



Hymenoxys argentea, Kerky Sue
Both ray and disc flowers yellow,
foliage covered with silvery hairs.

Field Trip Reports

Bill Isaacs and his class recently went to the Florida mountains, an area of great interest, and saw a number of unusual plants. He reports that under the direction of Myra McCormick, they traveled to the southern end of the Floridas where they found Anisacanthus thurberi (Desert-honeysuckle), Stenolobium stans (Trumpet Bush), Quercus turbinella (Shrub Live Oak), Ferocactus wislizenii (Barrel Cactus), Notholaena standleyi (Cloak Fern), Fellaea longimucronata (Cliff-brake), Fouquieria splendens (Ocotillo) in full bloom, Mammillaria micromeris (Pincushion Cactus), Acacia constricta (White Thorn), Muhlenbergia porteri (Muhly, a grass), and a great many other low desert species.

Bill reports, "It is sad to relate that the area is disasterously overgrazed and the vegetation that remains is either unpalatable to livestock or inaccessible. The Barrel Cacti are being exploited and will doubtless soon disappear. The Bureau of Land Management is unfortunately unable to protect the natural values of its lands in this area (and elsewhere) and what little is now left can only continue to deteriorate."

* * *

The Sitting Bull Falls area richly rewarded those who traveled down there recently. Aquilegia chaplinii (Columbine) clinging to the falls in full bloom, Penstemon cardinalis ssp. regalis (a red Beardtongue), Asclepias tuberosa (an orange milkweed) were some of the showiest plants at the Falls. The highway areas were in bloom the whole way down with Evening-Primrose, Faint-brush, Silvery Lupine, Blanket-flower, Soapweed Yucca, all of which are illustrated in this issue, as well as Verbena bipinnatifida and Sphaeralcea grossulariaefolia (Globe-mallow).

* * *

Field trippers bound for Tent Rocks elected to go to the Randall Davey Botanical Garden instead. The meadow was in full bloom with Penstemon secundiflorus (Beardtongue), Castilleja integra (Paint-brush), Hymenoxys argentea (Kerky Sue), and Phlox nana.

* * *



Lupinus argenteus, Silvery Lupine
Flowers blue to purple, foliage hairy.

Field Trips Up and Coming

June 11 - Forest Ecology with Henry Carey

Meet in Santa Fe at Furr's parking lot, 9:30 am. Bring lunch.

June 24 - The Cooks Range and Silver City

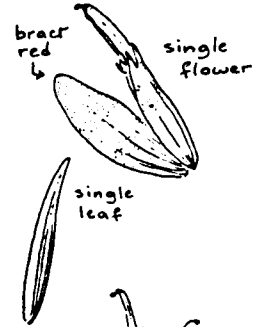
We will leave Bear Mountain Guest Ranch with Myra Mc Cormick at 8:00am for the 80 mile drive to see Arizona Cypress in New Mexico and numerous other plants in flower. High-clearance vehicles can make the drive in to the cypress, but others must park and hike 4 miles in on the road or ride with Myra in her VW bus. Make your own reservations at the Ranch(see classified ads).

There is camping for self-sufficient campers in the Gila National Forest a few miles from the Ranch.



Oenothera caespitosa, Evening-Primrose
Flowers white, fragrant, short-lived, fading to pink.

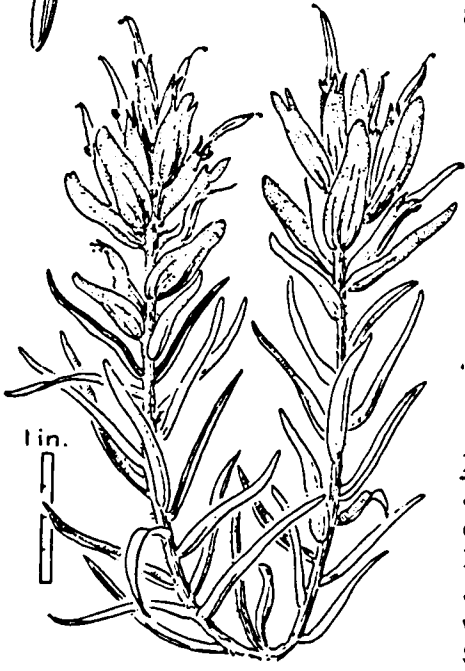
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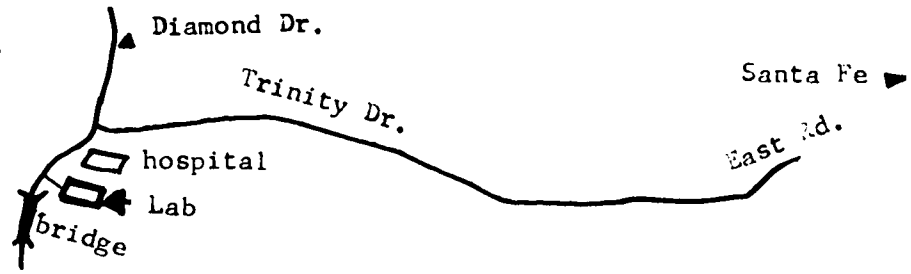
Santa Fe:

May meeting: Our thanks to Henry Carey for his Forest Ecology talk and slide show. Please note the Forest Ecology field trip in the schedule above.

