

Kelseya

Newsletter of the Montana Native Plant Society



Kelseya uniflora
ill. by Bonnie Heidel

The Sounds of Botany

[By Joseph Arnett, from *Walking in the Beauty of the World, Reflections of a Northwest Botanist*.
Published by the Washington Native Plant Society, 2004.]

Santa in his wisdom and generosity brought our family a CD player this year, the kind that you can hang on your belt and listen to while you workout or run, or whatever you might do when you don't have to listen to what is going on around you. What I like to do is walk, and the notion of wearing headphones is contrary to my idea of appreciating nature. But part of my walking crosses Interstate 405, and I don't mind substituting the sound of music for the sound of traffic, so I gave it a try one glowing dusk, with mist rising off the field along North Creek. To walk along the dike with my head full of a cello concerto by Vivaldi was a new experience, and a good one. I felt like I was walking through a movie with a great sound track.

I am not about to give up appreciating sounds like the singing of birds, or flowing water, or the wind in the trees, but the walk with the CD player helped me realize in a new way how sound can transform experience. It got me thinking about sounds and plants, not a common association; our relationship with plants seems to be a silent venture. I remember a song about a guy who talked to the trees, but they never listened to him, or, presumably, answered.

Plants for the most part seem silent, but sometimes they do make sounds, even startling ones, like the thump of an apple hitting the ground on a windless day. I decided to pursue this idea of botany and sound to see if it led me to a greater appreciation of plants.

The first sounds that came to mind, because fall had just passed, were of dry bigleaf maple leaves hitting the ground and of crunching through thick piles of

them. And then I recalled the softer sounds of swishing through dry grass, and the scrapings of blackberry thorns on jeans. Another particular native plant sound is the rattling that arrowleaf balsamroot can make late in the year when the leaves are brittle and shaking in the wind. More than once I have jumped at what sounded for a second like a rattlesnake, warning me on breezy eastern Washington hillsides.

Then I thought more about wind and leaves. Quaking aspen seems designed to be a musical instrument,

continued on page 3



Winter along the Clark Fork River. Photo by Lisa Hensley

Chapter Events

Calypso Chapter

Chapter members held their annual Christmas Brunch in Dillon on December 16, hosted by Linda Lyon and Dinesh Badouraly. Attendees discussed meetings and field trips for 2013, and Bob Wooley and Jessie Salix presented their proposal for a penstemon project. Happy New Year from the Calypso Chapter to all MNPS members, with best wishes for new members and for celebrating native plants in 2013.

Clark Fork Chapter

Monday, 1/14, 7:30 pm. Join Dave Hanna, The Nature Conservancy's director of science and stewardship for the Rocky Mountain Front, for stories of his 20 years working on the ecology and conservation of the RMF. Room 123, Gallagher Business Bldg, UM Campus. This will be a joint meeting with Montana Audubon (**note different day and place**).

Tuesday, 1/29, 7:30 pm. Herbarium Night. The genus *Penstemon* is one of Montana's largest, but how do you tell them apart? Botanist Peter Lesica and penstemon expert Mike Young will show us "The Diversity of Montana Beardtongues." Rm 303, Botany Bldg, UM Campus.

Thursday, 2/14, 7:30 pm. Rachel Potter, who herself has been hiking Glacier Park for over 30 years, will talk about hikes that two of the Park's most famous botanists took more than 100 years ago. Come hear her tell of the "Botanical Expeditions of Elrod and Jones in Glacier National Park, 1909 and 1910." Rm Log, Gallagher Business Bldg, UM Campus.

Tuesday, 2/26, 7:30 pm. Herbarium Night. Journey to the Lilliputian world of bryophytes with bryologist Joe Elliott as we learn to identify "Common Mosses with a Hand Lens." Rm 303, Botany Bldg, UM Campus.

