



Sow Easy

These wildflowers are easy to start from seed!
by Gail Rhynard

With spring on its way and another gardening season (the first of the twenty-first century) beckoning, now is the time to order seed from seed exchanges and catalogues and, instead of looking at the envelopes as they accumulate in your cupboard, get them out, open them, and get the contents into the soil. Unplanted seeds never become plants. Growing native plants from seed need not be a daunting task, if you start with the easier ones and follow some general rules.

Most native plant seed needs a period of cold (cold stratification) before it will germinate; this is done by placing the seed dry in the fridge for 6 to 8 weeks. However, sometimes this isn't adequate treatment to break a seed's dormancy; seeds of some species need to be cold-moist stratified. The easiest way to do this is to fill pots with barely moist soil, sprinkle the seeds on the surface, cover slightly with soil mix. Then spray the surface well with water, cover the pot with clear plastic and place it in the fridge or in an unheated building for 4 to 6 weeks, taking care to protect the seeds from rodents. (Check pots periodically as some species will germinate at quite low temperatures.) Though not all seed needs cold-moist stratification, most benefit from it.

Once the seed has had a long enough stratification period (six weeks is sufficient for the easy seeds discussed here, although a longer stratification period doesn't harm the seed), bring the pots inside, take off the plastic, spray the seed once more, then re-cover and set under lights, letting the seed germinate before removing the plastic. This keeps the soil surface moist until germination is complete. Sounds easy?? It is.

Planting procedure:

- 1) Fill pots, or other suitable containers, with moistened (but not wet) soil mix. Use professional soil mix as it helps prevent damping off (a sudden collapse of seedlings often due to over-watering).
- 2) Sprinkle seeds on the surface and press into the soil.
- 3) Cover lightly with soil mix.
- 4) Mist soil surface.
- 5) Cover with clear plastic.

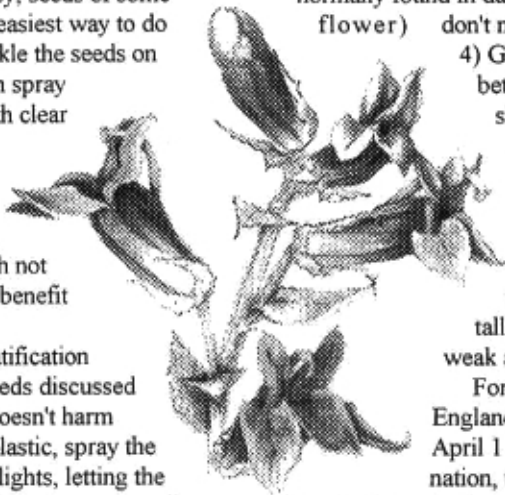
General Rules:

- 1) Use clean seed, that is seed which has been separated from its bracts, husks, and fluffy dispersal mechanisms. This allows you to see exactly how many seeds you are planting. Chaff mixed in with seeds will sometimes cause mould to form.
- 2) Don't bury seed too deeply. Most seeds in nature just settle into the duff and are not heavily covered. Seed should not be covered to more than twice its diameter; some don't need that much.
- 3) Don't overwater; roots of seedlings need oxygen in order to form well. Waterlogged soil doesn't allow roots the oxygen they need for healthy development. Even seedlings of species that are normally found in damp places (swamp milkweed, cardinal flower) don't need extra moisture when small.
- 4) Give seedlings lots of light. The spaces between leaves on a seedling stem should be slight and stems shouldn't bend with the weight of the leaves. If seedlings don't stand up straight and if there are large spaces between each set of leaves, seedlings need more light.
- 5) Don't start seedlings too early. When started too early, seedlings become too tall and, under imperfect light conditions, weak and lanky.

For example, if you take pots of New England aster out of cold-moist stratification April 1 and allow 1 week to ten days for germination, the seedlings can be grown indoors

(transplanting once into small pots) in adequate light for 4 to 5 weeks. After May 20 the weather should be warm enough to harden seedlings off outside, first only during the day and then overnight as well. They can be grown on in pots outside until large enough to transplant into the garden. Just get them off the windowsill and outside into natural light before they get weak and stringy. That said, these plants are some of the easiest to grow from seed and also to cultivate in your garden.

