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GREAT PLAINS RESEARCH

A JOURNAL OF
NATURAL AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES

Volume 15, Number 2

Fall 2005



CENTER FOR GREAT PLAINS STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN

CENTER FOR GREAT PLAINS STUDIES

The Center for Great Plains Studies was established in 1976 by the University of Nebraska Board of Regents 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. Under the administration of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the Center encompasses eight divisions: the Great Plains Art Museum, three academic journals (*Great Plains Quarterly*, *Great Plains Research*, and *Plains Song Review*), undergraduate and graduate programs, editing projects, research support, outreach programs, annual interdisciplinary symposia, and Fellows and Associate Fellows. **James Stubbendieck**, *Grassland Ecology*, is director of the Center.

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 and with special emphases on environmental, economic and social issues and includes reviews of books. The journal is indexed and/or abstracted in *America: History and Life*, *BIOSIS Previews*, *Biological Abstracts*, *Cambridge Scientific Abstracts*, *C-CIARN*, *Environment Abstracts*, *Historical Abstracts*, *Geo Abstracts* and *GEObase*, *Journal of Planning Literature*, *Meteorological and Geostrophysical 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:

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

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 goals are 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.

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