Thursday, 3/14, 7:30 pm. Native landscaping can be a challenge, especially when you want to use culturally significant plants. Get the story when nurseryman Bill Caras and landscape architect Jennie Meinershagen present "Cultural Plants for the UM Native American Center and the Rise of Native Landscaping." Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory Street (**note different location**).

Tuesday, 3/26, 7:30 pm. Herbarium Night. *Carex* is Montana's largest genus by far.

Start to get a hand on this dizzying diversity when botanist John Pierce presents "An Introduction to Montana Sedges." Rm 303, Botany Bldg., UM Campus.

Thursday, 4/11. It's time again to wake up your memory and get excited for summer plant sightings. Come look at some of your favorite wildflowers, and some you don't know, when Clark Fork Chapter photographers show slides of "Montana's High Mountain Wildflowers." Rm Log, Gallagher Business Bldg, UM Campus.

The Clark Fork Chapter Needs You!

Chapter organizers are looking for people who can raise a couple of flats of plants in their house under lights or in a greenhouse between late January and mid-May. MNPS will provide the light fixture if needed. Contact Peter at 728-8740 or lesica.peter@gmail.com for more information or to volunteer. Be part of one of our signature activities and have the fun of intimately knowing a couple of native species.

Flathead Chapter

Chapter meetings are held the third Wednesday of October, November and January through April at Teakettle Community Hall, 235 Nucleus Ave., Columbia Falls, unless otherwise noted (**this is a new location**). Programs begin at 7 pm; members are encouraged to come to the 5:30 business meeting beforehand to discuss and help plan Chapter activities. Feel free to bring a sack supper. For more information, contact Jen Hintz at 270-7028.

Wednesday, 1/16. "Whitebark Pine: Why is it dying and what are we doing about it?" Presented by Rebecca Lawrence of Glacier National Park staff.

Wednesday, 2/20. "Digital Plant Tools." Shannon Kimball will present the new Glacier Wildflower app and Jen Asebrook will introduce us to some of the most useful plant websites.

Wednesday, 3/20. "Food Forests" with Leslie Lowe.

Wednesday, 4/17. "Montana Plant Geography." Montana lies in the Rocky Mountain and Great Plains floristic provinces, but some of our floristic richness,



especially our rare plants, comes from more distant provinces. These plants find a home in distinct parts of the state. Peter Lesica's talk will explore the common and the rare, where they are found and how they got here.

Wednesday, 5/15. "Native Plant Gardening and Garden Tour," presented by Laura Law.

Kelsey Chapter

For information about upcoming Chapter events and programs, contact Kathy Lloyd, 449-6586.

Thursday, 1/17, 7:00 pm. Dave Hanna of The Nature Conservancy talks about the "Ecology and Conservation of the Rocky Mountain Front." Lewis and Clark Library, Helena; free and open to the public.

Wednesday, 2/20, 7:00 pm. Dr. Matt Lavin, Department of Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology, MSU, will present a program on the confusing world of plant names. How do plants get their scientific names, why do they change and why don't all plant professionals use the same names? Lewis and Clark Library, Helena; free and open to the public.

Maka Flora Chapter

For information about upcoming Chapter events and programs, contact Libby Knotts, 774-3778 or rek@midrivers.net.

Valley of Flowers Chapter

Meetings are held at 7 pm on the second Tuesday of each month from October through April in Room 108, Plant Biosciences Building, MSU campus, unless otherwise announced.

Tuesday, 1/8. Peter Lesica will make a biogeographical wildflower presentation and entertain questions on his new flora, Manual of Montana Vascular Plants.

Tuesday, 2/12. Mike Garverich shows his photos of western Montana wildflowers.

Tuesday, 3/12. Robert Dunn and Laura Smith of Westscape Nursery and/or Russell Smith (not related) and James Bauder present "Revegetation strategies for a saline playa at Hailstone National Wildlife Refuge, Rapelje, MT."

