropped out of usage in other areas and remained in the Kingman area only because of the school? It would be appreciated if anybody can offer information to clear this up.

If you have information contact The University of Arizona Mohave County Cooperative Extension office at 101 E. Beale Street, Suite A, Kingman AZ 864015827 or telephone (520) 7533788.

*George Frierich is a Master Gardener in the Kingman area and a member of the Arizona Native Plant Society.*

*Ragged Top cont. from page 1* Sonoran Desert  
Conservation Plan:

Resources of the Avra Valley Subarea, was produced and sent to Washington (Huckleberry, et al, 2000). And so The Ironwood Forest National Monument became a reality on June 9, 2000, as President Clinton signed the proclamation protecting 129,000 acres (52,225 ha) of BLM land. The Monument, stretches from the Sawtooth Mountains of Pinal County southeast to the Roskrige Mountains. It includes Ragged Top, the Samaniego Hills, the Silverbell Mountains, the Waterman Mountains, and Pan Quemado. Although our former president's declaration will likely stand, the current administration and partisan politics threaten to withhold funding and reduce the size.

**The land and climate**

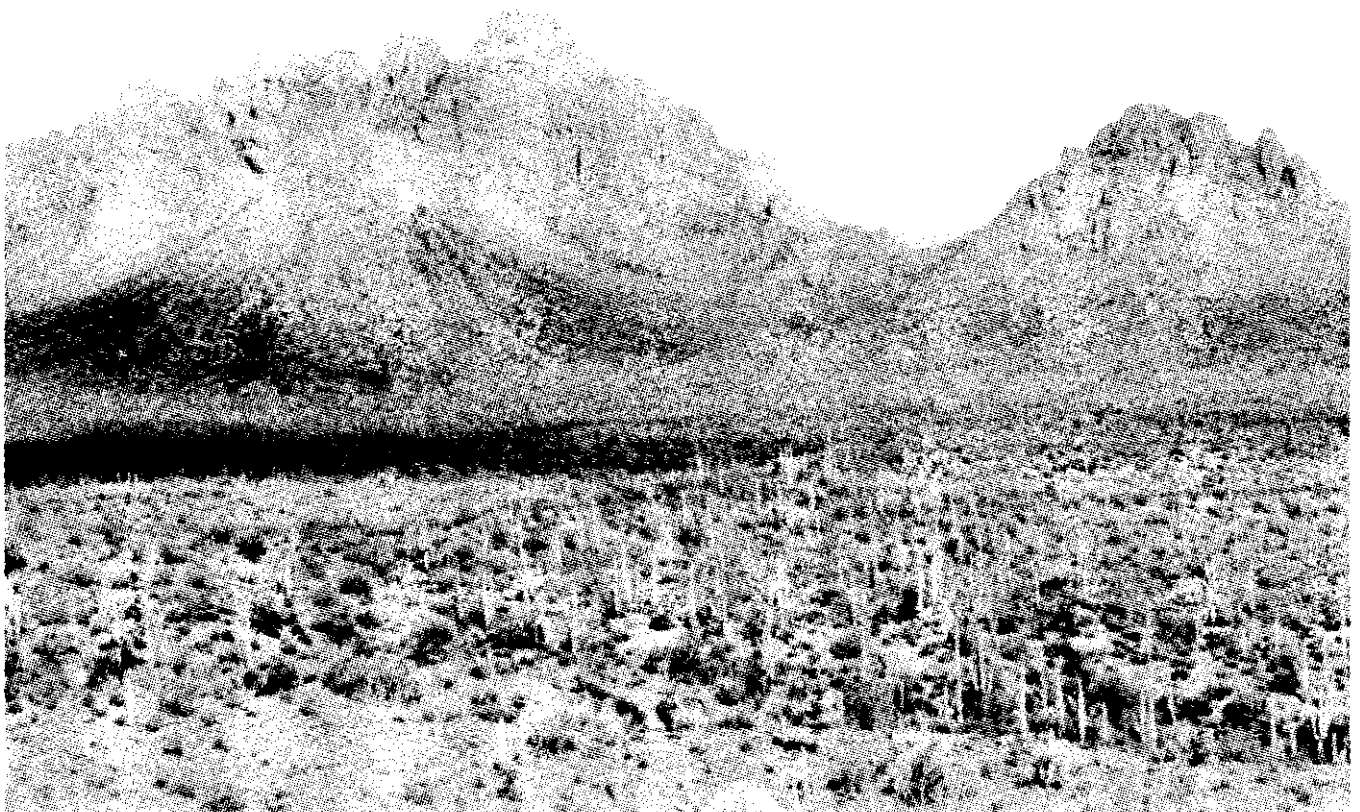
The area of my study site is 6300 acres (2550 ha). Ragged Top, from about 2500 feet (760 m) elevation to the summit, of the volcanic rock, rhyolite. The alluvium of the southern bajadas is rhyolite and andesite (a grainier-textured volcanic). To the north-east is a line of quartzite hills, and a bajada surface of decomposing granite. The upper reaches of Ragged Top are a series of pinnacles and domes dissected by narrow, usually unbranched canyons. Rainfall records from the townsite of Silverbell 4 miles (6.5 km south) is 12.28" (312 mm) per year. Light frosts are probably yearly events, but heavy freezes do not appear to be common.

**Plant/animal relationships.**

Desert bighorn sheep are commonly seen on Ragged Top, and they are probably the natural population nearest to Tucson. According to the BLM the herd numbers around 100 animals. Arizona rosewood (*Vauquelinia californica*) and jojoba (*Simmondsia chinensis*) often show signs of their browsing. Anna's and Costa's hummingbirds are usually common and feed on the seasonal blooms of ocotillo (*Fouquieria splendens*), desert honeysuckle (*Anisacanthus thurberi*), chuparosa (*Justicia californica*), betony (*Stachys coccinea*), scarlet morning glory (*Ipomoea cristulata*), fairy duster (*Calliandra eriophylla*), Parry penstemon (*Penstemon parryi*), and others. The most striking reptile I've seen here is the Arizona chuckwalla. Chunky specimens a foot and a half long can sometimes be seen on rocky crags munching on their favorite plant, brittlebush (*Encelia farinosa*).

**The vegetation.**

Ragged Top has yielded 398 taxa, represented by 66 families. Two species I found here deserve special recognition due to their being distant outliers of their natural populations. One, a grass called false grama (*Bouteloua diversi-spicula*), is listed in books as a questionable species for Arizona. Under its old scientific name of *Cathestecum erectum*, a name now restricted to the populations in northeastern Mexico and adjacent Texas, it had one dubious collection by Edward Palmer



Ragged Top. Photo: John Weins

the populations in northeastern Mexico and adjacent Texas, it had one dubious collection by Edward Palmer in 1869 listed simply as "southern Arizona" (Kearney & Peebles, 1951). Otherwise, one has to go 140 miles (225 km) south, into Sonora, to find the species. Its discovery here is the first pinpointed collection from Arizona (and the United States). At Ragged Top it grows only on the south-facing slopes of the larger quartzite hills on the east side. The other disjunct species found on Ragged Top is the sprawling woody shrub, or liana, vainoro (*Pisonia capitata*) in the family Nyctaginaceae. It is a subtropical species common in riparian canyons in tropical deciduous forests of the Sierra Madre Occidental. It can be found in one nearly inaccessible, deep cleft in a south facing cliff of Ragged Top at 3200 feet (975 m). It is likely here at Ragged Top as the result of long-distance transport of its glandular fruit by birds, rather than being a remnant of a larger former population. The discovery of this species is the first record for the United States, and is a northerly range extension of 286 miles (460 km) northwest from Soyopa on the Rio Yaqui, Sonora (Wiens, 1990).

With a few exceptions, exotic (non-native) plants are not plentiful on Ragged Top and make up only 6.8% (27 taxa) of the total flora. Thankfully, at this writing, fountain grass (*Pennisetum setaceum*) has not appeared at Ragged Top. Un-til 1999 Buffelgrass (*Pennisetum ciliare*) had not been seen at Ragged Top. Last year I found several clumps, which have since been removed. Only three exotic species, red brome (*Bromus rubens*), filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*), and Mediterranean grass (*Schismus barbatus*), all spring ephemerals, can be termed widespread and abundant at Ragged Top.

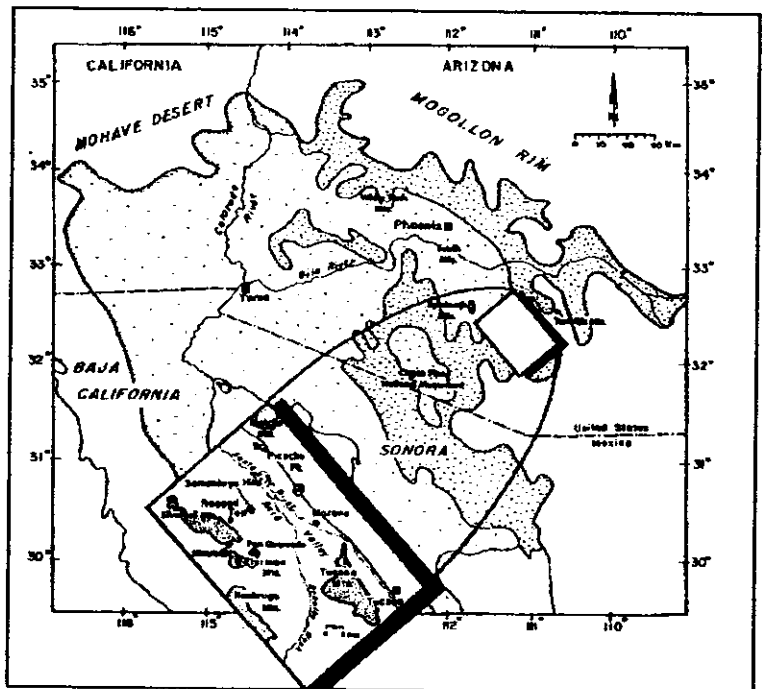
The vegetation type at the study site is a desertscrub typical of the Arizona Upland subdivision of the Sonoran Desert. Bajadas are dominated by whitethorn acacia (*Acacia constricta*), triangleleaf bursage (*Ambrosia deltoidea*), and foothill palo verde (*Cercidium microphyllum*). Other locally common perennials are saguaro (*Carnegiea gigantea*), ocotillo, creosote bush (*Larrea divaricata*), wolfberry (*Lycium berlandieri*), white ratany (*Krameria grayi*), desert ironwood, jojoba, and a variety of chollas and prickly pears. Microhabitats worth mentioning are as follows.