Great Blue Lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*) and **Cardinal Flower** (*Lobelia cardinalis*) Both great blue lobelia and cardinal flower are welcome additions to late summer gardens. With its intense red



North American
Native Plant Society's
annual

Spring Plant Sale

Native Wildflowers
Shrubs & Trees

Saturday, May 13th, 2000
10 am to 4 pm
Civic Garden Centre
777 Lawrence Ave. East
(at Leslie Street)
Toronto

Please donate plants to the sale. Plan now to pot up your extras and divisions. We especially welcome garden divisions of woodland plants that are slow from seed, such as bloodroot and false Solomon's Seal. But don't forget about the easy plants! A garden somewhere would love your surplus blue vervain, ostrich fern, thin-leaved coneflower, cup-plant, white snakeroot and other natives.

Contact: Paul McGaw, 416-261-6272

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Editor: Trish Murphy

Submissions should be sent to:

Newsletter

One Thorndale Avenue

Toronto, Ontario M8X 1W6

Articles are most conveniently received as IBM-format MSWord .doc files; black & white drawings or photographs in TIF format. The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the North American Native Plant Society.

NANPS Membership: \$10 (Can)/year within Canada, US\$10/year outside Canada.

Send to: North American Native Plant Society

P.O. Box 336, Station F

Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2L7

N.A.N.P.S Update

The past twelve months have been our *annus horribilus*. We were hard hit by the loss of one half of our directors, who were unable to continue their good work for the Society for a variety of reasons. It proved impossible to fulfil all our plans, including the publication of a newsletter in 1999. However, we now have on board outstanding people who are both talented and dedicated to the aims of the Society. I am excited about our plans and activities for the coming years.

The **Canada Blooms** show will be held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, March 22 - 26. The Society will have a beautiful garden display featuring blooming spring wildflowers,* ferns, and sedges amid a woodland setting of mosses, logs, and lichen-covered rocks. We are sure many people will be so enthralled that they will join us in our mission to protect and enhance our botanical heritage.

On Saturday, August 26th, the Society will offer a **wildflower tour** of private gardens, an always popular event. This year's tour will be held in Toronto, a first time for the summer tour. Several gardens never before on a Wildflower Society tour will be at the height of bloom in late summer.

We will continue to publish our **Fact Sheets** on a variety of topics. These have proven to be very valuable to native plant enthusiasts. If you think we should cover a particular subject, please suggest it to us.

We plan to spruce up our web-site (www.acorn-online.com/hedge/cws.htm) with the seed availability list, news, photos, and articles.

The N.A.N.P.S. newsletter cannot be a pale imitation of *Wildflower*, but we can publish information, short articles, and other items of interest to you, our members. We very much want your comments on what you would like to see in these pages. Please take a few minutes and let us know. We would also like your suggestions for a title. Board member and author Lorraine Johnson will send the person submitting the winning title an autographed copy of her latest best-selling book, *100 Easy-to-Grow Native Plants*.

If we do not have your name as a volunteer, please let us know of your availability and interest. Together we can do our best to help make this land a better place for all of Nature's creatures.

Jim French, President

*if the capricious gods who rule the forcing of wild plants prove willing. *Ed.*

continued from page 1

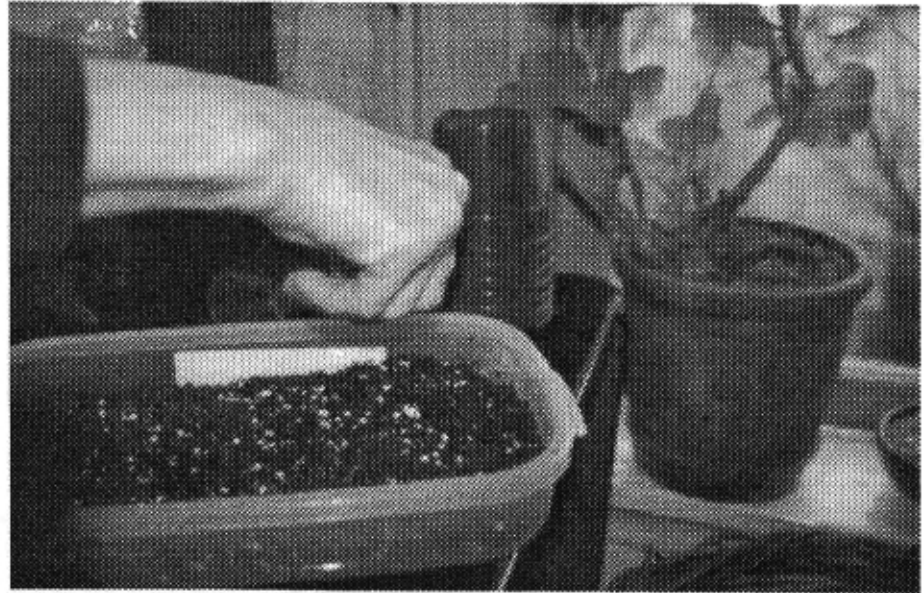
flowers, cardinal flower is the best plant for attracting hummingbirds; once in your garden, the birds may visit great blue lobelia as well. Although cardinal flower requires moist soil, great blue lobelia will grow in conditions ranging from damp shade to full sun and dry soil. The more moisture it has the bigger the plants become.