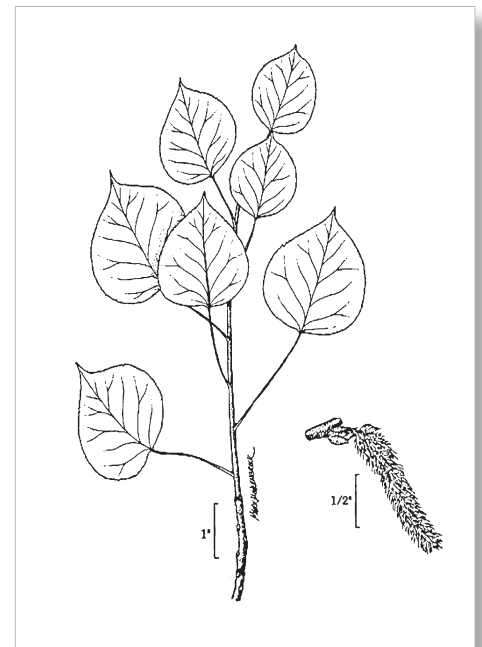
Tuesday, 4/9. Cathy Cripps will speak on whitebark pine restoration efforts.

Sounds of Botany, cont'd

fluttering up a concert in the faintest breeze, and wind sweeping through the branches and leaves of cottonwoods is a strong dry-season memory. One summer, on crutches because of an injured ankle, I sat under a rum cherry tree by the Atlantic Ocean and listened to sea breezes playing in the leaves for so many hours that I was ready to go back to work even if I had to crawl. And there are times when the wind is anything but gentle and plows through the trees like a freight train, the rushing and roaring punctuated here and there by the crack of a breaking branch, or even the shudder of a trunk hitting the ground.

People can also make sounds with plants, like blowing across a blade of grass held between the thumbs of both hands. This squawk is not all that melodious, but we could follow the idea farther and include whistles made by slipping the bark off willow branches, or flutes or recorders carved out of hollow-pithed elderberry. We could even take the idea to the ultimate, that cello, possibly carved from Sitka spruce and bigleaf maple, resonating, giving voice to the inspiration of Vivaldi along the dikes of North Creek.

Or here is one of my favorite botanical sounds. I have heard it many times while introducing a beginner to the use of a hand lens. "Hold the lens close to the eye," I say. "Closer. Now turn so the object (the colorful interior of a tiny flower, perhaps) is in the light. A little closer now, bring the object closer... almost touching." You can tell when it is in focus by the sound.
"Oh!"



Populus tremuloides. Photo USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database / USDA NRCS.



News & Notes

Nominate Someone Special

MNPS offers two annual awards. The Outstanding Service Award is given to a member of MNPS for service to the Society and includes a certificate and gift befitting the individual. The Special Achievement Award recognizes anyone—member or not—whose work has contributed to the mission and goals of MNPS and also includes a certificate.

Awards are presented at the MNPS Annual Meeting, next scheduled for July 5-7 at Camp Rotary in the Little Belt Mountains. Please take a moment to nominate a person or people you think deserve this recognition. Any MNPS member can make a nomination. Nominations are due to the awards committee by April 1. Members of the 2013 committee are Peter Lesica and Kathy Lloyd. Please include a written statement about the nominee's contributions to MNPS or its goals, and which award you are nominating him or her for. Many people are dedicated to Montana's native plants and deserve to be honored. Send your nominations to Peter at lesica.peter@gmail.com or Kathy at drakekath@hughes.net.

Save the Date:

2013 MNPS Annual Meeting

The 2013 Annual Meeting of the Montana Native Plant Society is scheduled for **July 5-7** at Camp Rotary in the Little Belt Mountains. Camp Rotary is on Belt Creek between Monarch and Neihart. The Kelsey Chapter will host the meeting and is hard at work planning field trips and activities for the weekend. We hope you will make plans to attend. Watch for more details as the date gets closer.



Welcome New Members!

