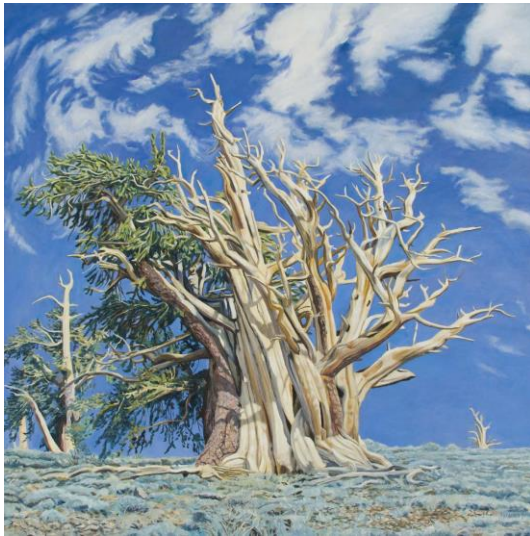


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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 23, 2017

Guide and History of a Landmark Series in Plant Science is Now Available From The New York Botanical Garden Press

Intermountain Flora, Volume Seven Includes Keys, History, Biographies of Authors and Artists, And an Updated Entry on the Beardtongues, a Group of Native Flowering Plants



Tony King (American, b. 1944); *Bristlecone 8*, 2009
[*Pinus longaeva*, Intermountain bristlecone pine]
Oil on linen
in *Intermountain Flora, Volume Seven*

Bronx, NY—Serving as both a history and a guide to a monumental project documenting the plant life of the Intermountain West, ***Intermountain Flora, Volume Seven—Potpourri: Keys, History, Authors, Artists, Collectors, Beardtongues, Glossary, Indices*** by Noel H. Holmgren and Patricia K. Holmgren is now available from The New York Botanical Garden Press.

The *Intermountain Flora* series, which traces its origins back to the 1930s, provides authoritative, scientific treatments of nearly 4,000 plant species found between the Sierra Nevada and Rocky Mountains in the American West, an area the size of Texas encompassing all or parts of seven states. With the high scholarly standards of its plant descriptions and precise line drawings of every species, the *Intermountain Flora* has become an indispensable resource for the conservation of natural resources and wilderness areas in this botanically important region.

As its subtitle indicates, Volume Seven brings together a diverse range of contents, including keys for identifying all of the plant families covered by the series, a cumulative index for all seven volumes, a history of the project, biographies of the principal authors and artists, hundreds of contemporary and vintage photographs of scientists, artists, and plant collectors who have worked in the Intermountain West, and a botanical glossary. In addition, the volume updates the treatment of the genus *Penstemon*, a group of flowering plants commonly known as beardtongues. In the years since 1984, when the genus was included in Volume Four of the *Intermountain Flora*, the number of known *Penstemon* species in the region has increased from 104 to 119, thanks to extensive field work by researchers in Nevada and Utah.

Botanist Basset Maguire had the idea for a comprehensive study of the plant life of the Intermountain West in 1931 when he was a professor at Utah State University. Maguire brought the project with him when he joined the Botanical Garden in 1943. The first volume, covering non-flowering plants such as ferns and pines, was published in 1972. The last volume of plant treatments, which included a wide range of flowers, grasses, and trees, appeared in 2012.

“Basset Maguire, who first envisioned an *Intermountain Flora* in the early 1930s, could not have imagined that 80 years would pass before the final volume of the *Flora* was published,” Drs. Noel and Patricia Holmgren write in the introduction of Volume Seven. “*Intermountain Flora* could not have been done anywhere other than The New York Botanical Garden because of its extensive historical and modern herbarium collections from the Intermountain West, its unsurpassed library, and the willingness of the administration and Board of Managers to support a long-term project.”

Included in the Intermountain region are the Great Basin, the Snake River Plain, and a considerable part of the Colorado Plateau. With its isolated mountain ranges and many unusual soil types, the region is home to a vast diversity of plant life, including a profusion of highly localized species that occur nowhere else. Its ecosystem, however, has suffered from overgrazing by cattle and sheep, invasive species, poorly planned mining, and other development pressures. As a result, more than 500 plant species in Utah are considered at risk of extinction, as are more than 460 in Nevada.

For those reasons, the *Intermountain Flora* series has won followers not only among scientists who study the region but also land-use managers, civil engineers, conservation officials, and nature lovers who want to learn about the region’s native plants.