The seed of both germinates with only cold stratification; sprinkle it sparsely over the soil surface and cover with a mere dusting of sand or soil mix as it needs light to germinate. Great blue lobelia will very frequently bloom the first year from seed (instant gratification) with cardinal flower sometimes doing so as well.

Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) A "must-have" for any sunny garden, black-eyed Susans are long-lasting and drought tolerant, adapting to either sandy soils or heavier clay and anything in between. The seed germinates quickly, nearly every seed is viable as long as you barely cover it, as it too needs light to germinate. Only cold stratification is necessary. Simply sprinkle the seed in a pot, add a bit of sand or soil mix to just cover it, and mist. In 5-7 days the first seedlings should appear. Though biennial, many will bloom their first year if started indoors.

Wild bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*) Happy in similar growing conditions and blooming at about the same time as black-eyed Susans, the lavender flowers of wild bergamot complement well the bright yellow Susans. Again, only cold stratification is needed to induce germination. Place the seeds on the soil surface and cover with a light layer of soil mix, mist, cover with clear plastic and, again, in 5-7 days the first seedling should appear. Plants won't bloom until their second year.

New England aster (*Aster novae-angliae*) Violet-purple blazes across the countryside in September and into October and, combined



The easiest way to cold-moist stratify native seed is to sow it in pots or trays of moist soil, then place pots in the refrigerator or an unheated building for 4 to 6 weeks.

with the yellow of goldenrod, the colours bring joy to the heart. No native plant garden within its extensive natural range should be without this obliging aster. Though not necessary to induce germination, cold-moist stratification will speed up the germination process. Barely cover the seed, mist, and cover with clear plastic until seedlings have two to four true leaves. Follow this same procedure for other native asters.

Eastern wild columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*) With delicate red and yellow blossoms in late May, wild columbine provides in-between colour once the spring ephemerals have bloomed and before the riot of mid-summer colour begins. Columbine seed needs light to germinate so cover only slightly. Germination can take up to 2 ½ weeks after cold-moist stratification, but once germinated the seedlings grow quickly, though the plants will not bloom until their second year. Columbines in the garden self-seed readily but

not all seedlings will survive their first winter, so don't thin them until spring.

Blue Vervain (*Verbena hastata*) Flowering spikes of deep blue act as a happy contrast for swamp milkweed or Joe Pye-weed. Once in your garden, blue vervain will seed itself readily for years. Seed needs only cold stratification, and can either be sown where you want it or started in pots or trays then transplanted into the garden.

Joe Pye-weed (*Eupatorium maculatum*) If your garden needs height, Joe Pye-weed might be the answer. Growing 8 to 9 feet tall in moist soil, Joe Pye-weed is spectacular in early August when its mauve-pink flowers tower above its companions. Butterflies love it! Cold-moist stratification will hasten germination; seedlings grow quickly and some will even bloom the first year.

Butterfly milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) Choose to grow this brilliant orange butterfly-attractor if your garden has well-drained sandy soil. If heavier soil should be your lot, try swamp milkweed instead. Cold-moist stratification definitely enhances germination of milkweed seeds. Stratify for 6 to 8 weeks. Seed can take 6 days to 2 ½ weeks to germinate. The warmer the temperature the faster the germination process. No advantage is gained by starting butterfly milkweed too early; wait until April to bring the seed into warmth and the seedlings will grow lustily. If transplanting seedlings into larger pots, it is easiest to do it when the seedling has its first pair of true leaves and the root is still quite small.