The Montana Native Plant Society welcomes the following new members:

Valley of Flowers Chapter:

Katie Dykgrave

Clark Fork Chapter:

Brian Williams, Jessica C. Kindred
and lifetime member Nancy Maruca

Flathead Chapter:

Heidi Dettmering and Leo Libby

Maka Flora Chapter:

Diane Borgreen

State-Eastern-At-Large:

Mark Taylor

2013 Small Grant Competition Open

by Linda Lyon

The Montana Native Plant Society (MNPS) announces the 17th annual Small Grant competition for projects or studies that support the small grant program objectives to: 1) stimulate research, conservation and educational activities that help foster an appreciation of Montana's native plants and plant communities; and 2) promote native plant conservation through better understanding of Montana's native flora and vegetation and the factors affecting their survival. The grant competition is open to residents of Montana and, of course, all MNPS members. The deadline for proposals is February 15, 2013. Project or study proposals must pertain to native plants of Montana. All proposals that meet the minimum criteria will be considered, however proposals are sought that generate data or public support for conservation of native plants in the wild. For more information go to the MNPS website at www.mtnativeplants.org, or contact Dr. Linda Lyon at L_lyon@umwestern.edu.

President's Platform

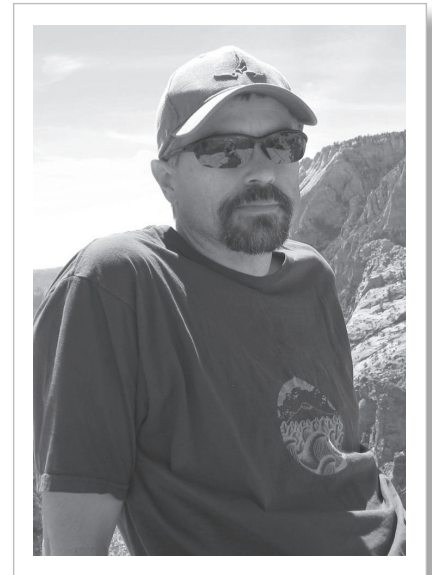
MNPS members have purchased almost 200 copies of Peter Lesica's "Manual of Montana Vascular Plants." While we have sold out of our stock of discounted copies for MNPS members, the flora is still available at a few local bookstores around Montana, and online at BRIT Press and Amazon. I hope everyone who bought a copy is as excited about it as I am. It has been a joy to reacquaint myself with old [plant] friends and make new ones, and to have a wealth of plant distribution and ecology information at my fingertips. The Manual encapsulates decades of astute study and observation, and will be the authoritative reference for Montana's flora for years to come.

Furthermore, I am pleased that MNPS was able to support this work for several years, starting with serving as the fiscal agent for grant monies that supported illustrations in the book, and ultimately partnering with Peter to fund the publication. It used to be that University or other academic publishers had funds to cover the cost of publication and the author received royalties. However, in these times, this is no longer the case for a small volume book. Instead, the author or someone must finance the publication costs up-front, and will only recover those costs when all the books have been sold. Due to these costs, the support of MNPS was essential in order to get the book published at all. Because of careful management of society funds over the years, MNPS was able to reach into savings to make this happen without affecting of our normal annual budget. The society's up-front costs should be re-paid by book sales over the coming years.

The publication of the Manual is a significant milestone in furthering the mission of MNPS: to preserve, conserve, and study the native plants and plant communities of Montana, and to educate the public about the value of our native flora. It provides a good example of the value of the investment that MNPS members make in the society. Thanks to the MNPS board of directors and all MNPS members for enabling the publication of this great resource, and thanks especially to Peter for his long and diligent efforts!

On another topic, I want to welcome Dave Shea as the new Eastern-at-large Representative. Dave won the election for this post as a write-in candidate and graciously agreed to serve. Among other highlights, Dave spent 36 years as a wilderness ranger in Glacier National Park and has taught courses at the Glacier Institute for 29 years. Dave now lives in Choteau and is planning field trips for the upcoming season.