June meeting: June 21 t, Wednesday, Terry Fox of Bandelier National Monument will speak on plant succession following the 1977 La Mesa fire in Bandelier. The meeting will be in Los Alamos at the Health Research Lab conference room, 8:00pm. See the map below. Park in the HKL lot, and signs in the lobby will direct you to the conference room.



Castilleja integra,
Indian Paintbrush
Blooms crimson to rose.



Plant Sale: The May 13th Plant Sale was a pleasant affair under the trees of the Institute of American Indian Art. Thanks to Jan Bond, Yvonne Bond, Kay Bell, Don Lowrie, Kuby Mullins, Fausta Waite and the vendors for their efforts in planning and working at the Sale. The NPS will give nearly \$1,000.00 to the Randall Davey Botanic Garden and Nature Center. Noreen Foitras will conduct tours of the grounds for NPS members in July and August.

Society Plans Display at De Vargas Mall

The NFS is welcome to enter an Educational Exhibit in "Living Legends," a flower show sponsored by the Santa Fe Council of Garden Clubs, Friday, June 23, from 2pm to 9pm and Saturday, June 24, from 10am to 4pm. We have plant material for a display, and now we need people to tend the display and hand out newsletters as well as transport the plants to and from De Vargas Mall. Please call David Deardorff, 988-1520, if you can help. Note that the Cooks Range/Silver City field trip is that weekend, so if you're staying in town the Society needs your help!

Who's Pollinating Plants on Your Place?

The striped hawkmoth (Hyles lineata), widespread in the U.S., Canada, Europe, and North Africa, has been out sipping nectar and pollinating since mid-May. With its unmistakable coloration of forewings with broad, white stripes, hind wings pink-buff, the hawkmoth hovers day and night before flowers, moving its long, curved proboscis.

Although you can catch it feeding on dandelion nectar, the striped hawkmoth shows a marked preference for blue flowers, visiting such species as Iris missouriensis, Mertensia francisciana, and Vicia americana in the the mountains and Vinca minor (Periwinkle) and Ajuga in our gardens.

The caterpillars of this moth (sometimes a pest) were considered a delicacy by some Southwest Indians and eaten on ceremonial occasions.

A Note from the Heritage Program

On May 4 and 5, the New Mexico Native Plant Preservation Advisory Committee met at UMI to discuss the following items:

- (1) Compatibility and relationship between the Smithsonian's Plant List and the Fish and Wildlife Service's Plant List.
- (2) Development of a State Endangered and Threatened Plant List and recommendations to the proposed Federal Plant List.
- (3) Definitions of endangered and threatened and proposed terminology for a New Mexico Plant Species List.
- (4) Development of a draft Plant Rating Sheet.

If anyone would like to have more specific information on the above topics, please contact the New Mexico State Heritage Program in the basement of the Villagra Building, phone 827-5531.

Postage Increase Affects Booklets

Please send \$.20 with requests for the Native Plants for Landscaping in Northern New Mexico (\$.50 for booklet) and \$.40 postage with requests for the Southern booklet (\$.75 for booklet).

Spiderworts "Detect" Radioactivity

These native North American monocots (genus Tradescantia) are providing a biological method of monitoring radioactivity. When radioactivity is present, the normally blue stamens turn pink!

To join the Native Plant Society of New Mexico, send your annual dues to 542 Camino del Monte Sol, Santa Fe, N.M. 87501. Send \$6.00 for individual, \$8.00 for family membership.



Gaillardia pulchella,
Blanketflower, Firewheel
Disc flowers purple,
Ray flowers purple and
yellow.

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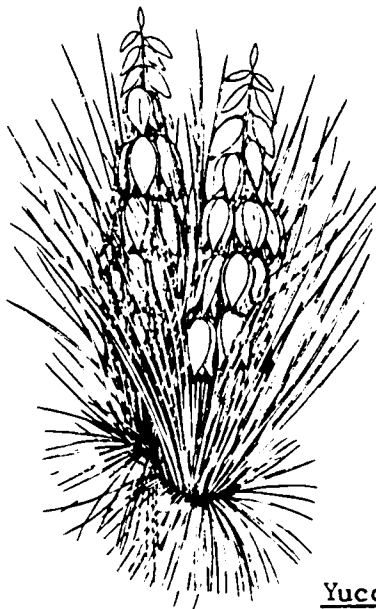
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Yucca glauca,
Soapweed Yucca
Flowers white inside,
striped green and
brown outside.