Gail Rhynard is the proprietor of Otter Valley Native Plant Nursery in Eden, Ontario.



An unheated poly-house at Otter Valley Native Plant Nursery during the mid-winter lull. In a few weeks, this greenhouse will be crowded with thousands of wildflower seedlings.

The Seed Exchange

The seed exchange is offered to members of the NANPS. Packets are \$1.00 each to cover the cost of packaging and mailing. Make cheques payable to North American Native Plant Society. Send orders, or donations of native seeds (labelled, please), to:

The Seed Exchange
Paul McGaw
43 Anaconda Avenue
Scarborough ON M1L 4M1

Limit of ten species per order. Supplies of some species are very limited; include alternative choices.

Seeds of the following species were available at time of printing. (Tip: check the NANPS website for updates on seed availability.)

<i>Acer circinatum</i>	vine maple	TB
<i>Actaea rubra</i>	red baneberry	PM
<i>Adlumia fungosa</i>	Allegheny-vine	JLH
<i>Agastache nepetoides</i>	yellow giant hyssop	MK
<i>Allium cernuum</i>	nodding onion	TB,MK,JLH
<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i>	blue-star	PM
<i>Andropogon scoparius</i>	little bluestem	MK
<i>Anemone riparia</i>	thimbleweed	JLH
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	eastern columbine	GN
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	bearberry	TB
<i>Arisaema triphylla</i>	Jack-in-the-pulpit	PM
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	swamp milkweed	WB,JLH,TM
<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	butterflyweed	TM,FW
<i>Aster laevis</i>	smooth aster	MK
<i>Aster macrophyllus</i>	large-leaved aster	MK
<i>Aster puniceus</i>	purple-stemmed aster	PM
<i>Aster umbellatus</i>	flat-topped aster	AL
<i>Astragalus canadensis</i>	milk-vetch	PM
<i>Campanula americana</i>	tall bellflower	JLH,JF
<i>Campsis radicans</i>	trumpet creeper	DD,AL
<i>Carya ovata</i>	shagbark hickory	JLH
<i>Cassia hebecarpa</i>	wild senna	PM
<i>Caulophyllum thalictroides</i>	blue cohosh	AL
<i>Celastrus scandens</i>	bittersweet	JLH
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	redbud	BL,JLH
<i>Chelone glabra</i>	turtlehead	PM
<i>Cimicifuga racemosa</i>	black snakeroot	PM
<i>Clarkia amoena</i>	farewell-to-spring	TB
<i>Clematis virginiana</i>	virgin's bower	PM,JLH,AL
<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	lance-leaved coreopsis	JLH
<i>Coreopsis tripteris</i>	tall coreopsis	PM
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	pagoda dogwood	JLH
<i>Datura meteloides</i>	smooth jimsonweed	JLH
<i>Desmodium canadense</i>	showy tick-trefoil	PM
<i>Dicentra eximia</i>	wild bleeding heart	BL
<i>Disporum hookeri</i>	fairy bell	TB
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	purple coneflower	RAR
<i>Echinocystis lobata</i>	wild cucumber	JF,FF,JLH
<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	Canada wild rye	TM
<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i>	fireweed	PM
<i>Eriophorum sp.</i>	cotton-grass	AL
<i>Eupatorium maculatum</i>	Joe-Pyeweed	PM
<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>	grass-leaved goldenrod	WB
<i>Gaultheria shallon</i>	salal	TB
<i>Gentiana andrewsii</i> var. <i>alba</i>	bottle gentian	PM
<i>Geum triflorum</i>	prairie smoke	PM
<i>Helenium autumnale</i>	sneezeweed	PM
<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	false sunflower	MK
<i>Hibiscus palustris</i>	swamp rose-mallow	PM
<i>Hydrangea quercifolia</i>	oak-leaved hydrangea	BL
<i>Hypericum ascyron</i>	giant St.-John'swort	GDM,PM,JLH