~ Dave Hanna



In Memoriam

Dr. John H. "Jack" Rumely, professor emeritus at Montana State University, passed away on October 3, 2012. Dr. Rumely was a revered educator for more than 30 years, teaching plant taxonomy, plant ecology, biogeography and agrostology. He also was curator of the Herbarium for 15 years. In 2003, MNPS presented Dr. Rumely with its Special Achievement Award for "excellence in teaching the botanical sciences, Montana's native flora, and contributions to the botanical community as a whole." Several MNPS members attended his memorial service in Bozeman on November 17. His students will never forget his organized preparedness for classes and teaching ability as well as his dry wit. Memorials in his name may be sent to the MSU Foundation, "John H. Rumely Award," P. O. Box 172750, Bozeman, MT, 59717-2750.



Native Plant Profiles

[The following profiles are two of a number of short articles about native plants written by Kelsey Chapter members for the Helena Independent Record from 2001-2006.]

Juniper

by Spencer Shropshire

Common juniper, sometimes called dwarf juniper, is a low-lying evergreen with a bristly countenance. It may have the widest natural range of any tree, and is native to both Europe and North America. Although reaching significant heights in the Mediterranean Basin, and some areas of the eastern United States, in our region it is significantly less than the necessary thirteen feet for tree status, and is therefore classified as a shrub. Its stems may creep outward in a circumferential fashion, dying at the center, and accounting for its Old English name, fairy circle.

Junipers prefer dry climates, and have leaves that are small, sharp and needle- or scale-like, rendering them indistinguishable, to the untrained eye, from cedars (which they are frequently called). Like other members of the conifer group, they do not produce true flowers. Instead of the cones characteristic of pine, spruce, fir and cedar, fruits of the juniper fuse into dense, fleshy, blue-black berries, by which they are therefore best identified.



Juniperus scopulorum. Photo by D.E. Herman @USDA-NRCS
PLANTS Database



Juniperus communis. Photo by Susan McDougall @ USDA-NRCS
PLANTS Database

The berries are consumed by ruffed and sharptail grouse, bobwhite, partridge, pheasant, whitetail deer, moose – and humans. In the 17th century, Franciscus Sylvius, a professor of medicine at the University of Leyden, distilled juniper berries with spirits, attempting to produce an inexpensive medicine with the diuretic properties associated with juniper oil. The product became instantly and widely popular as gin. (*Genievre* is French for juniper berry.)

While the wood of the larger trees is prized, the shrubs are only practical as firewood. An 18th century lexicographer commented: "When women chide their husbands for a long while together it is commonly said they give them a juniper lecture, which, I am informed, is a comparison taken from the long lasting of the live coals of that wood."

In our area there are two prevalent native junipers: Rocky Mountain juniper (*Juniperus scopulorum*), which is taller with thin, scaly, thread-like twigs; and common juniper (*Juniperus communis*), distinguished by the distinct whitening of the groove on the upper surface of its needle-shaped leaves.



Common Snowberry

by Cathie Jean and Jay Frederick

Common snowberry is a deciduous shrub that occurs in a variety of community or habitat types and plant associations. This native is found across the northern tier of North America, from Hudson Bay west to Alaska, south to California and east to North Carolina.

Plant names often provide clues to the description of the plant. The scientific name of common snowberry is *Symphoricarpos albus* (L.) Blake. The generic name stems from Greek terms *symphoreo*, to accumulate, and *karpos*, a fruit. *Albus* is a Latin term for "white." Together, these terms refer to the white drupes that are borne in small, axillary or terminal spike-like clusters. Common snowberry shrubs vary in height from three to four and a half feet, but can reach six feet in mesic riparian habitats. Common snowberry forms dense thickets where environmental conditions permit.