Above the bajadas on southerly exposures are steep, loose, rocky slopes dominated by triangleleaf bursage, brittlebush, teddybear cholla (*Opuntia bigelovii*), and jojoba. Drain-ages and canyons on these slopes are habitat for foothill palo verde, canyon rag-weed (*Ambrosia ambrosioides*), and chupa-

rosa. In moister microhabitats at the bases of the south-facing cliffs can be found dense bands of catclaw acacia (*Acacia greggii*), desert hackberry (*Celtis pallida*), and wolf-berry.

The north-facing slopes and canyons of Ragged Top provide cooler, moister habitats. In the shade of cliffs 100 feet (30 m) or more grow perennials such as pachaba (*Brickellia californica*), canyon hackberry, beaded lipfern (*Cheilanthes wootoni*), desert olive (*Forestiera shrevei*), pancake prickly pear (*Opuntia chlorotica*), Arizona yucca (*Yucca arizonica*), Arizona rosewood, and occasional shrub live oaks (*Quercus turbinella*). The dominants in the canyons are catclaw acacia, desert honeysuckle, desert hackberry, desert olive, wolf berry, and Arizona rosewood. Further down on these slopes grow triangleleaf bursage, flat-topped buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), desert vine (*Janusia gracilis*), and a carpet of desert spike moss (*Selaginella arizonica*).

Washes flow only after heavy rains, which, however, have quite an impact on the species diversity and density along them. Several plants species, among them whitethorn and catclaw acacias, canyon ragweed, foothill and blue palo verdes, wolf berry, desert ironwood, and velvet mesquite (*Prosopis velutina*), dominate washes. Texas virgin bower (*Clematis drummondii*), coyote melon (*Cucurbita digitata*), and sacatón and dropseed grasses (*Sporobolus* spp) were not found away from these sites.



Access to Ragged Top is by way of any of these exits from Interstate 10: Red Rock - head west on Red Rock Road (Sasco Rd) for around 10 miles (16 km). Marana - head west on Trico-Marana Road. The road crosses Trico Road after around 8 miles (13 km). Continue west .6 mile (1 km) and turn right on Silver-bell Road. Avra Valley Road - head west for 10 miles (16 km). Turn right on Trico Road and drive 4 miles (6.4

Cont. on page 12

# VASCULAR PLANTS OF RAGGED TOP

## COMPILED BY JOHN F. WIENS FROM 1987-2000

### PLANT LIST KEY

Abundance: B = rarely seen to quite common Form: Tree = single or multiple trunked tree; Wdsh = woody shrub; Sbsb = subshrub (non-woody or suffrutescent shrub); Succ = rosette or stem succulent; Phrb = perennial herb or grass; Pvin = herbaceous or woody perennial vine; Ahrb = annual or ephemeral herb or grass; Avin = annual or ephemeral vine.

\* = exotic species. Nomenclature is from Lehr, 1978. Exceptions show Lehr in parenthesis.

### FERNS

#### Pteridaceae (Polypodiaceae, in part)

- |   |      |  |
|---|------|--|
| 3 <i>Astrolepis cochiseensis</i><br>( <i>Notholaena</i> c.)   | Phrb | Cochise cloakfern, helechillo              |
| 2 <i>Astrolepis sinuata</i> ( <i>Notholaena</i> s)            | Phrb | Wavy cloakfern, helecho.                   |
| 2 <i>Cheilanthes lindheimeri</i>                              | Phrb | Lindheimer's lipfern,<br>hierba de la Peña |
| 2 <i>Cheilanthes wootonii</i>                                 | Phrb | Beaded lipfern                             |
| 1 <i>Cheilanthes wrightii</i>                                 | Phrb | Wright's lipfern                           |
| 3 <i>Notholaena standleyi</i>                                 | Phrb | Standley cloakfern                         |
| 3 <i>Pellaea truncata</i>                                     | Phrb | Cliff brake                                |
| 2 <i>Pentagramma triangularis</i><br>( <i>Pityrogramma</i> t) | Phrb | Goldback fern                              |

### FERN ALLIES

#### Selaginellaceae Resurrection Plant Family

- |                                |      |                    |
|--------------------------------|------|--------------------|
| 3 <i>Selaginella arizonica</i> | Phrb | Desert spike moss. |
|--------------------------------|------|--------------------|

### GYMNOSPERMS

#### Ephedraceae Jointfir Family

- |                           |      |                               |
|---------------------------|------|-------------------------------|
| 1 <i>Ephedra trifurca</i> | Wdsh | Long leaf jointfir, canutillo |
|---------------------------|------|-------------------------------|

### ANGIOSPERMS (FLOWERING PLANTS)

#### DICOTYLEDONS

##### Acanthaceae Acanthus Family

- |  |      |                              |
|--|------|------------------------------|
| 3 <i>Anisacanthus thurberi</i>                               | Wdsh | Desert honeysuckle, colegayo |
| 3 <i>Carlownrightia arizonica</i>                            | Sbsb | Rama de toro                 |
| 2 <i>Justicia californica</i>                                | Wdsh | Honeysuckle, chuparrosa.     |
| 2 <i>Justicia longii</i> ( <i>Siphonoglossa longiflora</i> ) | Sbsb | White needle flower          |

##### Amaranthaceae Amaranth Family

- |                                 |      |                                      |
|---------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------|
| 2 <i>Amaranthus albus</i>       | Ahrb | Tumble pigweed                       |
| 4 <i>Amaranthus funbriatus</i>  | Ahrb | Fringed pigweed, quelite             |
| 3 <i>Amaranthus palmeri</i>     | Ahrb | Carelessweed, bleto                  |
| 2 <i>Amaranthus tucsonensis</i> | Ahrb | Tucson pigweed                       |
| 3 <i>Tidestromia lanuginosa</i> | Ahrb | Woolly tidestrom<br>espanta vaqueras |

##### Apiaceae (Umbelliferae) Carrot Family

- |  |      |                |
|--|------|----------------|
| 4 <i>Bowlesia incana</i>                       | Ahrb | Hairy bowlesia |
| 5 <i>Daucus pusillus</i>                       | Ahrb | Wild carrot    |
| 2 <i>Spermolepis echinata</i>                  | Ahrb | Scaleseed      |
| 3 <i>Yabea microcarpa</i> ( <i>Caucalis</i> m) | Ahrb | Wild parsley   |

##### Apocynaceae Dogbane Family

- |   |      |  |
|---|------|--|
| 2 <i>Haplophyton coccineum</i> v. <i>crookii</i><br>( <i>H. crookii</i> ) | Sbsb | Cockroach plant,<br>hierba de la cucuracha |
|---|------|--|

##### Aristolochiaceae Birthwort Family

- |                                |      |                             |
|--------------------------------|------|-----------------------------|
| 2 <i>Aristolochia watsonii</i> | Pvin | Pipe vine, hierba del Indio |
|--------------------------------|------|-----------------------------|

##### Asclepiadaceae Milkweed Family

- |                                   |      |   |
|-----------------------------------|------|---|
| 2 <i>Asclepias linaria</i>        | Sbsb | Pine needle milkweed,<br>hierba de cuervo |
| 1 <i>Asclepias nyctaginifolia</i> | Phrb | Four o'clock milkweed,<br>hierba lechosa  |
| 3 <i>Cynanchum arizonicum</i>     | Pvin | Milkweed vine                             |

- |  |      |                                       |
|--|------|---------------------------------------|
| 2 <i>Matelea arizonica</i>                                 | Pvin | Milkweed vine                         |
| 2 <i>Matelea parvifolia</i>                                | Pvin | Anglepod                              |
| 3 <i>Sarcostemma cynanchoides</i><br>ssp. <i>hartwegii</i> | Pvin | Climbing milkweed,<br>guirote lechosa |