<i>Ipomea pandurata</i>	wild potato-vine	JLH
<i>Iris versicolor</i>	blue flag iris	TM
<i>Juglans cinera</i>	butternut	JLH
<i>Juglans nigra</i>	black walnut	JLH
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	red cedar	JLH
<i>Liatris aspera</i>	rough blazing-star	TM
<i>Liatris cylindracea</i>	cylindric blazing-star	MK
<i>Liatris spicata</i>	blazing star	JLH, PM
<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	great lobelia	JLH,JF
<i>Lysimachia quadrifolia</i>	whorled loosestrife	IB
<i>Monarda citriodora</i>	lemon mint	PM
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	wild bergamot	PM
<i>Osmorhiza claytoni</i>	sweet cicely	JLH
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	ironwood	JLH
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	switch grass	MK
<i>Parnassia palustris</i>	grass-of-Parnassus	
<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>		MK,TM
<i>Penstemon hirsutus</i>	hairy beardtongue	DLM
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	ninebark	JLH
<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>	obedient plant	PM
<i>Phytolacca americana</i>	pokeweed	PM
<i>Prunus americanus</i>	wild plum	JLH
<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	mountain mint	PM
<i>Ratibida columnifera</i>	Mexican hat	PM,GN
<i>Rosa carolina</i>	pasture rose	JLH
<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>	green-headed coneflower	GN
<i>Rumex orbiculatus</i>	water dock	TM
<i>Scirpus atrovirens</i>	green bulrush	TM
<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	compass-plant	JF
<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	cup-plant	JLH,GDM
<i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i>	prairie dock	JF,GDM
<i>Smilacina racemosa</i>	false Solomon's seal	BL,AL
<i>Solidago bicolor</i>	silver-rod	JLH
<i>Solidago flexicaulis</i>	zig-zag goldenrod	MK
<i>Solidago patula</i>	rough-leaved goldenrod	TM,WB
<i>Solidago sempervirens</i>	seaside goldenrod	WB
<i>Sorbus americana</i>	American mountain-ash	JLH
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian grass	MG
<i>Thermopsis caroliniana</i>	false lupine	PM
<i>Tilia americana</i>	basswood	JLH
<i>Triosteum aurantiacum</i>	wild-coffee	TM
<i>Vaccinium caespitosum</i>	dwarf blueberry	TB
<i>Vaccinium parviflorum</i>	red huckleberry	TB
<i>Verbena hastata</i>	blue vervain	MK
<i>Verbena stricta</i>	hoary vervain	PM
<i>Vernonia altissima</i>	tall ironweed	PM
<i>Vernonia gigantea</i>	ironweed	FW
<i>Viburnum cassinoides</i>	wild raisin	JLH
<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>	highbush cranberry	TM
<i>Zizia aurea</i>	golden Alexanders	JLH,MK

TB	Ted Browning	Victoria, B.C.
IB	Irene Bouris	Sparta, Ont.
WB	Wayne Buck	New Hamburg, Ont.
DD	Deborah Dale	Scarborough, Ont.
FF	Felicity Fowke	Toronto, Ont.
JF	James French	Stoney Lake, Ont.
MG	Mary Gartshore	Walsingham, Ont.
JLH	Jim Hodgins	Toronto, Ont.
MK	Monique ten Kortenaar	Guelph, Ont.
BL	Barbara Lee	London, Ont.
AL	Anna Leggatt	Toronto, Ont.
PM	Paul McGaw	Toronto, Ont.
GDM	Gary McLean	Scarborough, Ont.
DLM	Don Morton	Etobicoke, Ont.
TM	Trish Murphy	Etobicoke, Ont.
GN	Graeme Norval	Oakville, Ont.
RAR.	R.A.K. Richards	Markham, Ont.

Thanks to our donors!

Calendar of Events



Canada Blooms Metro Convention Centre, March 22 to 26. Be sure to visit the North American Native Plant Society's woodland garden display, a re-creation of an Ontario hardwood forest in early spring, with sedges, ferns, mosses and the unfurling foliage of spring flowers. Or volunteer to staff a shift at our booth (and gain admittance to the show). To volunteer, please phone Catherine, 416-516-3571. Canada Blooms tickets: \$10 advance, \$15 at the door. For information about Canada Blooms call 1-800-730-1020.

