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GREAT PLAINS RESEARCH

A JOURNAL OF
NATURAL AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES

Volume 13, Number 1

Spring 2003



CENTER FOR GREAT PLAINS STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

CENTER FOR GREAT PLAINS STUDIES

The Center for Great Plains Studies was established in 1976 by the University of Nebraska to promote a greater understanding of the people, culture, history, and environment of the Great Plains through a variety of research, teaching, and outreach programs. The Center encompasses six divisions: Administration and Programs, Great Plains Art Collection, *Great Plains Quarterly*, *Great Plains Research*, *Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition* editing project, and *Encyclopedia of the Great Plains* writing and editing project. Administered through the College of Arts & Sciences of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, the Center includes resident Fellows on four campuses and non-resident Associate Fellows around the world. **James Stubbendieck**, *Grassland Ecology*, is director of the Center. **Gary Moulton**, *History*, is associate director.

GREAT PLAINS RESEARCH, a biannual multidisciplinary science journal, publishes original research and scholarly reviews of important advances in the natural and social sciences with relevance to the Great Plains region, with special emphasis on environmental, economic and social issues. It includes reviews of books and reports on symposia and conferences. The journal is indexed and/or abstracted in *America: History and Life*, *BIOSIS Previews*, *Biological Abstracts*, *Cambridge Scientific Abstracts*, *Environment Abstracts*, *Historical Abstracts*, *Geo Abstracts* and *GEODBASE*, *Journal of Planning Literature*, *Meteorological and Geostrophysical Abstracts*, *Sage Family Studies Abstracts*, *Sage Urban Studies Abstracts*, and *Sociological Abstracts, Inc.*

The editorial policy encourages those submissions in particular that make general findings in the sciences relevant to this vast region. Articles should include thoughtful reviews of critical scientific findings and issues relevant to the Great Plains, whether the research was done in the Great Plains or not. The key will be how well the findings are related to the region, and how well the science is communicated to other scientists outside the specific discipline, in the style of *Scientific American*, for example. The most successful paper in natural sciences for a journal year will be acknowledged with the Charles E. Bessey Award, and the best paper in social sciences will receive the Leslie Hewes Award.

The following types of articles are of particular interest:

Synopses of the “state of the science” on topics with relevance to the Great Plains;

Overviews of critical environmental, economic and social issues for the plains;

Reviews of knowledge on important questions and their regional application;

Syntheses and cross-disciplinary analyses with relevance to the plains;

Original research findings, such as have been published in *GPR* since 1991.

Scientists doing interesting work with important implications for this region are invited to synthesize their significant research results and present them and their relevance to this audience. The overall goal is to develop *Great Plains Research* as a centralized outlet for science of regional importance, to communicate important scientific findings to as wide an educated audience as possible, and to help keep scientists, interested citizens and leaders of this region up-to-date on scientific progress relevant to the Great Plains.

Editor: James Stubbendieck, *Grassland Ecology*

Editorial Assistant: Mary Johnson Davis

Book Review Editor: George E. Wolf, *English*

Production Manager: Gretchen Walker

Production Designer: Linda J. Ratcliffe

Copyeditor: Lona Dearmont

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NEWS AND NOTES

CHARLES E. BESSEY AWARD

Great Plains Research is pleased to announce the article by Dallas Virchow and Scott Hygnstrom, "Distribution and Abundance of Black-tailed Prairie Dogs in the Great Plains: A Historical Perspective," is the winner of the Charles E. Bessey Award for the best paper in natural sciences published during the volume year of 2002. This paper was featured in Volume 12 (2). The annual award includes a cash stipend of \$250.

LESLIE HEWES AWARD

The winner of the Leslie Hewes Award for the best paper in social sciences published in *Great Plains Research* during the volume year 2002, is "Was Old Jules Right?: Soil Stewardship on Leased Land" by Bruce B. Johnson and John D. Cole. The article was published in Volume 12 (2). The annual award includes a cash stipend of \$250.

GREAT PLAINS RESEARCH JUNIOR SCIENCE AWARD

Great Plains Research presented a \$100 first place award for scholastic research on a natural or social sciences topic in the Great Plains to Sarah Thomas of Omaha South High School. Her paper, "Occurrence of Invasive Woody Species in a Native Grass Prairie," was presented at the Nebraska Junior Academy of Sciences annual meeting on 25 April 2003 at Nebraska Wesleyan University. The \$50 Honorable Mention award went to Justin Dallmann of Wilcox/Hildreth High School for his paper, "Harvesting Alfalfa in the A.M. or P.M.?"

