

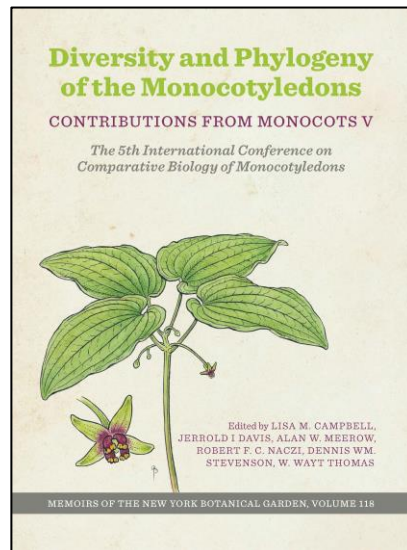
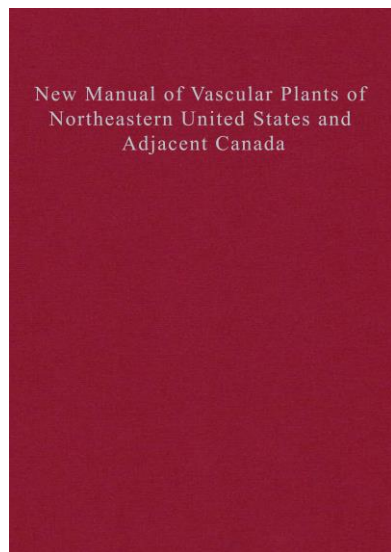
NYBG

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 9, 2018

Ferns, Roses, and More: The Second Installment of *New Manual of Vascular Plants of Northeastern United States and Adjacent Canada* Is Available from NYBG Press

Updating the 1991 Gleason and Cronquist *Manual*, New Scientific Treatments Can Be Downloaded in PDF Format, As Can Papers from Monocots V Conference

Included in the *New Manual* Installment Is the Treatment for All Fern Species Found in the Region



Bronx, NY—The New York Botanical Garden Press continues to expand its digital offerings with the second installment of ***New Manual of Vascular Plants of Northeastern United States and Adjacent Canada*** by Robert F. C. Naczi, J. Richard Abbott, and Collaborators and 12 papers presented at Monocots V, a major plant science conference hosted by The New York Botanical Garden. The publications are now available as downloadable PDFs that can be viewed on a variety of devices such as a desktop computer, tablet, or smartphone.

Comprising 33 chapters, the second installment of the *New Manual* is part of a multi-year project to fully revise and update *Manual of Vascular Plants of Northeastern United States and Adjacent Canada* by Henry A. Gleason and Arthur Cronquist, the most recent edition of which NYBG Press published in 1991. Often called simply "Gleason and Cronquist," the *Manual* is widely considered the foremost guide to the plants of the region and a vital conservation tool. Like Gleason and Cronquist, the *New Manual* covers all or parts of 22 states and five Canadian provinces in the northeastern quadrant of the United States and eastern Canada.

New Manual treatments for 2017 include all 129 species of ferns (Division Polypodiopsida) found in the region. Also covered in the new sections are such familiar and important plants as roses (the Rosaceae family), boxwood (Buxaceae), cacti (Cactaceae), ginseng (Araliaceae), borage (Boraginaceae), a portion of the sedge family (Cyperaceae), cattails (Typhaceae), and a portion of the plantain family (Plantaginaceae).

The *New Manual* treatments allow scientists, land-use officials, conservationists, students, nature-enthusiasts, gardeners, and others to identify any of the vascular plants—that is, plants with vessels for conducting water and nutrients—that grow on their own without cultivation in the region. In addition to providing such traditional floristic information as identifying characteristics, classification, geographic range and habitat for every species in the region, *New Manual* treatments also include etymologies of species names, the conservation status of species, and the invasiveness of non-native plants, data not found in previous versions of the manual.

This ambitious undertaking, involving many collaborators who are leading specialists in their field, comes at a time of unprecedented change in the region's plant life, including increases in non-native species and declines in many native plants. Identifying plants accurately, understanding their places in Northeastern ecosystems, and determining their conservation status are indispensable to protecting vulnerable plant species and preserving biodiversity.

"These are cutting-edge treatments," Dr. Naczi said. "They incorporate the latest advances in plant systematics to facilitate plant identification, which is the most important goal of the *New Manual*. It also is intended to make people aware of the changes in our flora, which are mainly due to the number of new, non-native species that have established themselves in the region since 1991."

With the 2017 installment, *New Manual* treatments are now available online for more than a quarter of the roughly 230 plant families found in the region. When all of them have been updated, the contents also will be published as a hardcover book.

Papers from Monocots V Conference Also Available Online

The New York Botanical Garden hosted the Fifth International Conference on the Comparative Biology of Monocotyledons (*Monocots V*) in June 2013. The monocots are a large group of plants that have only one embryonic leaf, or cotyledon. Popular and economically important examples of monocots are orchids, lilies, daffodils, wheat, and corn.

Over 330 participants, including about 80 students, represented 37 countries. Twenty-two symposia covered a wide array of subjects, such as physical characteristics (morphology), prehistoric species (paleobiology), evolutionary relationships, and reproductive biology.

Diversity and Phylogeny of the Monocotyledons: Contributions from Monocots V, edited by Lisa M. Campbell, Jerrold I. Davis, Alan W. Meerow, Robert F. C. Naczi, Dennis Wm. Stevenson, and W. Wayt Thomas, comprises 12 downloadable papers from 24 contributing authors. For the list of titles, go to nybgpress.org.

About The Principal Authors of the *New Manual*

Robert F. C. Naczi, Ph.D., is the Arthur J. Cronquist Curator of North American Botany at The New York Botanical Garden. His research focuses on the flora of the eastern United States, the sedges (Cyperaceae), and the Western Hemisphere pitcher plants (Sarraceniaceae). His fieldwork has given him first-hand knowledge of the flora of much of North America.

J. Richard Abbott, Ph.D., is a Research Associate at the Missouri Botanical Garden and was previously a Research Associate at The New York Botanical Garden, where he worked on the *New Manual*. He has studied and collected plants across the United States and in more than 20 countries, especially in Latin America.

Advance Praise for the *New Manual*

"The descriptions are concise yet elaborate enough to get a clear understanding of the species. Clearly the parts of the *New Manual* that are being released are a must-have for all those interested in the flora of our region."

—David Werier, Recent Past-President, New York Flora Association

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: *New Manual of Vascular Plants of Northeastern United States and Adjacent Canada* treatments are available as downloadable PDFs through NYBG Press. Price per family treatment ranges from \$2.99 to \$4.99. Papers from *Diversity and Phylogeny of the Monocotyledons: Contributions from Monocots V* are available for download at \$4.99 each. To order, go to nybgpress.org or call 718.817.8721.

###

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.

Contact: Stevenson Swanson, 718.817.8512/8616, sswanson@nybg.org.