NANPS Volunteers' Evening Friday May 12, 6 pm -10 pm Civic Garden Centre, 777 Lawrence Avenue East at Leslie Street, Toronto. We'll be getting a head start on setting up the sale. Afterwards, a coffee and cakes get-together. Help out, socialize with some plant-minded folks, and take a leisurely look at the stock that will be on sale next morning. For more details, call Catherine, 416-516-3571

NANPS Spring Plant Sale - Saturday, May, 13th, 10 am - 4 pm. Civic Garden Centre. See sidebar on page 2.

NANPS Garden Tour - Saturday, August 26, 2000, 10 am to 4 pm. A self-guided tour of private gardens in Toronto. Late-summer prairie, savannah, and meadow flowers at their best. NANPS members - \$10 each, Non-members - \$15 each. Watch for details in the summer issue of **Newsletter**. If you have a native plant garden and you are willing to open your garden for the day, please suggest it for this or future tours. Call Trish Murphy, 416-233-6507.

Toronto Wildflower Society
Meetings, 4th Wednesday of the month, September through April. Beaches Community Centre, 6 Williamson Rd., Daycare Room (basement). Summer wildflower walks

and tours. Upcoming meetings are on February 23 and March 29, at 7:30 pm. Spring wildflower garden tour: Sunday, May 21. Contact Paul McGaw, 416-261-6272.

The Dogtooth/Waterloo Wellington Wildflower Society meets on the third Wednesday of the month, 7:30 pm at the University of Guelph Arboretum Centre. Exciting speakers and fascinating topics are always featured. The Society also hosts an annual native plant sale in the spring. For more information, contact Carole Ann Lacroix, Herbarium, Botany Department, University of Guelph, Guelph Ontario N1G 2W1, 519-824-4120, fax: 519-767-1991, e-mail: botcal@uoguelph.ca, or web-site: <http://www.uoguelph.ca/botany/herbaria.htm>.

Thames Valley Native Plant Society
Meetings 2nd Thursday of every month, September through April, at 8 pm, London Civic Garden Centre, Springbank Road. Contact Marjorie Rogers-Carswell, 519-438-7912. Upcoming presentations are on February 10, March 9.

April 20 - Sand dunes of Holland: ecological parallels with the Grand Bend area, by Marianne VanTol
May 7 - Spring ephemeral wildflower walk in Coldspring Conservation Area



Fact Sheets:

The four fact sheets for 1999 are available to NANPS affiliate groups: *Sources of Native Plants in Ontario*, *Native Plant Gardening*, *Butterfly Gardening* and *Native Trees*. Please write to N.A.N.P.S. if you are interested in distributing the fact sheets to your members.

Name the Newsletter

What should we call this newsletter?

In your autumn mailing, NANPS members were invited to send in their suggestions for a name for the newsletter. To date, we have received two responses - good names both - but we feel that there are other creative individuals who might send in their splendid ideas if they were reminded. Or bribed.

Therefore, the person who sends in the winning entry will receive an autographed copy of Lorraine Johnson's *100 Easy-to-Grow Native Plants*.

Send entries to: Name-the-Newsletter
c/o Trish Murphy
One Thorndale Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M8X 1W6



Seed donors are the heart of our seed exchange - without them, no seed to exchange. We would like to express our thanks to all the generous members who collected native plant seeds for the exchange. And to encourage others to contribute seed this year. We have over 100 species available right now. However, there are over 10,000 species of vascular plants in temperate North America, so we still have room for expansion. Shall we aim for, say, 201 species for 2001? We also always need more of popular species such as butterfly milkweed, as demand outstrips supply.

Are you able to assist the Society in any projects? Don't be shy. We need your help in a wide range of activities—even if you have only a few odd hours to share. Please let us know what kind of work you would like to do, and what you are not interested in:

- staffing booths at fairs/conventions
- set up/strike down of Canada Blooms display garden
- writing fact sheets researching
- plant sale: salesperson cashier
- setup driver

Volunteer Opportunities

- Newsletter layout/graphic art
- stuffing envelopes
- selling advertisements in Newsletter
- fund-raising
- publicity
- web-site maintenance
- anything that needs doing
- other: _____

To save costs of postage, may we send you reminders, announcements, membership renewals, etc. by e-mail?