CALL FOR PAPERS

Great Plains Research is planning a special issue for fall 2004: "**New Immigrants on the Great Plains: Strengths & Challenges.**" The Great Plains have been significantly enriched by newcomers through the millennium. The purpose of this Special Issue is to identify and document strengths and challenges of new immigrants in the Great Plains from a family strengths perspective. New immigrants are defined as those who have immigrated to the Great Plains in the past 30 years. This issue is particularly significant for: expanding the knowledge base in relation to newcomers in the Great Plains, including individual and collective experiences, providing a balanced portrayal of new immigrants in the Great Plains, defining issues of relevance for policy formation, and providing a broader understanding of populations of new immigrants for educational, service, and outreach efforts. See ad on page 62.

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

Great Plains Research publishes original research and scholarly reviews of important advances in the natural and social sciences with relevance to the Great Plains region, with special emphasis on environmental, economic and social issues in the plains. It includes reviews of books and reports on symposia and conferences on topics pertaining to the Great Plains. Papers must be comprehensible to a multidisciplinary community of scholars and lay readers who share interest in the region. Stimulating review and synthesis articles will be published if they inform, educate, and highlight both current status and further research directions. Authors of unsolicited reviews of symposia, conferences, and books should contact the editor before submitting their manuscripts.

Submissions. All manuscripts should be concise: 5,000 words total including reference section, with up to 4 tables or illustrations; if more graphic material is needed, please reduce total word count by 250 words per illustration. All submissions should be typed double-spaced, including abstract, text, quotations, and bibliography, on 8.5 by 11-inch white bond paper with 1-inch margins. Informational footnotes are not accepted. Authors should submit three copies of their manuscripts to: **Editor, Great Plains Research, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, P.O. Box 880246, Lincoln, NE 68588-0246.** If the manuscript is accepted for publication, author/s will be asked to send the final document as an e-mail attachment or on a 3.5-inch high density IBM-compatible computer diskette in a word processing or text file.

Review Process. All manuscripts are given double-blind review. Authors should prepare a separate title page with their name and affiliation, and any acknowledgments, which will not be sent to reviewers. The title of the paper should be repeated directly above the abstract. Authors should avoid self-identification in the text. When two external reviewers with expertise in the topic have submitted their evaluations, the manuscript is reviewed by the Associate Editors before the Editor makes the final decision to publish.

Article Style. The Editor would prefer authors to write simply and in the first person. Authors should aim to communicate with a broad interdisciplinary audience in jargon-free language and should avoid sexist, racist, or otherwise biased language or intent.

Main Headings are centered: Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions, Acknowledgments, References. If you have subheadings that should be left justified, please indicate those.

Abstract. A short abstract of less than 150 words should precede the main text. The abstract should identify the problem addressed in the paper, indicate the methodology, and summarize the results. Authors should prepare an abstract that will be interesting to and understood by nonspecialists in the field.

Illustrations. All illustrations should be referenced parenthetically by arabic numbers in the text. For example, "Rainfall increases with elevation (Fig. 1)." The author should send **camera-ready illustrations**, although photocopies are sufficient for the review process. **Captions for each figure should be typed on a separate sheet and not included in the figure itself.** All illustrations should be $4\frac{3}{8}$ " wide and made into a legible black and white photo print or "grayscale" computer laser print. Authors should take care that their figures will be legible when reduced in size (text area is $4\frac{3}{8}$ " wide by 7.0" tall). **Graphic resolutions: grayscale at 350 dpi; line illustrations at 1200 dpi. Please send all scanned figures created in software programs on a CD and saved with extensions ".tif" or ".eps" only. DO NOT embed graphic files into your article. DO NOT send PowerPoint graphics. Please don't send graphics as Word docs.**

Tables. Tables should be presented on separate sheets apart from the text, printed as quality images. They should be formatted to fit the standard text area of the journal ($4\frac{3}{8}$ " wide by 7.0" tall), since they may be treated as camera-ready illustrations at the time of publication. Send as a separate file with text file on diskette.

Reference Style. *Great Plains Research* uses *The Chicago Manual of Style*, 14th edition, as its reference guide. The journal uses author-date citations in the text [for example, in chronological order: (Smith et al. 1990; Templer 1992; Jones in press)] and a complete reference section that gives author, year, title, source, and page references for journal or newspaper articles. **Include page numbers for quotations** [for example: (Templer 1992: 45)]. For a journal article:

Murkin, H.R. 1998. Freshwater functions and values of prairie wetlands. *Great Plains Research* 8: 3-15.

For a book:

Blouet, B.W., and F.C. Luebke, eds. 1979. *The Great Plains: Environment and Culture*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press.

For an article in a book or conference volume:

Wedel, W.R. 1994. Coronado and Quivira. In *Spain and the Plains*, ed. R.H. Vigil, F.W. Kaye, and J.R. Wunder, 45-66. Niwot: University Press of Colorado.

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