##### Asteraceae (Compositae) Sunflower Family

- |  |      |                                       |
|--|------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 <i>Acourtia nana</i>   | Phrb | Desert holly                          |
| 3 <i>Acourtia wrightii</i>   | Phrb | Brownfoot                             |
| 2 <i>Adenophylla porophyllodes</i><br>( <i>Dyssodia</i> p)                                     | Phrb | San Felipe fetid marigold             |
| 4 <i>Ambrosia ambrosioides</i>   | Wdsh | Canyon ragweed, chicura               |
| 3 <i>Ambrosia confertiflora</i>  | Phrb | Slimleaf bursage, estafiate           |
| 5 <i>Ambrosia deltoidea</i>  | Wdsh | Triangleleaf bursage, chicurilla      |
| 2 <i>Ambrosia dumosa</i>   | Wdsh | White bursage, chicurilla             |
| 1 <i>Baccharis sarothroides</i>  | Wdsh | Desert broom,<br>hierba de pismo      |
| 2 <i>Baileya multiradiata</i>  | Phrb | Desert marigold,<br>hierba amarilla   |
| 3 <i>Bebbia juncea</i> v. <i>aspera</i>  | Sbsb | Sweetbush, junco                      |
| 2 <i>Brickellia baccharidea</i>  | Wdsh | Brickellbush                          |
| 2 <i>Brickellia californica</i>  | Wdsh | Pachaba                               |
| 4 <i>Brickellia coulteri</i>   | Sbsb | Brickellbush                          |
| 1 <i>Calycoses wrightii</i>  | Ahrb | White tackstem                        |
| 2 <i>Chaenactis carphoclinia</i>   | Ahrb | Pincushion flower                     |
| 3 <i>Chaenactis stevioides</i>   | Ahrb | Pincushion flower                     |
| 3 <i>Encelia farinosa</i>  | Wdsh | Brittlebush, incienso                 |
| 2 <i>Ericameria cuneata</i> v. <i>spatulata</i>  | Sbsb | Desert rock goldenbush                |
| 3 <i>Ericameria laricifolia</i>  | Wdsh | Turpentine bush                       |
| 3 <i>Erigeron divergens</i>  | Phrb | Spreading fleabane                    |
| 2 <i>Erigeron lobatus</i>  | Phrb | Fleabane                              |
| 4 <i>Eriophyllum lanosum</i>   | Ahrb | Woolly daisy                          |
| 2 <i>Eupatorium solidaginifolium</i>   | Sbsb | Boneset                               |
| 5 <i>Filago arizonica</i>  | Ahrb | Arizona filago                        |
| 4 <i>Filago californica</i>  | Ahrb | California filago                     |
| 2 <i>Filago depressa</i>   | Ahrb | Dwarf filago                          |
| 2 <i>Gnaphalium wrightii</i>   | Phrb | Cudweed, gordolobo                    |
| 3 <i>Gymnosperma glutinosum</i>  | Sbsb | Tatalenchlo                           |
| 1 <i>Helianthus petiolaris</i> ssp. <i>fallax</i>  | Ahrb | Wild sunflower, girasol               |
| 1 <i>Heterotheca subaxillaris</i><br>( <i>H. psammophila</i> )                                 | Ahrb | Camphor weed, gordolobo               |
| 2 <i>Hymenoclea salsola</i>  | Wdsh | Cheesebush, romerillo                 |
| 1 <i>Hymenoxys wislizenii</i>  | Phrb | Golden ragweed                        |
| 3 <i>Isocoma tenuisecta</i>  | Sbsb | Burto weed, hierba del burro          |
| 2 * <i>Lactuca serriola</i>  | Ahrb | Prickly lettuce                       |
| 2 <i>Machaeranthera pinnatifida</i><br>ssp. <i>pinnatifida</i>                                 | Sbsb | Spiny haplopappus                     |
| 1 <i>Malacothrix californica</i> v. <i>glabrata</i>  | Ahrb | Desert dandelion                      |
| 2 <i>Malacothrix clevelandii</i>   | Ahrb | Cleveland yellow saucers              |
| 1 <i>Matricaria discoidea</i><br>( <i>M. matricarioides</i> )                                  | Ahrb | Pineapple weed                        |
| 5 <i>Monopyle bellioides</i>   | Ahrb | Mohave desert star                    |
| 2 <i>Pectis cylindrica</i>   | Ahrb | Summer mat                            |
| 2 <i>Pectis papposa</i>  | Ahrb | Chinchweed, limoncillo                |
| 2 <i>Perityle emoryi</i>   | Ahrb | Emory rock daisy                      |
| 3 <i>Porophyllum gracile</i>   | Phrb | Odora, hierba de venado               |
| 3 <i>Psilostrophe cooperi</i>  | Sbsb | Paper flower                          |
| 2 <i>Rafinesquia californica</i>   | Ahrb | California chicory                    |
| 3 <i>Rafinesquia neomexicana</i>   | Ahrb | Desert chicory                        |
| 1 <i>Senecio flaccidus</i><br>( <i>S. monoensis</i> /S. <i>douglasii</i> v. <i>douglasii</i> ) | Ahrb | Threadleaf groundsel                  |
| 2 <i>Senecio lemmonii</i>  | Ahrb | Groundsel                             |
| 1 * <i>Silybum marianum</i>  | Ahrb | Milk thistle                          |
| 1 * <i>Sonchus asper</i>   | Phrb | Spiny sowthistle, cerraia             |
| 2 * <i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>   | Ahrb | Annual sowthistle,<br>achicoria dulce |
| 3 <i>Stephanomeria pauciflora</i>  | Phrb | Desert straw                          |
| 2 <i>Stylocline gnaphalioides</i>  | Ahrb | Everlasting neststraw                 |

3 <i>Stylocline micropoides</i>	Alrb	Desert neststraw	<b>Campanulaceae Bellflower Family</b>		
1 <i>Thymophylla penacheta</i> ( <i>Dyssodia</i> p)	Phrb	Dogweed, parvalena	4 <i>Nemacladus glanduliferus</i> v. <i>orientalis</i>	Alrb	Thread plant.
4 <i>Trixis californica</i>	Sbsh	Trixis, hierba de pismo	<b>Cannabidaceae Hemp Family</b>		
3 <i>Uro pappus lindleyi</i> ( <i>Microseris linearifolia</i> )	Ahrb	Silver puffs	1 * <i>Cannabis sativa</i>	Alrb	Marijuana, mota
1 <i>Viguiera deltoidea</i> v. <i>pariskii</i>	Sbsh	Golden eye	<b>Caryophyllaceae Pink Family</b>		
3 <i>Zinnia acerosa</i>	Sbsh	Desert zinnia	2 <i>Cerastium texanum</i>	Alrb	Mouse-ear chickweed
<b>Boraginaceae Borage Family</b>			2 * <i>Herniaria hirsuta</i> ssp. <i>cinerea</i> ( <i>H. cinerea</i> )	Ahrb	Burstwort
4 <i>Amsinckia intermedia</i>	Alrb	Coast fiddleneck	2 <i>Loeflingia squarrosa</i>	Alrb	
3 <i>Amsinckia tessellata</i>	Ahrb	Checker fiddleneck	4 <i>Silene antirrhina</i>	Ahrb	Desert sleepy catchfly
2 <i>Cryptantha angustifolia</i>	Ahrb	Narrowleaf nievitas	<b>Chenopodiaceae Goosefoot Family</b>		
4 <i>Cryptantha barbigera</i>	Alrb	Bearded nievitas, peluda	2 <i>Atriplex canescens</i> ssp. <i>canescens</i>	Wdsh	Fourwing saltbush, chamiso
2 <i>Cryptantha decipiens</i>	Alrb	Gravel cryptantha, peluda	1 <i>Atriplex canescens</i> ssp. <i>linearis</i>	Wdsh	Narrow-leaf wingscale, chamizo
4 <i>Cryptantha nevadensis</i>	Ahrb	Nevada cryptantha, peluda	2 <i>Chenopodium neomexicanum</i>	Phrb	Fishy goosefoot, choal
4 <i>Cryptantha pterocarya</i>	Alrb	Wingnut nievitas, peluda	3 <i>Monoilepis nuttalliana</i>	Ahrb	Poverty weed
2 <i>Harpagonella palmeri</i> v. <i>arizonica</i>	Ahrb	Grappling hook	2 * <i>Salsola tragus</i> ( <i>S. iberica</i> )	Ahrb	Russian thistle, chamiso volador.
3 <i>Lappula redowskii</i> v. <i>desertorum</i>	Ahrb	Stickseed	<b>Convolvulaceae Morning Glory Family</b>		
2 <i>Pectocarya heterocarpa</i>	Alrb	Hairy leaf combbur	2 <i>Evolvulus alsinoides</i>	Phrb	Arizona blue eyes, dío de vibora
3 <i>Pectocarya platycarpa</i>	Alrb	Broadnut combbur	2 <i>Ipomoea cristulata</i> ( <i>I. coccinea</i> , in part)	Alrb	Scarlet morning glory
4 <i>Pectocarya recurvata</i>	Ahrb	Archnut combbur	2 <i>Ipomoea hederacea</i>	Ahrb	Ivy leaf morning glory, trompillo morado
2 <i>Plagiobothrys arizonicus</i>	Ahrb	Bloodweed	<b>Crassulaceae Stonecrop Family</b>		
2 <i>Tiquilia canescens</i> v. <i>canescens</i>	Sbsh	Shrubby coldenia, hierba de la virgin	3 <i>Crassula connata</i> ( <i>Tillaea erecta</i> )	Ahrb	Pygmy-weed
<b>Brassicaceae (Cruciferae) Mustard Family</b>			<b>Crossosomataceae Crossosoma Family</b>		
2 <i>Arabis perennans</i>	Phrb	Rock cress	3 <i>Crossosoma bigelovii</i>	Wdsh	Rhyolite bush
1 * <i>Brassica tournefortii</i>	Ahrb	Sahara mustard	<b>Cucurbitaceae Gourd Family</b>		
1 * <i>Capsella bursa pastoris</i>	Alrb	Shepard's purse, bolsa de pastor	1 <i>Cucurbita digitata</i>	Pvin	Coyote melon
4 <i>Caulanthus lasiophyllus</i> ( <i>Thelypodium</i> l)	Ahrb	California mustard	2 <i>Echinopepon wrightii</i>	Avin	Wild balsam apple
4 <i>Descurainia pinnata</i>	Ahrb	Tansy mustard, pamita	1 <i>Tumamoc macdougalii</i>	Pvin	Tumamoc globeberry
3 <i>Draba cuneifolia</i>	Ahrb	Whitlow grass, gasa	<b>Euphorbiaceae Spurge Family</b>		
4 <i>Lepidium lasiocarpum</i> v. <i>wrightii</i>	Alrb	Sand peppergrass, lentejilla	2 <i>Bernardia incana</i>	Wdsh	Mouse-eye
3 <i>Lesquerella gordonii</i>	Ahrb	Yellow bladderpod	2 <i>Croton sonora</i>	Wdsh	Vara prieta
1 <i>Lesquerella purpurea</i>	Ahrb	White bladderpod	3 <i>Ditaxis lanceolata</i> ( <i>Argythamnia</i> L)	Sbsh	Lanceleaf ditaxis
2 * <i>Sisymbrium irio</i>	Ahrb	London rocket, pamitón	2 <i>Ditaxis neomexicana</i> ( <i>Argythamnia</i> n)	Phrb	Ditaxis
2 <i>Streptanthus carinatus</i>	Ahrb	Silver bells	2 <i>Euphorbia abramsiana</i>	Ahrb	Spurge, golondrina
3 <i>Thysanocarpus curvipes</i>	Alrb	Lacepod	4 <i>Euphorbia arizonica</i>	Phrb	Spurge
<b>Cactaceae Cactus Family</b>			3 <i>Euphorbia capitellata</i>	Phrb	Spurge, golondrina
4 <i>Carnegiea gigantea</i> ( <i>Cereus giganteus</i> )	Succ	Saguaro, sahuaro	2 <i>Euphorbia eriantha</i>	Sbsh	Desert poinsettia
2 <i>Echinocereus engelmannii</i> v. <i>acicularis</i>	Succ	Strawberry hedgehog cactus	3 <i>Euphorbia florida</i>	Ahrb	Spurge
2 <i>Echinocereus fendleri</i> v. <i>robustus</i> ( <i>E. fasciculatus</i> )	Succ	Robust hedgehog cactus	2 <i>Euphorbia gracillima</i>	Ahrb	
3 <i>Echinocereus nicholii</i> ( <i>E. engelmannii</i> v. <i>nicholii</i> )	Succ	Golden hedgehog	2 <i>Euphorbia heterophylla</i>	Alrb	Painted spurge, picachalih
2 <i>Ferocactus wislizenii</i>	Succ	Fishhook barrel, bismaga	2 <i>Euphorbia hyssopifolia</i>	Ahrb	Hyssop spurge
1 <i>Ferocactus wislizenii</i> ♀ <i>F. cylindraceus</i>	Succ	Barrel cactus	3 <i>Euphorbia melanadenia</i>	Phrb	Spurge
3 <i>Mammillaria grahamii</i> ( <i>M. microcarpa</i> )	Succ	Fishhook pink cushion, bizaigueta	2 <i>Euphorbia micromera</i>	Ahrb	Sonoran sandmat
5 <i>Opuntia acanthocarpa</i>	Succ	Buckhorn cholla	3 <i>Euphorbia pediculifera</i>	Phrb	Spurge
3 <i>Opuntia bigelovii</i>	Succ	Teddybear cholla, cholla guera	3 <i>Euphorbia polycarpa</i>	Phrb	Smallseed sandmat
2 <i>Opuntia chlorotica</i>	Succ	Pancake prickly pear, nopal	4 <i>Euphorbia setiloba</i>	Ahrb	Bristlelobe sandmat
3 <i>Opuntia engelmannii</i> ( <i>O. phaeacantha</i> v. <i>dissecta</i> )	Succ	Engelmann's prickly pear, nopal	3 <i>Jatropha cardiophylla</i>	Sbsh	Limber bush, sangregrado
3 <i>Opuntia fulgida</i> v. <i>fulgida</i>	Succ	Chainfruit cholla, choya	2 <i>Frugia neptaeifolia</i>	Pvin	Nosebum, ortiguilla
3 <i>Opuntia leptocaulis</i>	Succ	Desert Christmas cholla	<b>Fabaceae (Leguminosae) Pea Family</b>		
1 <i>Opuntia leptocaulis</i> ♀ <i>O. fulgida</i>	Succ	Hybrid cholla	3 <i>Acacia constricta</i>	Wdsh	Whitethorn acacia, garabato
2 <i>Opuntia macrocentra</i> ( <i>O. violacea</i> v. <i>macrocentra</i> )	Succ	Longspine prickly pear, nopal	3 <i>Acacia greggii</i> v. <i>arizonica</i>	Wdsh	Catclaw acacia, uña de gato
1 * <i>Opuntia microdasys</i>	Succ	Bunny ears, nopal cegador	4 <i>Astragalus didymocarpus</i> v. <i>dispermus</i>	Ahrb	Dwarf locoweed, hierba loca
2 <i>Opuntia phaeacantha</i> v. <i>major</i>	Succ	Sprawling prickly pear, nopal	2 <i>Astragalus lentiginosus</i> v. <i>yuccanus</i>	Phrb	Mottled locoweed, hierba loca
1 * <i>Opuntia santa-rita</i> ( <i>O. violacea</i> v. <i>santa-rita</i> )	Succ	Santa Rita prickly pear, nopál morado	3 <i>Astragalus nuttallianus</i> v. <i>micranthiformis</i>	Ahrb	Nuttall locoweed
2 <i>Opuntia spinosior</i> ♀ <i>O. versicolor</i>	Succ	Hybrid cholla	3 <i>Calliandra eriophylla</i>	Sbsh	Fairy duster, guajillo