Western woodland and forest plant communities with frequent wildfires have many plants that are adapted to fire. Common snowberry is typically the first and possibly the most important widespread shrub to recolonize burned areas in this part of Montana. Common snowberry has high resistance to fire due to its rhizomatous growth habit. Rhizomes are elongate



Symphoricarpos albus. Illustration by Mary E. Eaton @ www.nationalgeographic.com

horizontal stems that, in this species, typically occur two to five inches deep in mineral soil. After fire or other disturbance kills the top of the plant, new growth sprouts from these subsurface rhizomes. This rhizomatous growth response is highly variable. In general, light to moderate severity fires increase the stem density and common snowberry often survives even high severity fires. The living rhizome systems can be important in retaining nutrients released by fire. In post-fire environments however, common snowberry can also detrimentally compete with new tree seedlings.

Common snowberry stems sprouting from rhizomes are among the first woody vegetation to recolonize a site. Common snowberry will produce fruit the first

growing season following a fire, often exceeding pre-fire crops. Lush post-fire regrowth provides much needed cover for small wildlife and helps protect the exposed soil surface from splash erosion.

Common snowberry is an important wildlife food in the western states and provinces. New vegetative growth provides nutrient rich forage for many species of browsing wildlife and domestic livestock. Like other shrubs, the foliage contains a higher percentage of crude protein during fall and winter than grasses or forbs. The fruits, especially important for birds such as ruffed grouse, sharp-tailed grouse and pine grosbeaks, ripen in the fall and frequently remain available on the shrubs into the winter months.

Native Americans used common snowberry for many purposes. The fruits and leaves were mashed and applied to cuts or skin sores as a poultice and to soothe sore, runny eyes. Tea from the bark was used as a remedy for tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases. A brew made from the entire plant was used as a physic tonic. Arrow shafts and pipe stems were made from the stems. Today, common snowberry is used extensively as an ornamental because of its decorative white fruits and fragrant smell following a summer rain shower.



Symphoricarpos albus. Photo by Lindsey Koepke @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database





Art class in the garden with Professor Nolan Salix. Photo by Linda Lyon

2012 Small Grant Report

Native Plant Learning Garden Supports a Community

by Chantelle Gournay and Linda Lyon

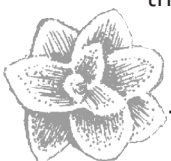
The Campus Community Garden at the University of Montana Western was missing something. It lacked native plants!

Begun in 2010, the garden provides green space on the UMW campus for students, faculty, staff and the local community to enjoy an outdoor living laboratory and meeting space. It also provides an abundance of the fresh produce served in the campus cafeteria, and gardening space for community members interested in growing their own food. Thanks to the Montana Native Plant Society Small Grant Award we received in 2012, we were able to enrich the garden with a native plant area to foster curiosity and understanding of the uniqueness and importance of Montana's native plants.

Planting began in June in the front area of the 3.5 acre garden. Many people turned out to aid in the project, led by student volunteer garden staff and an Americorps Volunteer. Simple, sensory-based interpretive signage was

added to the site in the fall to explain the importance of the native plantings, label individual plants and note ethnobotanical information about many of the species. Now completed, the site holds almost 45 species of plants native to Montana, including shrubs, forbs and grasses. Although the majority of the species were two or three years old at the time of planting, we also broadcast a mixture of native grass/forb seed over the planting area to help fill in between the more mature plants. All of the seed and plants were purchased locally through Southwest Montana Native Landscapes, LLC.

This past summer we extended our regularly scheduled gardening programs, some for adults and some for kids, to include various aspects of native plants (programming based on the importance of pollinators in a garden, folklore and ethnobotany of native plants, companion planting, etc.). In addition, families were encouraged to visit the native plant



area on their own to take part in self-led discovery activities. Several items are kept on hand for visitor use, such as magnifying loupes, insect collection boxes for studying native pollinators, reference materials and a set of child-friendly garden tools.

Currently there are no other public native plant gardens within the city limits of Dillon. Therefore, the award came at a critical time to encourage a burgeoning local interest in native plant gardens, landscapes and conservation. We hope our garden will foster this interest by providing the community with a free and open-to-the-public source for native plant education.

The University of Montana Western Campus Community Garden staff extends their gratitude to the Montana Native Plant Society for making this project possible.