Yes, my e-mail address is _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

Please return to:

Membership Co-ordinator
PO Box 336, Postal Station F
Toronto Ontario M4Y 2L7
or
email to ddale@interlog.com

Directory of Sources & Services

Nurseries

Ontario

Otter Valley Native Plants

519-866-5639, fax: 519-866-5640
 otter.va@kanservu.ca
 Gail Rhynard, Box 31 RR #1, Eden, Ontario.
 Over 90 species: flowers, grasses, sedges,
 some shrubs. Contract-grown plugs (160/tray),
 seedling plugs, or pots. Large & small orders.
 Catalogue \$2.00

Taddle Creek Nursery

Southern Ontario native perennials, sedges,
 ferns, and vines--all nursery propagated or
 rescued. Contract growing or seed collecting
 can be arranged. Gardening services available.
 Catherine Crockett (416) 516-3571,
 crockett@interlog.com. Open by appointment.

Pterophylla

Producers of southern Ontario ecotypes of
 native seeds, plants, and trees. Mail order or by
 appointment. Free catalogue. Mary Gartshore,
 Peter Carson, 316 Regional Rd 60, RR #1,
 Walsingham, Ont. N0E 1X0. 519-586-3985,
 fax: 519-586-2926 e-mail: gartcar@kwic.com.

*Native plants are
 native to a specific
 place --
 Buy within your
 bioregion!*

Landscape Services



Trish Murphy
 Landscape Design
 416-233-6507

*Lawn Alternatives
 Butterfly Gardens
 Perennials*



Van needed!

The Canada Blooms display garden (rocks,
 potted plants, split rails, etc.) needs to get to
 the Metro Convention Centre. Is there a
 generous Toronto-area member who can lend
 a cube van? Set-up is Sunday, March 19,
 strike-down is late Sunday, March 26. Please
 phone Trish (233-6507) or Catherine (516-
 3571)

Gardening supplies urgently needed for
 Regent Park Community Project. We need
 vegetable seed, wildflower seed, perennial
 divisions, trowels, children's size
 gloves,.....anything and everything. RPCP is a
 coalition of community groups working to
 promote unity through gardening. Please call
 416-363-4235, leave message for Tim.

Announcement

**Tortured Poodles 2000 - The Weird
 Garden Contest.** Is there a garden of
 aberrations you would like to nominate for
 the first-ever **Tortured Poodles** contest?
 There are only two categories: 'Public/Civic',
 and 'Major Money Has Been Spent'; the
 average homeowner with bad taste doesn't
 qualify. (We may expand the contest in
 future years.) Competition will be stiff. And
 ugly. To receive a copy of the judging grid/
 nomination form, fax 519-866-5640 with
 your fax number or e-mail address. Nomina-
 tions must be in by Aug. 1, 2000. Winners
 will be announced in the Winter 2001
 Newsletter. Sponsored by Otter Valley
 Native Plants and Trish Murphy Landscape
 Design.

Advertise your native plant nursery or natural landscaping firm in this directory. Take
 advantage of our low start-up rates.

Directory listing (7 lines maximum): \$20.00/ 1 issues
 \$30.00/ 2 issues
 Display advertising: 1 col. width (2.5") - \$20.00 /inch/issue, camera-ready. Other sizes, please
 enquire.

Send to NANPS, Box 336, Postal Station F, Toronto ON M4Y 2L7

Deadline for Summer 2000 issue: **July 1, 2000**

Advertising in **Newsletter** does not imply endorsement by the North American Native Plant
 Society.



Member Survey

How did you hear about the Society?
 ___ at Plant Sale ___ at Canada Blooms
 ___ through *Wildflower* magazine
 ___ from a friend
 ___ other (please specify _____)

Why did you become a member?
 ___ to learn about native plants
 ___ to become more active in restoration
 ___ to meet like-minded people
 ___ other _____

What activities would you like to see the
 Society undertake?
 ___ lectures ___ symposia ___ garden tours
 ___ ecological restoration, (school, parks)
 ___ native plant gardening workshops
 ___ plant rescues (from areas scheduled for
 "development")
 ___ land purchases
 ___ other _____

How might we improve this newsletter?
 What types of information would you
 like to see/expand/reduce?

What would you like to see on the
 NANPS web-site?