3 <i>Calliandra eriophylla</i>	Sbsh	Fairy duster, guajillo	2 <i>Abutilon malacum</i>	Sbsh	Indian mallow
2 <i>Cercidium floridum</i>	Tree	Blue palo verde	1 <i>Abutilon mollicomum</i> ( <i>A. sonoreae</i> )	Sbsh	Pintapán cimarrón
5 <i>Cercidium microphyllum</i>	Tree	Foothills palo verde	1 <i>Abutilon parishii</i>	Phrb	Pima Indian mallow
2 <i>Coursetia glandulosa</i>	Wdsh	Lac bush, samo prieto	1 <i>Abutilon parvulum</i>	Phrb	Small leaf Indian mallow
( <i>C. microphylla</i> )			4 <i>Herissantia crispa</i>	Phrb	False Indian mallow
2 <i>Desmodium procumbens</i> v. <i>exiguum</i>	Ahrb	Tick clover	2 <i>Hibiscus biseptus</i>	Phrb	Sonoran rose mallow, malvita
2 <i>Galactia wrightii</i>	Pvin	Cliff bean	3 <i>Hibiscus coulteri</i>	Sbsh	Desert rosemallow
1 <i>Hoffmannseggia glauca</i>	Phrb	Hog potato	2 <i>Hibiscus denudatus</i>	Sbsh	Rock hibiscus
4 <i>Lotus humistratus</i>	Ahrb	Hill locust	2 <i>Horsfordia newberryi</i>	Wdsh	Yellow felt plant
4 <i>Lotus salsuginosus</i> v. <i>brevivexillus</i>	Ahrb	Deer vetch	1 * <i>Malva parviflora</i>	Ahrb	Cheeseweed, malva
4 <i>Lotus strigosus</i> v. <i>tomentellus</i>	Ahrb	Hairy lotus	2 <i>Malvastrum bicuspidatum</i>	Sbsh	Malva peluda
( <i>L. tometellus</i> )			1 <i>Sida abutifolia</i> ( <i>S. filicaulis</i> )	Phrb	Spreading sida
4 <i>Lupinus sparsiflorus</i>	Ahrb	Arizona lupine	3 <i>Sphaeralcea ambigua</i>	Sbsh	Desert globe mallow
3 <i>Marina parryi</i> ( <i>Dalea p.</i> )	Phrb	Parry dalea			mal de ojo
4 <i>Olneya tesota</i>	Tree	Desert ironwood, palo fierro	2 <i>Sphaeralcea ambigua</i> ?x <i>S. emoryi</i>	Sbsh	Globe mallow
2 <i>Phaseolus acutifolius</i> v. <i>latifolius</i>	Ahrb	Wild tepary bean, frijol	1 <i>Sphaeralcea coulteri</i>	Ahrb	Coulter globe mallow,
3 <i>Phaseolus filiformis</i> ( <i>P. wrightii</i> )	Phrb	Desert bean			mal de ojo
2 <i>Prosopis velutina</i>	Tree	Velvet mesquite, mezquite	1 <i>Sphaeralcea hastulata</i>		
2 <i>Senna covesii</i> ( <i>Cassia c.</i> )	Sbsh	Desert senna	( <i>S. subhastata</i> )	Phrb	Wrinkled globe mallow,
2 <i>Vicia ludoviciana</i>	Avin	Vetch			mal de ojo
			2 <i>Sphaeralcea laxa</i>	Phrb	Caliche globe mallow,
					mal de ojo
<b>Fagaceae Beech Family</b>					
1 <i>Quercus turbinella</i> v. <i>turbinella</i>	Tree	Shrub live oak	<b>Molluginaceae (Aizoaceae, in part) Mollugo Family</b>		
<b>Fouquieriaceae Ocotillo Family</b>			*1 <i>Mollugo verticillata</i>	Ahrb	Indian chickweed, espuelita
3 <i>Fouquieria splendens</i>	Wdsh	Coach whip, ocotillo	<b>Nyctaginaceae Four O'clock Family</b>		
<b>Fumariaceae Fumitory Family</b>			2 <i>Allionia incarnata</i> v. <i>incarnata</i>	Phrb	Trailing four o'clock, guapile
1 * <i>Fumaria parviflora</i>	Ahrb	Fumatory	3 <i>Allionia incarnata</i> v. <i>villosa</i>	Phrb	Trailing four o'clock, guapile
<b>Geraniaceae Geranium Family</b>			2 <i>Boerhavia coulteri</i>	Ahrb	Coulter spiderling, mochi
5 * <i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Ahrb	Filaree, alfilerilla	2 <i>Boerhavia diffusa</i> ( <i>B. coccinea</i> )	Phrb	Red spiderling, mochi
3 <i>Erodium texanum</i>	Ahrb	Largeflower stork' s bill, alfilerilla	3 <i>Boerhavia erecta</i>	Ahrb	Five winged ringstem, mochi
<b>Hydrophyllaceae Waterleaf family</b>			3 <i>Boerhavia intermedia</i>	Ahrb	Five winged ringstem, mochi
3 <i>Eucrypta chrysanthemifolia</i>	Ahrb	Torrey eucrypta	2 <i>Boerhavia spicata</i>	Ahrb	Creeping stickstem, mochi
v. <i>bipinnatifida</i>			2 <i>Boerhavia wrightii</i>	Ahrb	Spiderling
3 <i>Eucrypta micrantha</i>	Ahrb	Smallflower eucrypta	3 <i>Commicarpus scandens</i>	Sbsh	Bush spiderling, miona
1 <i>Nama hispidum</i>	Ahrb	Sand bells	3 <i>Mirabilis bigelovii</i>	Phrb	Desert wishbone bush
2 <i>Phacelia affinis</i>	Ahrb	Purple bell	1 <i>Pisonia capitata</i>	Wdsh	Vainoro
2 <i>Phacelia coerulea</i>	Ahrb	Caterpillar weed	<b>Oleaceae Olive Family</b>		
3 <i>Phacelia crenulata</i>	Ahrb	Caterpillar weed	2 <i>Forestiera shrevei</i>	Wdsh	Desert olive,
1 <i>Phacelia cryptantha</i>	Ahrb	Smallflower phacelia			palo de tucublate
4 <i>Phacelia distans</i> v. <i>australis</i>	Ahrb	Wild heliotrope	2 <i>Menodora scabra</i>	Sbsh	Twinfruit
3 <i>Pholistoma auritum</i> v. <i>arizonicum</i>	Ahrb	Sticky waterleaf	<b>Onagraceae Evening Primrose Family</b>		
<b>Krameriaceae Ratany Family</b>			3 <i>Camissonia californica</i>	Ahrb	Mustard evening primrose
2 <i>Krameria erecta</i> ( <i>K. parvifolia</i> )	Wdsh	Range ratany, coashui	( <i>Oenothera leptocarpa</i> )		
3 <i>Krameria grayi</i>	Wdsh	White ratany	4 <i>Camissonia chamaenerioides</i>	Ahrb	Willow-herb primrose
<b>Lamiaceae (Labiatae) Mint Family</b>			1 <i>Camissonia clavaeformi</i>	Ahrb	Brown-eyed primrose
1 <i>Hedeoma nanum</i> ssp. <i>macrocalyx</i>	Phrb	Mock pennyroyal, oregano	ssp. <i>aurantiaca</i>	Ahrb	Bottle evening primrose
3 <i>Hyptis emoryi</i>	Wdsh	Desert lavender, salvia	2 <i>Oenothera primiveris</i>	Ahrb	
2 <i>Monardella arizonica</i>	Sbsh	Bee balm	<b>Orobanchaceae Broomrape Family</b>		
3 <i>Salvia columbariae</i>	Ahrb	Chia	1 <i>Orobanche ludoviciana</i> v. <i>cooperi</i>	Phrb	Broom rape
2 <i>Stachys coccinea</i>	Phrb	Texas betony	( <i>O. cooperi</i> )		
<b>Linaceae Flax Family</b>			<b>Papaveraceae Poppy Family</b>		
1 <i>Linum lewisii</i>	Ahrb	Blue flax	1 <i>Argemone ochroleuca</i>		
<b>Loasaceae Stickleaf Family</b>			ssp. <i>ochroleuca</i> ( <i>A. mexicana</i> )	Ahrb	Prickly poppy, cardo
2 <i>Mentzelia affinis</i>	Ahrb	Stickleaf	3 <i>Eschscholtzia mexicana</i>	Ahrb	Mexican gold poppy,
2 <i>Mentzelia involucrata</i>	Ahrb	Sand blazingstar			amapola amarilla
<b>Malpighiaceae Malpighia Family</b>			<b>Pedaliaceae (Martyniaceae) Unicorn Plant Family</b>		
4 <i>Janusia gracilis</i>	Pvin	Desert vine	1 <i>Proboscidea altheaeifolia</i>	Phrb	Desert unicom plant, cuernitos
<b>Malvaceae Mallow Family</b>			1 <i>Proboscidea parviflora</i>	Ahrb	Devil' s claw, cuernitos
2 <i>Abutilon abutiloides</i>	Sbsh	Indian mallow	<b>Plantaginaceae Plantain Family</b>		
( <i>A. californicum</i> , misapplied)		malva pintapán	5 <i>Plantago fastigiata</i> ( <i>P. insularis</i> )	Ahrb	Indian wheat
4 <i>Abutilon incanum</i>	Sbsh	Indian mallow, pelotazo chico	4 <i>Plantago patagonica</i> ( <i>P. purshii</i> )	Ahrb	Indian wheat
<b>Plumbaginaceae Plumbago Family</b>			2 <i>Plumbago scandens</i>	Sbsh	Plumbago, hierba de alacrán

