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Members of the FBO Durham Coastal Marshes trip investigate vegetation on the beach strand. Photo by Mike McMurtry.

Annual General Meeting Update

(M. Johnson).....2

Field Trip Reports

Lord of the Rings Grove
(P. O'Hara)3

Durham Coastal Marshes Field Trip
(M. McMurtry)5

Feature

Significant Plant Records from the Herbarium of Royal Botanical
Gardens (HAM): 2003
(C. Rothfels) 7

Notices

Minor Newsletter Changes
(L. Collins)..... 12

patula), Bald Spikerush (*Eleocharis erythropoda*), Broad-leaved Water-plantain (*Alisma plantago-aquatica*), Fragrant Umbrella Sedge, Red-top, Oakleaf Goosefoot (*Chenopodium glaucum*), Pale Smartweed (*Polygonum lapathifolium*), Toad Rush (*Juncus bufonius*), Ensheathed Dropseed (*Sporobolus vaginiflorus*), Red Clover (*Trifolium pratense*), True Forget-me-not (*Myosotis scorpiodes*), and Square-stem Monkeyflower (*Mimulus ringens*). Above our heads as we ambled along the beach Cooper's Hawk circled and gave the group a great view.

Marsh communities, with a diversity of species, were found in depressions on the strand that would be subject to frequent inundation. Species here were Creeping Spike-rush (*Eleocharis smallii*) and Northern Arrowhead (*Sagittaria cuneata*), Broadleaf Arrowhead (*Sagittaria latifolia*) (scimitar-shaped lobe on seeds), Least Spike-rush (*Eleocharis acicularis*), Porcupine sedge (*Carex hystericina*). Also present were Hairy Willow-herb (*Epilobium ciliatum*), and Soft Rush (*Juncus effusus*). Further back on the strand in drier areas were Canada Wild Rye (*Elymus canadensis*), Porcupine Sedge (*Carex hystericina*), Slender Agalinis (*Agalinis tenuifolia*), White Heath Aster (*Symphyotrichum ericoides*) and Quack Grass (*Elymus repens*).

We visited a small marsh near the mouth of Robinson Creek and picked up a few new species such as Tussock Sedge (*Carex stricta*), Turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*), Lake-bank Sedge (*Carex lacustris*) (the dominant species), and Speckled Alder (*Alnus incana* ssp. *rugosa*). Nearby a large Pacific Salmon was lying dead on the beach; several non-native salmon species have been stocked in the last couple of decades by the Ministry of Natural Resources. The fisheries for native salmonid species - Lake Trout and the extirpated Atlantic Salmon – were impacted by a combination of over-fishing, Sea Lamprey and toxic chemicals.

The group rested at a picnic spot at Darlington Provincial Park while we waited for one of the group to retrieve his field notebook lost near Robinson Creek (his success in finding it demonstrated the value of brightly coloured field notebooks). We then walked back to our parking spot. On the way we noticed a thick growth of the non-native Glandular Touch-me-not (*Impatiens glandulifera*), a showy, pink, non-native species of *Impatiens*. A few members of the group went on to Pumphouse Marsh in search of the Water Willow, or Swamp Loosestrife, (*Decodon verticillatus*). This species is not to be confused with the provincially-rare American Water-willow (*Justicia americana*), found in a few locations in southwestern Ontario. Neither species is actually a member of the willow family.

The group dispersed in the late afternoon, pleased with a day spent in good company, and appreciative of Steve for his expert interpretation of Lake Ontario wetlands. 🌱

Mike McMurtry

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Feature

Significant Plant Records from the Herbarium of Royal Botanical Gardens (HAM): 2003

Carl Rothfels (CJR), Royal Botanical Gardens

This document is a summary of new regional records for the City of Hamilton or Halton Region, and of significant records from other areas in Ontario, accumulated over the course of the 2003 field season. For significant (but not regionally-new) records from Hamilton and Halton, see Rothfels et al. 2004. There are some specimens that have not yet been identified (especially in *Geum*); if they turn out to be significant, they will be included in a 2004 summary.

This list does not include our records from Brant County, which we hope to summarize at a later date. It also does not include our records of *Azolla caroliniana* (Eastern Mosquito Fern), which we are preparing for potential publication in Canadian Field-Naturalist.

Records are the result of fieldwork by Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG) staff, fieldwork by other individuals who then deposited their specimens in the RBG herbarium (HAM), or are from herbarium work by RBG staff on previously collected specimens (re-identifications, etc.). Non-native species are indicated by an “*”.

The following resources were used when determining whether or not a given species was significant in a given areas: Smith (2003) for RBG, Goodban (2004) for Hamilton, Varga et al. (2000) for Halton, York, and Durham Regions, Bruce-Grey Plant Committee (2003) for Grey County, and Newmaster et al. (1998) for Ontario. The determination of new sites for Halton is a guess, since Varga et al. (2000) give a number of extant sites for each species, but don't list them (thus, if we find a species in Halton, we don't know if it's a new or known site).