Considering the essential role that preserved plant specimens have played in the series, it seems only fitting that this final installment is dedicated to the more than 350 men and women who have collected Intermountain plants over the course of some 200 years. “The significance of their collections for scholarly studies cannot be overstated,” the authors write.

About the Authors of *Intermountain Flora*, Volume Seven

Noel H. Holmgren, Ph.D., has been associated with The New York Botanical Garden for more than 50 years, first as a graduate student, then as Curator, and now Senior Curator Emeritus. He has been a major author of *Intermountain Flora*, assuming over-all direction of the project in 1992. Active fieldwork for the past 54 years has yielded 16,577 collections, including 73 new to science. He and Bobbi Angell co-authored *Botanical Illustration: Preparation for Publication*, and he was principal editor of *Illustrated Companion to Gleason and Cronquist's Manual: Illustrations of the Vascular Plants of Northeastern United States and adjacent Canada*. He was President of the Torrey Botanical Club, co-Vice President of the American Penstemon Society, and was on the Council of the American Society of Plant Taxonomists. Dr. Holmgren received his undergraduate degree from Utah State University and his Ph.D. from Columbia.

Patricia K. Holmgren, Ph.D., directed The New York Botanical Garden's William and Lynda Steere Herbarium for more than 32 years, during which time she also served as the Garden's Assistant Vice President for Science for 10 years and Associate Vice President for Collections and Publications for two years. She is now Honorary Senior Curator. For 30 years, she coordinated and edited the print and online versions of Index Herbariorum, a guide to more than 10,270 plant scientists and 3,330 herbaria worldwide. Dr. Holmgren also serves as co-director, editor, and author of the *Intermountain Flora* project with Dr. Noel Holmgren. Dr. Holmgren has held leadership positions in many scientific associations, including President of the American Society of Plant Taxonomists and of the Botanical Society of America. Dr. Holmgren earned her undergraduate degree from Indiana University and her Ph.D. from the University of Washington.

Praise for *Intermountain Flora*

"*Intermountain Flora* has been an indispensable tool for us, as well as for other Federal (Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Department of Energy), and State agencies for the Interior West. Every natural resource specialist in the fields of botany, ecology, range management, soil science, and forestry utilizes this reference on a regular, if not daily basis."

—Teresa Prendusi, Regional Botanist, U.S. Forest Service Intermountain Region

"Noel and Pat have been the long-term driving forces for the completion of this series, and without them, I cannot imagine that it would have achieved the same degree of excellence and timely completion. To me, the *Intermountain Flora* ranks among the most useful and excellent floras I have dealt with in my professional career."

—Lynn Bohs, Professor, Department of Biology, University of Utah

About The New York Botanical Garden Press

Since 1896 The New York Botanical Garden Press (nybgpress.org) has been publishing books and journals based on original research by scientists from around the world. The mission of NYBG Press is to put information in the hands of those engaged in exploring, understanding, and conserving plants and fungi. Areas of focus include floristics, systematics, economic botany, ecology, evolution, conservation, and ethnobotany. A growing list of books for general readers includes field guides and botanical history.

Ordering Information: *Intermountain Flora, Volume Seven—Potpourri: Keys, History, Authors, Artists, Collectors, Beardtongues, Glossary, Indices* (\$119, hardcover) is available through NYBG Press. To order, go to nybgpress.org or call 718.817.8721.

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The New York Botanical Garden is a museum of plants, an educational institution, and a scientific research organization. Founded in 1891, the Botanical Garden is one of the world's preeminent centers for studying plants at all levels, from the whole organism down to its DNA. Garden scientists conduct fundamental research on plants and fungi globally, as well as on the many relationships between plants and people. A National Historic Landmark, the Garden's 250-acre site is one of the greatest botanical gardens in the world and the largest in any city in the United States, distinguished by the beauty of its diverse landscape and extensive collections and gardens, as well as by the scope and excellence of its programs in horticulture, education, and plant research and conservation. Learn more: nybg.org

The New York Botanical Garden, 2900 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, New York 10458

The New York Botanical Garden is located on property owned in full by the City of New York, and its operation is made possible in part by public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. A portion of the Garden's general operating funds is provided by The New York City Council and The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. The Bronx Borough President and Bronx elected representatives in the City Council and State Legislature provide leadership funding.

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