

Date: Thu, 6 Feb 2003 12:10:13 -0400  
From: Sue Thompson <sthomp@andrew.cmu.edu>  
Subject: PABIODIV: Re: PBP plant info

Forwarded by Timothy Smail, timothy.smail@pawestches.fsc.usda.gov:

"NRCS Technology News" ~ Jan/Feb 2003  
United States Department of Agriculture  
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Science and Technology

"NRCS Technology News" is an electronic information piece provided by Science and Technology 10 times a year. It is designed to deliver pertinent information to our customers about new technology, products, and services available from the Soil Survey and Resource Assessment and the Science and Technology deputy areas. "NRCS Technology News" is in a format that is available to all NRCS field staff.

#### #10 More Plant Images Available

Over 8,000 new images are being integrated into PLANTS by the National Plant Data Center. They will be available at both the Gallery and Plant Profiles for individual species to assist with identifying plants and communicating to customers. These images will be invaluable in providing conservation assistance, such as identifying conservation and invasive plants, communicating to users about a particular species, or developing fact and job sheets. Major new additions are 4,300 line drawings scanned from Britton & Brown Illustrated Flora (1915) in cooperation with the Kentucky Native Plant Society. A retired NRCS staff member from Nevada, Gary Monroe, has also made major photo contributions to the Gallery.

#### #11 PLANTS Fills Some Data Gaps at County Level

County level distributional data for all states, except Alaska, Maryland, Mississippi, Ohio, and Texas, are being integrated into PLANTS by the National Plant Data Center. These distributional data reflect vouchered occurrences from those counties - occurrences where plant identification is supported by herbarium specimens that can be verified. New county occurrences based upon vouchered specimens or specimens identified from scientific literature can be submitted for validation through the Distribution Update on the PLANTS home page. If a new county record has been observed, a lead can also be submitted through the Distribution Update. (For more information about plant collecting and herbaria, visit <http://plants.usda.gov>, select Links, select Educational, select Plant Collecting and Herbaria.) With field assistance, a better understanding will develop of plant distribution in the U.S., the spread of weedy species can be more closely monitored, and knowledge will be gained about what species grow best in what county. This information will assist the field in providing more accurate and scientifically credible conservation recommendations for Farm Bill programs and will assist with field inventories.

For more information, contact:

Scott Peterson  
National Plant Data Center  
(225) 775-6280  
scott.peterson@usda.gov

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The Pennsylvania Biodiversity Listserve encourages open discussion about biodiversity issues in the state. It is hosted by the Allegheny Institute of Natural History, University of Pittsburgh-Bradford and is moderated by the Pennsylvania Biodiversity Partnership. The opinions expressed in messages are those of the authors and NOT the Pennsylvania Biodiversity Partnership.