### Polemoniaceae Phlox Family

3 <i>Eriastrum diffusum</i>	Ahrb	Blue star
2 <i>Gilia flavocincta</i> ssp. <i>australis</i>	Ahrb	Gilia
3 <i>Gilia stellata</i>	Ahrb	Star gilia
1 <i>Gilia stellata</i> x <i>G. scopulorum</i>	Ahrb	Gilia
1 <i>Ipomopsis multiflora</i>	Sbsh	Many flowered gilia
4 <i>Linanthus bigelovii</i>	Ahrb	

### Polygalaceae Milkwort Family

2 <i>Polygala macradenia</i>	Sbsh	Milkwort
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### Polygonaceae Buckwheat Family

3 <i>Chorizanthe brevicornu</i>	Ahrb	Brittle spineflower
3 <i>Chorizanthe rigida</i>	Ahrb	Rigid spinyherb
2 <i>Eriogonum abertianum</i>	Ahrb	Wild buckwheat
3 <i>Eriogonum deflexum</i>	Ahrb	Skeleton weed
2 <i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i> v. <i>polifolium</i>	Wdsh	Flattop buckwheat, maderista
2 <i>Eriogonum inflatum</i>	Phrb	Desert trumpet
2 <i>Eriogonum maculatum</i>	Ahrb	Anglestem buckwheat
2 <i>Eriogonum palmerianum</i>	Ahrb	Skeleton weed
2 <i>Eriogonum thomasi</i>	Ahrb	Wild buckwheat
2 <i>Eriogonum trichopes</i>	Ahrb	Little trumpet
2 <i>Eriogonum wrightii</i> v. <i>wrightii</i>	Sbsh	Wright buckwheat
2 <i>Pterostegia drymarioides</i>	Ahrb	Spreading buckwheat

### Portulacaceae Purslane Family

2 <i>Calandrinia ciliata</i> v. <i>menziesii</i>	Ahrb	Red maids
3 <i>Calyptidium monadrum</i>	Ahrb	Sand cress
1 <i>Portulaca mundula</i>	Ahrb	Chisme
2 <i>Portulaca retusa</i>	Ahrb	Western purslane, verdolaga
2 <i>Portulaca umbraticola</i>	Ahrb	Purslane

### Primulaceae Primrose Family

3 <i>Androsace occidentalis</i>	Ahrb	Rock jasmine
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### Ranunculaceae Crowfoot Family

3 <i>Anemone tuberosa</i>	Phrb	Desert windflower
1 <i>Clematis drummondii</i> chivato	Pvin	Virgin's bower, barba de
3 <i>Delphinium scaposum</i>	Phrb	Barestem larkspur, espuelita
2 <i>Myosurus cupulatus</i>	Ahrb	Mousetail

### Rhamnaceae Buckthorn Family

2 <i>Condalia warnockii</i> v. <i>kearneyana</i>	Wdsh	Mexican crucillo
2 <i>Ziziphus obtusifolia</i> v. <i>canescens</i>	Wdsh	Graythorn, ciruela de monte

### Rosaceae Rose Family

2 <i>Vauquelinia californica</i> ssp. <i>sonorensis</i>	Wdsh	Arizona rosewood
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### Rubiaceae Madder Family

3 <i>Galium aperiene</i>	Ahrb	Bedstraw
1 <i>Galium microphyllum</i>	Phrb	Bedstraw
2 <i>Galium proliferum</i>	Ahrb	Bedstraw
2 <i>Galium stellatum</i> v. <i>eremicum</i>	Sbsh	Desert bedstraw

### Scrophulariaceae Figwort Family

1 <i>Antirrhinum cyathiferum</i>	Ahrb	Frog snapdragon.
2 <i>Antirrhinum nuttallianum</i>	Ahrb	Nuttall's snapdragon
1 <i>Castilleja exerta</i> ( <i>Orthocarpus purpurascens</i> )	Ahrb	Owl's Clover
1 <i>Linaria texana</i>	Ahrb	Texas toad flax
2 <i>Maurandya antirrhiniflora</i>	Pvin	Blue snapdragon vine, mipil
1 <i>Mimulus floribundus</i>	Ahrb	Clammy monkey flower
2 <i>Mimulus guttatus</i>	Ahrb	Yellow monkey flower
2 <i>Penstemon parryi</i>	Phrb	Parry penstemon,
		varita de San José
1 <i>Veronica peregrina</i> ssp. <i>xalapensis</i>	Ahrb	Necklace weed, veronica

### Simmondsiaceae (Buxaceae) Jojoba Family

4 <i>Simmondsia chinensis</i>	Wdsh	Goat nut, jojoba
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### Solanaceae Nightshade Family

2 <i>Datura discolor</i>	Ahrb	Desert thornapple, toloache
1 <i>Lycium andersonii</i>	Wdsh	Wolfberry
3 <i>Lycium berlandieri</i> v. <i>longistylum</i>	Wdsh	Wolfberry, barchata
2 <i>Lycium exsertum</i>	Wdsh	Wolfberry
1 <i>Lycium fremontii</i>	Wdsh	Fremont Thornbush
3 <i>Nicotiana obtusifolia</i> ( <i>N. trigonophylla</i> )	Phrb	Desert tobacco,
		tabaco de coyote
1 <i>Physalis acutifolia</i>	Ahrb	Ground cherry, tomatillo
2 <i>Physalis crassifolia</i>	Phrb	Desert ground cherry,
		tomate de culebra
2 <i>Solanum nigrescens</i> ( <i>S. douglasii</i> )	Phrb	Nightshade, chichiquelite

### Sterculiaceae Cacao Family

2 <i>Ayenia filiformis</i>	Sbsh	Desert ayenia
1 <i>Ayenia microphylla</i>	Sbsh	Ayenia
1 <i>Waltheria indica</i> ( <i>W. americana</i> )	Phrb	

### Ulmaceae Elm Family

3 <i>Celtis pallida</i>	Wdsh	Desert hackberry, garambullo
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### Urticaceae Nettle Family

4 <i>Parietaria hespera</i>	Ahrb	Pellitory
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### Verbenaceae Vervain Family

3 <i>Aloysia wrightii</i>	Wdsh	Lemon verbena, vara dulce
2 <i>Glandularia gooddingii</i> ( <i>Verbena</i> g)	Phrb	Goodding verbena
1 <i>Verbena neomexicana</i>	Phrb	Hillside vervain, verbena

### Viscaceae Mistletoe Family

2 <i>Phorodendron californicum</i>	Sbsh	Desert mistletoe, toji
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### Zygophyllaceae Caltrop Family

3 <i>Kallstroemia californica</i>	Ahrb	California caltrop,
		mal de ojo
2 <i>Kallstroemia grandiflora</i>	Ahrb	Arizona summer poppy,
		baiborin
1 <i>Kallstroemia parviflora</i>	Ahrb	
3 <i>Larrea divaricata</i> ssp. <i>tridentata</i> ( <i>L. tridentata</i> )	Wdsh	Creosote bush, gobernadora
1 * <i>Tribulus terrestris</i>	Ahrb	Puncture vine

## ANGIOSPERMS (FLOWERING PLANTS)

### MONOCOTYLEDONS

#### Agavaceae Agave Family

1 <i>Yucca arizonica</i>	Succ	Spanish dagger, datil
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#### Cyperaceae

1 <i>Cyperus esculentus</i>	Phrb	Yellow nutsedge
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#### Juncaceae Rush Family

1 <i>Juncus bufonius</i> v. <i>halophilus</i>	Ahrb	Toad rush, tulillo.
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#### Liliaceae Lily Family