The native area ready to plant. Photo by Linda Lyon

Wild Strawberries

by Aaron Liston, Curator of the Herbarium, Oregon State University

[Adapted by Peter Lesica with permission from the Oregon Flora Newsletter, Vol. 18, No.1]



Fragaria virginiana. Photo by Peter Lesica

Considering its familiarity, it is easy to overlook the fact that the edible strawberry is a botanical oddity.

In most plants, the fleshy part of the edible structure is derived from the ovary, and this fits the botanical definition of a fruit. Despite the fact that the US Supreme Court ruled in 1893 that the tomato is legally a vegetable (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nix_v._Hedden), to a botanist it will always be a fruit. And I am certain that, if asked, the Supreme Court would also decree that the strawberry is a fruit. At least this is partially correct. We do eat fruits when we ingest a strawberry, but it is definitely not a berry! The fruits are the small achenes (dry, one-seeded fruits) that are scattered on the surface of the tasty, red receptacle (the vegetative tissue from which the floral organs originate).

From an evolutionary perspective, the strawberry is a remarkably successful innovation for seed dispersal. "Everything eats strawberries," according to Dr. Tia-Lynn Ashman, a plant ecological geneticist at the University of Pittsburgh who has been studying wild strawberries for 15 years. The fleshy receptacles are enjoyed by mammals, birds, reptiles and even molluscs, as anyone who was

grown strawberries will know. All of these creatures are capable of spreading the achenes. Their popularity in the animal kingdom has facilitated the spread of the nearly 20 species of wild strawberry to appropriate habitats

continued next page



(not too dry and not too wet, with plenty of sun) throughout the Northern hemisphere. One species, *Fragaria chiloensis*, has even dispersed to Hawaii and the southern tip of South America. Based on a recent fossil-calibrated molecular clock analysis, the genus *Fragaria* originated between one and four million years ago, and thus attained its widespread distribution in a relatively short time, on an evolutionary time scale.

When I started working on *Fragaria* four years ago, I was excited to make my first visit to the strawberry greenhouses at the USDA National Clonal Germplasm Repository. This facility houses the national collection of *Fragaria*, including all 20 of the wild species. I was eager to see the morphological diversity of these species. To my disappointment, most of the flowers had been removed to prevent cross pollination, and vegetatively, they all looked pretty much the same! Even if flowers had been available, most species would still have been indistinguishable to me, as floral variation is limited. The mature receptacles are more diverse and can potentially be used to differentiate species. However, they are also quite variable within a species, and because they lose most of their features in herbarium specimens, they are not well-documented in the botanical literature. For this reason, identification keys tend to focus on details of leaf texture, dentation, venation and pubescence.

The cultivated strawberry is *Fragaria* × *ananassa* subsp. *ananassa*. The “×” symbol denotes that this is a hybrid species, originating as a cross between



Fragaria virginiana. Illustration from USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database / Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. 1913

F. chiloensis and *F. virginiana*. The origin of this subspecies is fairly well-documented. It can be traced to France in the mid-1700s, where both of its parental species were being grown, having been introduced from Quebec and Chile, respectively. These plants combined the large receptacles of *F. chiloensis* with the delicious flavor of *F. virginiana*, and the hybrid soon eclipsed both parents in popularity.

Less well-known is the fact that these same two species also hybridize naturally in northwestern North America, and the resulting plants are named *Fragaria* × *ananassa* subsp. *cuneifolia*. This taxon is particularly abundant in the vicinity of Corvallis, Oregon. It is interesting to speculate that if Native American agriculture had developed in the Willamette Valley, these people would likely have incorporated the hybrid into their crops, and the Pacific Northwest could have been the birthplace of the cultivated strawberry.



Fragaria vesca. Photo by Peter Lesica.