Special thanks go to Dr. Barre Hellquist for annotating all our *Potamogeton* specimens. Without his help, we would have been at a loss with this difficult group, and would not have been able to confirm *Potamogeton friesii* or *Potamogeton strictifolius*. Similarly, Stephen Darbyshire generously reviewed and annotated our specimens of *Zizania* and some grasses, and Bill Crins did the same for *Carex* and *Melica*. Finally, Dr. Jim Pringle was again of great assistance with specimen identification, literature searches, and general herbarium matters.

APIACEAE

**Anethum graveolens* L.

Dill

New for RBG and Hamilton. One plant of this common herb was growing in a waste areas in the Mercer's Glen compost facility. CJR 654, S.R.Spisani, J.L.Sylvester.

**Conium maculatum* L.

Poison Hemlock

New for RBG and Hamilton. This is the hemlock of Socrates fame. It is common as large plants around the edges and

wetter slopes of the Mercer's Glen compost facility. It dies back by mid-summer. CJR 653, J.L.Sylvester, S.R.Spisani.

**Peucedanum ostruthium* (L.) Koch

Masterwort

New for RBG, Halton, and Ontario. Dean Gugler discovered this species on the south side of Grindstone Creek, on the south side of Creek Side Walk approximately 30m east of the Brackenbrae Trail bridge, in lush vegetation with *Ambrosia trifida* and *Impatiens glandulifera*, etc. At least 12 plants were present, but Dean reports seeing larger numbers in past years. D.Gugler. HAM# 17622. Determined by J.S.Pringle.

ARALIACEAE

**Hedera helix* L.

English Ivy

New for RBG, Hamilton, and Ontario. This common ornamental plant is not reported as escaping in Ontario by Newmaster et al. (1998), although it can be a problematic invader in areas farther south. One clump (approximately two feet long) was well established on a mesic forest floor with *Solidago caesia* and *Aralia nudicaulis* along the South Shore Trail by Double Marsh. It was removed as completely as possible. This site is far from any habitation and from any obvious means of introduction. This species, like *Euonymus fortunei*, should be watched for invasive tendencies. CJR 842.

ASTERACEAE

**Artemisia annua* L.

Sweet Wormwood

New for RBG, Hamilton, and Halton. This rare weed (SE1) was common in the Mercer's Glen compost area, and in disturbed waste grown near the Hendrie Valley entrance on the east edge of the Rose Garden (by the Auxillary Garden). It looks a little like the more-common *Artemisia biennis*, but is lacier and has very fragrant foliage. CJR 868; 977, S.R.Spisani.

Cirsium discolor (Muhl. ex Willd.) Spreng.

Field Thistle

New for Hamilton. A population of this native prairie-associated thistle was growing along the railway near RBG's Rock Chapel Nature Sanctuary, just east of Sydenham Road. CJR 903.

**Echinops sphaerocephalus* L.

Common Globe-thistle

New for Durham Region. About ten stems found in a weedy ditch in Orono. CJR 913, P.Rothfels.

Eupatorium purpureum L. var. *purpureum*

Purple Joe-pye-weed

This provincially rare species (S3) was re-discovered on RBG property. R. Johns collected it in 1963, but it was left off Dr. Jim Pringle's "Flora of Royal Botanical Gardens" (1969). Sean Spisani and Jenifer Sylvester re-found it on the talus at Rock Chapel near the railway tracks in the course of surveying our *Morus rubra* populations. Jim Pringle was able to identify their photograph, and subsequent visits demonstrated that there is a large population of over 100 individuals growing beneath *Fraxinus americana*, *Morus*

rubra, *Acer saccharum* ssp. *saccharum*, *Acer saccharum* ssp. *nigrum*, *Juglans nigra*, and *Carya ovata*. S.R.Spisani, CJR, K.Oxley. HAM# 17850.

**Iva xanthifolia* Nutt.

Burweed Marsh-elder

New for RBG, second record for Hamilton. This species has been found once before in Hamilton, around the Aberdeen railyard (Pringle 1997). In 2003 there was a single large plant growing in dry waste ground in the Mercer's Glen compost area. CJR 754, S.R.Spisani, J.L.Sylvester.

**Senecio sylvaticus* L.

Woodland Groundsel

Should be removed from the RBG and potentially from the Halton lists (it is listed as present in Halton, but no estimation of number of records or locations is given). The HAM specimens, including those from Hendrie Valley in Halton, have all been annotated to *Senecio vulgaris* L.

**Tanacetum parthenium* (L.) Schultz-Bip.

Common Feverfew

New for Hamilton. This species was poorly established (low numbers) in the Mercer's Glen compost area, with other weeds. We found it nearby in Hendrie Valley in 2002 (Rothfels 2003). CJR 734, J.L.Sylvester, S.R.Spisani.

BETULACEAE

Corylus americana Walter.

American Hazel

New for Hamilton; second site for Halton. This species was overlooked by Goodban (2003); there are specimens from two Hamilton sites in HAM, including Cootes Paradise and a 1951 record from Sheffield, and this species is listed in Smith (2003) and Pringle (1969). Records from 2003 include one from an oak remnant along Burlington Heights (the High Level) above Kay Drage Park, and a second record from Sixteen Mile Creek around one kilometre west of Lion's Valley Park. P.G.O'Hara. HAM# 17844; 17792.