3 <i>Allium macropetalum</i>	Phrb	Wild onion
2 <i>Calochortus kennedyi</i>	Phrb	Desert mariposa
5 <i>Dichelostemma pulchellum</i> v. <i>pauciflorum</i>	Phrb	Bluedicks

#### Poaceae [Gramineae] Grass Family

4 <i>Aristida adscensionis</i>	Ahrb	Six weeks threeawn,
		zacate cola de zorra
2 <i>Aristida parishii</i>	Phrb	Threeawn
4 <i>Aristida purpurea</i> v. <i>nealleyi</i> ( <i>A. glauca</i> )	Phrb	Reverchon threeawn,
		tres barbas púrpura
2 <i>Aristida purpurea</i> v. <i>purpurea</i>	Phrb	Purple threeawn,
		tres barbas púrpura
		Threeawn
1 <i>Aristida ternipes</i> v. <i>gentilis</i> ( <i>A. hamulosa</i> )	Phrb	
3 <i>Aristida ternipes</i> v. <i>ternipes</i>	Phrb	Spider grass
2 <i>Bothriochloa barbinodis</i>	Phrb	Cane beardgrass,
		popotillo algodoner

5 <i>Bouteloua aristoides</i> v. <i>aristoides</i>	Ahrb	Six weeks needle grama, zacate sautillo	2 <i>Leptochloa dubia</i>	Phrb	Green sprangletop
3 <i>Bouteloua barbata</i>	Ahrb	Six weeks grama, navajita anual	1 <i>Leptochloa panicea</i> ssp. <i>mucronata</i> ( <i>Leptochloa filiformis</i> )	Ahrb	Red sprangletop, zacate salado
2 <i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	Phrb	Sideoats grama, navajita banderilla	1 <i>Muhlenbergia emersleyi</i>	Phrb	Bullgrass, cola de zorra
1 <i>Bouteloua diversispicula</i> ( <i>Catbestecum erectum</i> )	Phrb	False grama, zacate borreguero	3 <i>Muhlenbergia microsperma</i>	Ahrb	Littleseed muhly
2 <i>Bouteloua repens</i>	Phrb	Slender grama, zacate sabanilla	1 <i>Muhlenbergia monticola</i>	Phrb	Mesa muhly
1 <i>Bouteloua rothrockii</i>	Phrb	Rothrock grama, navajita liebrero	1 <i>Muhlenbergia porteri</i>	Phrb	Bush muhly, zacate aparejo
3 <i>Bouteloua trifida</i>	Phrb	Red grama, navajita roja	1 <i>Panicum hirticaule</i>	Phrb	Deergrass
3 <i>Brachiaria arizonica</i> ( <i>Panicum arizonicum</i> )	Ahrb	Arizona panicgrass	1 * <i>Pennisetum ciliare</i>	Ahrb	Witchgrass
2 <i>Bromus carinatus</i> (incl. <i>B. arizonicus</i> )	Ahrb	Arizona brome, bromo de California	1 * <i>Phalaris canariensis</i>	Phrb	Buffelgrass, zacate buffel
4 * <i>Bromus rubens</i>	Ahrb	Red brome, bromo	2 * <i>Phalaris minor</i>	Ahrb	Canary grass
1 <i>Chloris virgata</i>	Ahrb	Feather fingergrass, cola de zorra	2 * <i>Poa bigelovii</i>	Ahrb	Littleseed canary grass
1 <i>Cottea pappophorioides</i>	Phrb	Cotta grass	4 * <i>Schismus barbatus</i> (incl. <i>S. arabicus</i> )	Ahrb	Bigelow's bluegrass
2 * <i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Phrb	Bermuda grass, pata de gallo	2 <i>Setaria grisebachii</i>	Ahrb	Mediterranean grass
2 <i>Digitaria californica</i> ( <i>Trichachne c.</i> )	Phrb	Arizona cottontop, zacate punta blanca	3 <i>Setaria leucopila</i>	Phrb	Grisebach bristlegrass, ola de zorra
1 <i>Digitaria cognata</i> ( <i>Leptoloma c.</i> )	Phrb	Fall witchgrass	2 <i>Setaria macrostachya</i>	Phrb	Bristlegrass, zacate tempranero
2 <i>Digitaria insularis</i> ( <i>Trichachne i.</i> )	Phrb	Sourgrass	1 * <i>Sorghum bicolor</i>	Phrb	Plains bristlegrass, zacate tempranero
2 <i>Elymus elymoides</i> ( <i>Sitanion hystrix</i> )	Phrb	Squirrel tail	2 <i>Sporobolus airoides</i>	Ahrb	Cultivated sorghum
2 <i>Enneapogon desvauxii</i>	Phrb	Spike pappusgrass, zacate ladera	2 <i>Sporobolus cryptandrus</i>	Phrb	Alkali sacaton, zacaton
2 * <i>Eragrostis cilianensis</i>	Ahrb	Stink grass	1 <i>Sporobolus wrightii</i>	Phrb	Sand dropseed
2 <i>Eragrostis intermedia</i>	Phrb	Plains lovegrass, zacate volador	2 <i>Stipa speciosa</i>	Phrb	Sacaton, zacaton
1 * <i>Eragrostis lehmanniana</i>	Phrb	Lehmann lovegrass	3 <i>Tridens musicus</i>	Phrb	Desert needlegrass
1 <i>Eragrostis pectinacea</i> v. <i>pectinacea</i>	Ahrb	Carolina lovegrass	2 <i>Trisetum interruptum</i>	Phrb	Slim tridens, tridente
4 <i>Erioneuron pulchellum</i>	Phrb	Fluffgrass, zacate borreguero	2 <i>Vulpia octoflora</i> v. <i>hirtella</i>	Phrb	Prairie trisetum
2 <i>Heteropogon contortus</i>	Phrb	Tanglehead, zacate colorado	4 <i>Vulpia octoflora</i> v. <i>octoflora</i>	Ahrb	Hairy six weeks fescue
1 * <i>Hordium murinum</i> ssp. <i>glaucum</i> ( <i>Hordeum glaucum</i> )	Ahrb	Wild barley		Ahrb	Six weeks fescue



*Krameria canescens*, Range Ratany, from W.H. Emory's  
United States & Mexican Boundary Survey, 1859

*Ragged Top cont. from page 7* after heavy rains. Here are the only places where moisture dependent plants such as toad rush (*Juncus bufonius*), monkey flowers (*Mimulus* spp), and deergrass (*Muhlenbergia rigens*) can be found. Also, a fracture in the rock of Wolcott Peak creates a seep on the northwestern flanks. There, a group of five shrub live oaks thrive in abed of Lindheimer's lipfern (*Cheilanthes lindheimeri*), malva peluda (*Malvastrum bicuspidatum*), yellow nutsedge (*Cyperus esculentus*), and a variety of grasses.

## Discussion

The Ragged Top study area is quite small and has a vertical relief of less than 1600 ft (487 m). Why is its flora so rich? One reason seems to be the extreme topography. The massive blocks of vertical rock do a number of things. On the southerly exposures, they retain heat on winter nights, moderating the cold temperatures. On the north side, the cliffs shade the slopes, allowing higher elevation plant species to thrive. Rain is readily shed from the rock, giving an extra drink to plants growing at the base of the cliffs on all exposures. These cliffs, boulders, talus slopes, and drainages, provide quite a variety of microhabitats for plants as do the variety of substrates and ages of the alluvium.

Does this mean the flora for this site is done? As usual, the more I learn, the more questions I have. With all the species that do occur here, why are there so many other plant species occurring within few miles of the study area, but not on site? The study area is small, and doesn't include much of what would be called silty valley bottom. This could explain absent plants such as the ephemeral bajada lupine (*Lupinus concinnus*), blanket flower (*Gaillardia arizonica*), horse purslane (*Trianthema portulacastrum*), and scurfy sida (*Malvella lepidota*), as well as pencil cholla (*Opuntia arbuscula*), horse nettle (*Solanum eleagnifolium*), and prickly poppy (*Argemone pleiacantha* or *A. gracilentia*), that prefer, but are not necessarily restricted to, such a habitat. Also, there is little soil development at the higher elevations. In the Silverbell Mountains joint fir (*Ephedra nevadensis*) and white sage (*Artemisia ludoviciana*) and the locoweed (*Astragalus arizonicus*) are abundant in those situations, but absent at Ragged Top. Soil chemistry may also influence the situation. There is neither limestone nor extensive areas of caliche which could explain the absence of mariola (*Parthenium incanum*) and line-leaved cambess (*Oligomeris linifolia*), which are common on the limestone of the Waterman Mountains. And, finally, there is the possibility that I have overlooked some plants, including queen of the night (*Peniocereus greggii*), primrose (*Camissonia boothii*), dodder (*Cuscuta* spp), and some of the ephemerals previously mentioned. Even

then, there are some plants whose absence I cannot readily explain. In the Silverbells the pea vine *Nissolia schottii* favors habitat similar to the cliffs of Ragged Top, but is replaced here by cliff bean (*Galactia wrightii*). Curly mesquite (*Hilaria belangeri*), jumping cholla (*Opuntia fulgida* v. *mammillata*), spiny barrel (*Ferocactus cylindraceus*), cane cholla (*Opuntia spinosior*), and ruellia (*Ruellia nudiflora*) are also commonly found nearby.

## Acknowledgments

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## LANDSCAPING TIPS III: VINES

MARY F. IRISH

Vines are one of the most underused types of plant in gardens in this region, and I cannot think why. Vines are the jewelry of a garden, the

last little touch, the final splash of color that make it all come together. Vines are evocative, romantic even, and bring to mind bright sunshine, crisp patios wrapped with floral sides, and in my fondest fantasy about vines, a truly great meal served under an arbor lush with bloom, with flowers and food scents mingling in the late afternoon. So, what is it about vines? Why are they so scarce in the gardens here, and why are there so few from which to choose?

It is certainly hot enough here to benefit from the cooling effects of vines. In fact, vines cool on more than one level first as a protector, a shield against the ferocious radiation of the desert sun, and second by the water vapor released through the leaves that function as minuscule misters, with mist too fine to feel or see, but effective nevertheless.