MNPS Chapters & the Areas They Serve

CALYPSO CHAPTER - Beaverhead, Madison, Deer Lodge, and Silver Bow Counties; southwestern Montana

CLARK FORK CHAPTER - Lake, Mineral, Missoula, Powell, and Ravalli Counties

FLATHEAD CHAPTER - Flathead and Lake Counties plus Glacier National Park

KELSEY CHAPTER - Lewis & Clark, Jefferson, and Broadwater Counties

MAKA FLORA CHAPTER - Richland, Roosevelt, McCone, Sheridan, and Daniels Counties

VALLEY OF FLOWERS CHAPTER - Gallatin, Park, and Sweet Grass Counties plus Yellowstone National Park

All MNPS chapters welcome members from areas other than those indicated. We've listed counties just to give you some idea of what part of the state is served by each chapter. Watch for meeting announcements in your local newspaper. Ten paid members are required for a chapter to be eligible for acceptance in MNPS.

Your mailing label tells you the following:

CHAPTER AFFILIATION: CAL=Calypso; CF=Clark Fork; F=Flathead; K=Kelsey; MF= Maka Flora; VOF=Valley of Flowers

YEAR YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES: Memberships expire in February of the year listed on your mailing label.

Use this form to join MNPS only if you are a first-time member! To renew a membership, please wait for your yellow renewal card in the mail. **Moving? Please notify us promptly of address changes at mtnativeplantmembership@gmail.com.**

Membership in Montana Native Plant Society is on a calendar-year basis, March 1 through the end of February of the following year. New-member applications processed before the end of October each year will expire the following February; those processed after November 1 will expire in February of the year after. Membership renewal notices are mailed to each member in January. Please renew your membership before the summer issue of *Kelseya* so your name is not dropped from our mailing list. Your continued support is crucial to the conservation of native plants in Montana. THANK YOU!

MONTANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Name (please print)_____ E-mail_____

Address_____ City/State/Zip_____

Phone_____ Chapter Affiliation (optional) _____

Delivery preference _____ paper copy by mail _____ digital copy by email

You will receive membership acknowledgement by email, as well as a pdf of the most recent Kelseya. Future newsletter issues will arrive according to your preference indicated above.

**JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE at
www.mtnativeplants.org**

or by mail at
Montana Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 8783
Missoula, MT 59807-8783

Membership Level	Dues w/affiliation	Dues w/o affiliation
Individual	\$20	\$15
Family	\$25	\$20
Business/Organization	\$40	\$35
Living Lightly	\$15	\$15
Lifetime (one-time pymt)	\$300 per household	-----

Canadian subscribers please add \$4.00 to cover mailing costs. Additional donations may be specified for a particular project or the general fund.



About Montana Native Plant Society

The Montana Native Plant Society (MNPS) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation chartered for the purpose of preserving, conserving, and studying the native plants and plant communities of Montana, and educating the public about the value of our native flora. Contributions to MNPS are tax deductible, and may be designated for a specific project or chapter, for the Small Grants fund, or the general operating fund.

Your yearly membership fee includes a subscription to *Kelsey*, the quarterly newsletter of MNPS. We welcome your articles, field trip reports, book review, or anything that relates to native plants or the Society. Please include a line or two of "bio" information with each article. Drawings should be in black ink or a good quality photocopy. All items should be typed, saved in Microsoft Word or rich text format (rtf), and sent electronically to: carokurtz@gmail.com or mailed to Kelsey Editor, 645 Beverly Avenue, Missoula, MT, 59801.

Changes of address, inquiries about membership, and general correspondence should be sent to MNPS Membership, 398 Jeffers Road, Ennis, MT 59729. Advertising space is available in each issue at \$5/column inch. Ads must be camera-ready and must meet the guidelines set by the Board of Directors for suitable subject matter; that is, be related in some way to native plants or the interests of MNPS members.

The deadline for each issue is Fall–September 10; Winter–December 10; Spring–March 10; Field Trip Guide–April 10; Summer–June 10. Please send web items to our webmaster concurrent with these dates.

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Montana Native Plant Society

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