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GREAT PLAINS RESEARCH

A JOURNAL OF
NATURAL AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES

Volume 13, Number 2

Fall 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 Geoastrophysical 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*, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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GREAT PLAINS RESEARCH

Volume 13 Number 2

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CONTENTS

NATURAL SCIENCES

High Plains Regional Aquifer Study Revisited: A 20-Year Retrospective for Western Kansas

Jeffrey M. Peterson and Daniel J. Bernardo.....179

Habitat Use and Migration Patterns of Sandhill Cranes along the Platte River, 1998-2001

Craig A. Davis.....199

Invasion Dynamics and Biological Control Prospects for *Sericea Lespedeza* in Kansas

Thomas A. Eddy, Jeff Davison, and Brian Obermeyer.....217

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Differential Population and Income Migration in the Great Plains, 1995-1998

Alexander C. Vias and Charles O. Collins.....231

Reverse Migration and Nonmetropolitan Employment in Four Great Plains States, 1970-1980

A. Olu Oyinlade.....253

Bosnian Refugees' Adjustments to Resettlement in Grand Forks, North Dakota

Devon A. Hansen.....271

The Impact of Immigration on a Local Economy: The Case of Dawson County, Nebraska

Örn Bodvarsson and Hendrik Van den Berg291

Migration and Counterurbanization in the Edwards Plateau of Texas, 1985-1990

Jason P. Holcomb.....311

BOOK REVIEWS.....329

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.....361

ANNUAL INDEX.....363

BOOK REVIEWS

Kimbrell, Andrew, ed. Fatal Harvest: The Tragedy of Industrial Agriculture The Fatal Harvest Reader: The Tragedy of Industrial Agriculture By Charles A. Francis	329
Epp, Roger, and Dave Whitson, eds. Writing Off the Rural West: Globalization, Governments, and the Transformation of Rural Communities By K. K. Klein	330
Browne, William P. The Failure of National Rural Policy: Institutions and Interests By Donna Barnes	332
Kraybill, Donald B., and Carl F. Bowman. On the Backroad to Heaven: Old Order Hutterites, Mennonites, Amish and Brethren By Royden Loewen.....	334
MacLachlan, Ian Kill and Chill: Restructuring Canada's Beef Commodity Chain By Michael J. Broadway	336
Leeson, Howard A., ed. Saskatchewan Politics: Into the Twenty-First Century By Joseph Garcea.....	337
Wilkins, David E., and K. Tsianinia Lomawaima. Uneven Ground: American Indian Sovereignty and Federal Law By Blake A. Watson.....	339
Trafzer, Clifford E., and Diane Wiener, eds. Medicine Ways: Disease, Health, and Survival Among Native Americans By Benjamin R. Kracht	340
James, Keith, ed. Science and Native American Communities: Legacies of Pain, Visions of Promise By Dave Pruett and Ernest Stromberg.....	342
Longo, Peter J., and David W. Yoskowitz. Water on the Great Plains: Issues and Policies By Jack Smith.....	344
Yarborough, Sharon C., and A. Michael Powell. Ferns and Fern Allies of the Trans-Pecos and Adjacent Areas By Alan R. Smith.....	345
Burrows, George E., and Ronald J. Tyrl. Toxic Plants of North America By James A. Pfister.....	346
Kershaw, Linda, Joyce Gould, Derek Johnson, and Jane Lancaster. Rare Vascular Plants of Alberta By Donna M. Cherniawsky.....	348
Acorn, John. Tiger Beetles of Alberta: Killers on the Clay, Stalkers on the Sand By Stephen M. Spomer and William J. Allgeier.....	351
Johnsgard, Paul A. The Nature of Nebraska: Ecology and Biodiversity By L. LaReesa Wolfenbarger.....	352
Sharpe, Roger S., W. Ross Silcock, and Joel G. Jorgensen. Birds of Nebraska: Their Distribution and Temporal Occurrence By David L. Swanson.....	354
Faaborg, John. Saving Migrant Birds: Developing Strategies for the Future By Kenneth P. Able.....	355
Paarlberg, Don, and Philip Paarlberg. The Agricultural Revolution of the 20th Century By Lowell Hardin.....	356
Levins, Richard A.; Foreword by John Kenneth Galbraith. Willard Cochrane and the American Family Farm By Frederick Kirschenmann.....	358
Kline, Ronald R. Consumers in the Country: Technology and Social Change in Rural America By Barbara Handy-Marchello.....	359

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.

Title. Article titles should not exceed 10 words (or 82 characters) and should not have subtitles.

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)." Captions for each figure should be sent as a separate file and not included in the figure itself. All illustrations should be 4³/₈" wide (no more than 7" tall) and sent as separate files as "grayscale" tiff or eps graphic files at 350 dpi; "line" illustrations at 1200 dpi. **DO NOT** embed graphic files into your article. **DO NOT** send figures as PowerPoint graphics or Word docs.

Measurements. All measurements should be given in **SI units** (expanded metric system).

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 (4³/₈" 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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