Vines also help one of the oldest strategies of passive cooling function as well. They provide deep cover on southern windows and walls in the summer preventing the entry of the high summer sun, but leave the same exposure open in the winter to the needed warmth of the low winter sun. One useful habit of vines is that they grow remarkably fast. This makes them particularly desirable in a new or just emerging garden where shade is scarce or too small to do any good.

Although vines are not a large part of our native flora and it may take some looking to find them. There are four species that I find are exceptionally lovely additions to any desert garden. Like most native species, these plants survive well on very low amounts of water, but just a little extra, especially in the summer, keeps them growing and blooming throughout the summer.

I start with snapdragon vine (*Maurandya antirrhiniflora*). This charming vine blooms throughout the summer in my low desert garden. I have planted it in two or three locations, and despite all kinds of catastrophe heaped upon it, it thrives. While the flowers are small (less than 1/2 inch long) they are prolific. Flowers are a deep indigo to blue hue, but there is a carmine red form that some gardeners favor over the blue.

Plants die back in the winter in cooler areas, but are evergreen in my garden. Snapdragon vine reseeds easily in a garden setting so you are always assured of having some to share. Because the flowers are small, this vine is particularly effective when used where it can be viewed close at hand.

I first met the native passion vine (*Passiflora foetida*) at the Desert Botanical Garden where it grew along a fence at the back of a growing yard. This was a hot spot, with hideous soil, and it received only incidental watering from the pots in the area, but it was spectacular. I was impressed, and have continued to be so ever since.

The lobed leaves are what smell (hence the epithet "fetid"), but I do not find the odor intrusive. The flowers more than make up for it. They are approximately the size of a quarter, with the (unusual) form typical of all passion flowers. Petals are light lilac and bloom prolifically in the hottest part of the summer. Despite being so reliable in full sun, passion vine also does well twining up an open tree like palo verde or mesquite. The fruit is edible and it pops delightfully in your mouth. This plant is winter dormant and disappears entirely for the season.

One of the most striking of all our native vines, and also the most obscure in the horticultural trade, is *Jacquemontia pringlei*. A member of the Convolvulaceae, this is a gorgeous vine, full of white to light purple flowers throughout the summer. Capable of growing to 20 feet or more, and with very dense, green foliage, this is a perfect choice for a protective barrier to the sun.

I find both the foliage and the flower color soothing and cooling. It can be deciduous when it gets very cold, but is generally evergreen. Like most vines, a hard prune in the early spring, just as the newer leaves emerge, reinvigorates the plant and helps keep it tidy.

And in one of the spectacular anomalies of the plant world, there is even a good native vine for the shade. Arizona grape ivy (*Cissus trifoliata*) looks remarkably like ivy, and could easily be substituted for it. Whether climbing up a tree or trellis, or left to run along the ground, this clinging vine is aggressive and fast growing once the tuberous root has become large and well established. It is generally winter deciduous, but it is advisable to prune it hard every two or three years if it remains evergreen to keep it in bounds. The hard, deep green leaves make a charming background for a patio wall or trellis and I have mixed mine with the vining *Aloe ciliaris* because they both love the shade.

I hope you can find a home for these glorious natives in your garden. I think you will agree that they add dash and flair to all of our desert gardens.

*Mary Irish is a freelance writer specializing in books and articles about plants and horticulture. She is a member of the Phoenix chapter and worked for many years at the Desert Botanical Garden.*

## BOOK REVIEW

Richard S. Felger. 2001. *Flora of the Gran Desierto and Rio Colorado Delta*. University of Arizona Press. 673 pages. \$75.

It has been nearly four decades since Forrest Shreve and Ira Wiggins published their landmark *Vegetation and Flora of the Sonoran Desert*. That two-volume set largely defined this desert we call home, and few botanical books on the region have approached it in detail, relevance, or clarity. Richard Felger's new *Flora of the Gran Desierto* surpasses its standard, and deserves a place beside it on the shelf of any fan of desert plants.

As any good reference book should, this one has lots of details: 673 pages, 565 species, more than 400 illustrations. It has useful keys for all species, beginning at the highest level with a key to major plant groups. Besides current scientific names and synonyms, it contains common names in English, Spanish, and Oodham. It includes a good ecological primer on the region ("Major Habitat") and a gazetteer of place names. Appendices include information about grasses and non-native plants in northwestern Sonora.

Anyone who has struggled with the keys in the *Arizona Flora of Kearney and Peebles* will appreciate Felger's attention to keys that work in the real world. Those who hate keys will appreciate his success at pulling together such a comprehensive set of botanical illustrations.

For many species, Felger has gone beyond strictly botanical discussions to describe the social history and uses of the plants by Native Americans. As an example, under *Phragmites australis* (carrizo, reedgrass, common reed, wa:pk), he gives three paragraphs on its history, including collection by the Cocopa and others of a sweet manna-like 'honeydew', the exudate of aphids, from the leaves as a highly esteemed food...

Thanks to the depth of his knowledge and the strength of his writing, Felger has put together a biological portrait of a fascinating region. The land includes Pinacate lava fields and the largest sand sea in North America, along with what remains of the Colorado River delta. For many species and many people, the Gran Desierto is the heart of the Sonoran Desert.

Those who don't stray too far into the Gran Desierto during the warm growing season may wonder how relevant this work is to life around Tucson or Phoenix. A quick glance through its pages will show that a large portion of the species discussed here also occur in the more populated Arizona parts of the Sonoran Desert. This beats anything else available for distinguishing and

understanding a multitude of familiar species groups including, for example, how to tell apart the three native mesquites or the three desert marigolds.

This book represents a major accomplishment by one of the Sonoran Desert's premier botanists. Those who have known Felger's work on this have been looking forward to its arrival for years or even decades. I'm pleased to say the wait was worthwhile.

### Errata for *Flora of the Gran Desierto and Rio Colorado Delta*

By Richard S. Felger

A few errors crept into this magnificent book. Richard Felger requested that we print the corrections.

p. 41. Table 2, gives 79 non-native species; the correct number is 88 (p. 33 and appendix). Numbers in the appendix are correct.

p. 45. A and B reversed; A = *Selaginella arizonica*; B = *S. eremophila*.

p. 128. Hierba del vaso should be hierba del bazo.

p. 203. Illustration for *Opuntia ramosissima* is in error; it is a repeat of *O. fulgida*.

p. 229. Figure caption for *Wislizenia refracta* subsp. *palmeri*: "pp 90" is a typo.

p. 369. Following Richard Spellenberg (personal communication 1998 etc) I treated *Boerhavia diffusa* and *B. caribaea* as conspecific. However, since publication of the Gran Desierto flora Spellenberg has reversed himself and now regards them as distinct species; thus *B. caribaea* is the species in the Gran Desierto and elsewhere in the Sonoran Desert.

p. 502. Illustration of *Chloris virgata* is in error; it is a repeat of *Cynodon dactylon*.

Further excuses, corrections, and additions to the *Flora of the Gran Desierto* will be posted on the University of Arizona Herbarium (ARIZ) website:  
<http://eebweb.arizona.edu/HERB/index.html>



# EXOTIC SPECIES UPDATE: THE TUCSON MOUNTAIN WEED WACKERS BARB SKYE

The Tucson Mountain Weedwackers is a community network of volunteers coordinated by the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum (ASDM) Botany Department. This weed eradication program operates in cooperation with Pima County Parks and Recreation Tucson Mountain Park (TMP), Pima County Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan (SDCP), Saguaro National Park (SNP), Sonoran Arthropod Studies Institute (SASI), Tucson Botanical Gardens (TBG), and Arizona Native Plant Society (ANPS). The purpose of the program is to clear infestations of fountain grass (*Pennisetum setaceum*) and buffelgrass (*Pennisetum ciliare*), and other exotic species that threaten native plant populations in the Tucson Mountains.

Fountain grass was introduced as an ornamental plant and is widely used in residential and commercial landscaping. Buffelgrass is used extensively in Mexico and the Southwest rangelands as a forage crop for cattle. These African grasses crowd out native Sonoran Desert species by creating monocultures that consume scarce water and nutrient resources. Washes and roadsides are most vulnerable to infestations. However they can spread into undisturbed desert as well.

Another major concern is the ability of these grasses to spread fire quickly. Our native plants are typically killed in the high-temperature fires fueled by fountain grass and buffelgrass. Both of these African savanna-adapted grass species re-establish soon after a fire when they can spread more quickly without competition. In contrast, Sonoran Desert vegetation can take decades to re-establish following a fire.

For several years, the National Park Service (NPS) has controlled invasive exotics growing within the boundaries of the East and West Units of the Saguaro National Park. Pima County Parks also has a long history of weed eradication programs. Similar to the Tucson Mountain Weedwacker program, volunteer crews work under the direction of professional staff. The difference with the Weedwacker program is that its focus is on developing a community group of dedicated volunteers interested in the long-term eradication of exotic weeds in the Tucson Mountains.

The Tucson Mountain Weedwacker program has existed since January, 2000. Typically, 10-15 volunteers work mornings doing reconnaissance ("recon") every second Friday, and eradication ("erad") every third Saturday of each month. Volunteers are recruited through ASDM's volunteer base, through allied organizations such as the Arizona Native Plant Society, and local schools with environmental education

programs. Volunteer teams are also recruited from visiting college and university groups who are willing to provide labor in exchange for benefits such as admission to ASDM, or camping privileges at Pima County's Gilbert Ray Campground. Other benefits of the volunteer program include networking and educational opportunities. Participants share knowledge concerning plant conservation issues and plant identification. Camaraderie naturally develops among the volunteers who share a common interests related to Sonoran Desert natural history and conservation.

A typical Weedwacker day begins and ends with a breakfast/lunch potluck. Following a hike or van transportation to a priority site, a "grass class" covers plant identification and bunch grass removal methods. The group methodically moves down through the washes or other selected site, cutting flower or seed heads off and removing individual plants using pry bars and mattocks. While roots may be lodged in rocks, the alluvial soil is loose enough to allow for fairly easy removal. Two strategies have been adopted to deal with the removed plants. Whole plants have been physically removed from the site in plastic bags. This method is preferred if the plant has already dispersed seeds which have become lodged into its own crown, and the site is easily accessible. A second method is to remove seed heads and place the uprooted plants on high ground to dry out and expire. Plants appear to regenerate only occasionally, but can be controlled by seedling removal during routine monitoring.

To date, the Weedwackers program has been successful in eliminating major infestations in the washes near the Desert Museum. The momentum gained through this program will now shift to priority habitats throughout the Tucson Mountains. As a result of this multi-institutional initiative, an aggressive program has been developed that actively protects native desert habitats. Ultimately, the Weedwacker program will provide training to volunteers county-wide, who in turn can implement exotic weed eradication programs throughout the Sonoran Desert region.

*Barb Skye is state president of ANPS and the head of the Tucson Mountain Weedwackers. She is a botanist and ethnobotanist at the Arizona--Sonora Desert Museum.*

# EXOTIC SPECIES UPDATE: THE ARIZONA NOXIOUS WEED PROGRAM SERVES THE CITIZENS

CINDY SALO

Botanists sometimes stumble over a question on their Customs Declaration when returning to the U.S.—the one asking if you are carrying any plant material. You may be required to surrender, or eat, fresh fruits and vegetables to prevent the introduction of diseases or insects. Other plants are prohibited entry into the U.S. because they are listed on the Federal Noxious Weed list, maintained by the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). These are plants that pose a threat to agriculture, navigation, the environment, or public health in this country. In addition, each state maintains a noxious weed list, which includes plants that are threats to the environment or to agriculture in that state.

Noxious weeds are defined in terms of their effects on people, their activities, and their welfare. This is a social and legal definition, not a biological one, although listed plants typically share a suite of characteristics that we consider to be 'weedy'. These include establishing and growing rapidly on a variety of sites, often becoming dominant and persisting in an area.

The Arizona Noxious Weed list consists of three groups of plants. The most familiar, which all agriculture students see on a test at some time, are the Prohibited Plants. The Arizona Prohibited list currently includes 51 taxa, which may not enter or be sold in the state. In addition, seven plants are controlled to prevent spread as Regulated Noxious Weeds in Arizona, and sixteen plants are Restricted in the state, meaning that commodities or land may be quarantined to prevent further infestations. In extreme cases the Arizona Department of Agriculture can eradicate Restricted weeds and place a lien on the property.

Plants are designated noxious weeds when Arizona citizens feel that they have become, or are in the process of becoming, pests in the state. Based on the letters of concern he receives, the coordinator of the Arizona Noxious Weed Program recommends plants for listing. Dr. Frances (Ed) Northam is the new coordinator of the Arizona Noxious Weed Program. I had a delightful meeting with him earlier this spring about adding fountain grass (*Pennisetum setaceum*) and buffelgrass

(*Pennisetum ciliare*) to the Noxious Weed list. Ed gave a very interesting talk on noxious weeds to the Pima Invasive Species Council in early June.

ANPS and its members have been instrumental in writing letters of concern about these exotic grasses in southern Arizona. Many members have described their observations of the spread of these species and their effects in the Sonoran Desert. This is extremely valuable information, as there is no formal monitoring of either these species. The knowledge and initiative of private citizens is the basis of the process of adding species to the state Noxious Weed list.

For more information about the state and federal programs: Arizona Noxious Weed Program:  
<http://agriculture.state.az.us/PDS/pdd/htm>

Federal Noxious Weed list:  
<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/weeds/noxwdsa.html>

*Cindy Salo is completing her PhD at the University of Arizona with a study of red brome. She recently won a Fulbright scholarship to study in western Africa where she lived for two years as a Peace Corps volunteer.*

Ed Note: In addition to these two grasses, the Department is now also considering adding Sahara mustard (*Brassica tournefortica*) and Malta starthistle (*Centaurea melitensis*) to the list.

Check the ANPS web site [www.aznps.org](http://www.aznps.org) for the first in a series of flyers on invasive nonnative species. The first three deal with buffelgrass, fountaingrass, and *Rhus lancea*.

Fountain grass  
by Kim Russek



## REQUEST FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FOR THE ARIZONA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

### Primary Responsibilities

Collect and coordinate incoming and outgoing mail and direct inquiries to appropriate persons.  
Manage memberships, adding new members and tracking expirations and renewals for current members.  
Invoice for, distribute, and inventory ANPS products (books, t-shirts, posters, etc).  
Assist with marketing ANPS goods  
Facilitate communication among members, officers and Chapter Presidents  
Responsible to the State President  
Have strong initiative in improving ANPS operations (in an advisory capacity to the Board)  
As directed by the Board, inform members of volunteer opportunities and other ANPS news through the newsletter, web page and mailings.

### Qualifications

Excellent interpersonal skills  
Written and verbal communication skills

Computer experience (database operating, e-mail messaging, and word processing – specific knowledge of Microsoft Access, Excel, and Word)  
Organizational skills  
Record keeping ability

Compensation negotiable, based on qualifications \$12-\$15 per hour

### Additional Requirements

Committed to the mission of ANPS  
Work up to forty hours per month  
Personal computer and printer  
Workspace  
Telephone (fax desirable)  
E-mail and Internet access  
Transportation to central Tucson (Sun Station Post Office, in 85717 area)  
Local Tucson area resident  
The position is open until filled, probably by the end of June.  
If you are interested, contact Barb Skye (See page 2).

## ANPS MERCHANDISE

ANPS booklets, posters and T-shirts are available from local chapters or by mail order. In addition, posters are available at Saguaro Park - East and West, Tohono Chul Park, Audubon Society, Desert Museum, Organ Pipe National Monument, Boyce Thompson, and Desert Botanical Garden (not DBG's gift shop, but through Kathy Rice, Phoenix Chapter President)

### ANPS Booklets

Prices per booklet ordered:

Quantity	1-9	\$2.00 each
	10-49	\$1.50 each
	50+	\$1.00 each

(bare-bones prices are the same for members and non-members). Shipping and handling for an additional charge dependent on the size of the order.

### ANPS T-shirts

Size: Small, Medium, Large, Xlarge  
Color: White, Mint, Cobble  
Cost: \$16.00 each (non-members)  
\$14.00 each (members)

Irregular shirts (some cobble shirts have discoloration on the back) \$10.00 (bare-bones prices are the same for members and non-members)

Shipping and handling: \$2.75 each

*Nama demimore*, one of the poster illustrations. Original by Margaret Pope in color.

### ANPS Posters

Retail: \$14.00 each (non-members)  
\$12.00 each (members)

Shipping and handling: \$2.50 each

Wholesale:	1-9	\$10.00 each
	10-49	\$8.00 each
	50+	\$7.20 each

Shipping and handling an additional charge depending on the size of the order.

Contact ANPS for specifics on shipping costs. Orders should be sent to ANPS P.O. Box 41206, Tucson AZ 85717. Ordering information also on the ANPS web site [www.aznps.org](http://www.aznps.org)



## BOARD AND VOLUNTEER PROFILES

### GAIL VIRTES, State Treasurer

Why retire in Arizona? Gail says "The desert flora and fauna of course! The intrigue of the Sonoran desert with its unique trees, plants and cacti brought my husband George and me here. Our need to learn more about these fascinating plants prompted us to join the ANPS. Here we have found botanists and plant enthusiasts with the same interest - all giving of their time by sharing their knowledge, volunteering or contributing in some way to the success of the ANPS. Before retiring, I worked in the accounting areas of business as a bookkeeper. I have extensive record keeping skills, and when ANPS needed a Treasurer, I found a way to contribute to the Society's needs."

### BARRY MCCORMICK, Director

Barry is a volunteer at the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum. At the ASDM Barry is working closely with Mark Dimmitt on a project to put information about the entire Sonoran Desert biotic community on the internet. He is also working with Barb Skye on modernizing the Botany Department Accession Database. He is a retired aerospace engineer with a Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering and a lifetime love of learning. Barry is an avid orchid grower and is a past president of the San Fernando Orchid Society and was the show office manager for the Southland Orchid Committee New Otani Show for several years. His orchid collection moved successfully to Tucson. He has been an active member and volunteer with many conservation groups too numerous to mention.

### DOUG GREEN, Chair of the Membership and Chapter Development Committee

Doug says he loves all facets of botany, particularly shrubs, trees, wildflowers, grasses, ferns, cacti, and succulents. He also enjoys birding in southeastern and central Arizona. His next favorite activity is teaching his grandchildren about nature. He is retired from the 3M Company where he spent forty-one years in sales and sales management. Doug has belonged to the Phoenix Chapter for three years.

### JEAN SEARLE, Assistant Plant Press Editor

Jean says "It seemed natural, on retiring to our solar home in Sedona, to garden with native plants. That was the beginning." For seven years she led twice-monthly trips for the Sedona Botany Group. She has led many field trips for the Flagstaff ANPS Chapter and is a past chairman. She also gives talks locally on Gardening with Native Plants and teaches Native Plants of the Region at Yavapai College. A retired circuit board designer, she also does free-lance writing and editing and is an amazingly skilled proofreader.

### ANPS BOARD

Barb Skye, Tucson	President
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	Flagstaff chapter

The Plant Press is published three times a year and is a benefit of membership in the Arizona Native Plant Society. Barbara Tellman, editor, welcomes suggestions of articles and book reviews, especially if accompanied by suggestion of an author. Contact her at [bjt@ag.arizona.edu](mailto:bjt@ag.arizona.edu) or 127 E. Mabel, Tucson 85705.

## NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

People interested in native plants are encouraged to become members. People may join chapters in Central Highlands (Prescott), Flagstaff, Phoenix, Tucson, and Yuma or may be members only of the statewide organization. For more information, write to ANPS at the address below, visit the ANPSWeb site [www.aznps.org](http://www.aznps.org), or contact one of the people below.

State President:	Barb Skye	520 8833009
Central Highlands (Prescott):	Heidi Romppanen	520 4279457
Flagstaff President:	Ana Novak-Goodman	520 5253659
Phoenix President:	Kathy Rice	602 8089304
Tucson Co-Presidents:	Glenda and Bob Zahner	520 578-1639
Yuma President:	Pat Callahan	520 627-2773

### Membership Form:

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone Number

Chapter preferred:

\_\_\_ State

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\_\_\_ Flagstaff

\_\_\_ Phoenix

\_\_\_ Tucson

\_\_\_ Yuma

Enclosed:

\_\_\_ \$15 Student/Senior \_\_\_ \$20 Individual or Family \_\_\_ \$25 Organization

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Arizona Native Plant Society

P.O. Box 41206

Tucson AZ 85717

[www.aznps.org](http://www.aznps.org)

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