BRASSICACEAE

**Cardamine impatiens* L.

Cardamine

Second and third stations for Hamilton. We found this weird rare mustard (SE1) new for Hamilton in 2002 (Rothfels 2003; Rothfels 2004), and found it at two other nearby locations in 2003. The 2002 record was from the boathouse, and the 2003 records came from a steep slope in the wooded ravine west of Old Guelph Road and north of the Arboretum access road, and from a weedy patch in the lawn above the ravine near the Aquatic Nursery. The *Cardamine* is fairly common in both these new sites, in contrast to the three plants found in 2002. CJR 647; 651, J.L.Sylvester, S.R.Spisani.

Cardamine pratensis L. ssp. *angustifolia* (Hook.) O.Schulz

Cuckoo-flower

"Rare" in Grey Co. This taxon was seen in two locations in a large swamp/fen complex two kilometres south of Cruickshank. CJR 578, E.Oberndorfer.

**Cardamine pratensis* L. ssp. *pratensis*

Cuckoo-flower

This pretty, large-flowered *Cardamine* was fairly common in patches in the lawn of the park on the east side of Queen's University, Frontenac County. CJR 503, M.Roffey.

**Diploxys muralis* (L.) DC.

Wall-rocket

Second through fifth Hamilton records? The *Diploxys* species can be difficult to separate, and some of our collections of either species may be intermediate between the two. The best site for them was Windermere Basin, where both were blooming, and mixed together. Petal size was sufficient to separate them, even from a distance, and even when the *D. tenuifolia* were depauperate. Generally, both species seem to be fairly common, with *D. tenuifolia* being slightly more so? In 2003 we collected *D. muralis* from the Carden Plain, Pelee Island, and four locations in Hamilton. CJR 497; 774; 783; 848; 912; 923; J.Lundholm, E.Oberndorfer, et al.

**Diploxys tenuifolia* (L.) DC.

Slender-leaved Wall-rocket

See *D. muralis*. Collected from Brant County and six locations in Hamilton and Halton. CJR 732; 781; 785; 898, Rob Hepworth, J.L.Sylvester, S.R.Spisani. HAM# 17552;17575.

**Sinapis alba* L.

White Mustard

New for Hamilton. You never know what you'll find if you explore empty lots in downtown Hamilton CJR 563, J.L.Sylvester, S.R.Spisani.

CAPRIFOLIACEAE

**Lonicera xylosteum* L.

Fly Honeysuckle

New for RBG. Earlier reports of *Lonicera xylosteum* from RBG were the result of misidentifications of *Lonicera maackii*. However, a concerted look at *Lonicera* this summer did find *L. xylosteum* on our properties, at three locations in Cootes. It is less frequent than *L. maackii*, *L. morrowii*, *L. tatarica*, or *L. X bella*. The honeysuckles in this group (the above, excluding *L. maackii*) are variable, and appear to be hybridizing (hence *Lonicera X bella*, and see other hybrids at the end of this document). One cannot assume that weedy honeysuckles are *L. tatarica*. CJR 649;657, J.L.Sylvester, S.R.Spisani; HAM# 17358.

CELASTRACEAE

**Celastrus orbiculatus* Thunb.

Oriental Bittersweet

New for RBG and Hamilton. This species is growing on the fence along the waterfront trail at the east end of Cootes Paradise. The plants are robust, and suspiciously even in their distribution along the fence, so may have been planted. This species is very similar to the native bittersweet (*Celastrus scandens*), but has fruit all along the stems, not just at the end (Voss 1985). It is a problematic invasive in some jurisdictions (Voss 1985), and should be removed from this location. CJR 897.

CHENOPODIACEAE

**Chenopodium polyspermum* L.

Many-seeded Goosefoot

New for RBG and Hamilton. A nice little weed, it was growing in the piles of waste clippings, etc, at the Mercer's Glen compost area. CJR 729, S.R.Spisani, J.L.Sylvester.

CONVOLVULACEAE

**Ipomoea purpurea* (L.) Roth

Common Morning-glory

New for RBG and Halton. One plant was growing along the roadside at Sunfish Pond. CJR 793, S.R.Spisani.

CUCURBITACEAE

**Cucurbita pepo* L.

Pumpkin

New for RBG and Hamilton. There were several large sprawling plants in the Mercer's Glen compost area. CJR 722, S.R.Spisani, J.L.Sylvester.

CYPERACEAE

Carex chordorrhiza Ehrh. ex L. f.

Creeping Sedge

"Rare" in Grey County. This species (what a cool sedge!) was locally common in a large fen two kilometres south of Cruickshank. CJR 581, E.Oberndorfer.

Carex exilis Dewey

Starved Sedge

"Rare" in Grey County. This species was one of the dominants in a large fen two kilometres south of Cruickshank. CJR 586, E.Oberndorfer.

Carex livida (Wahlenb.) Willd.

Livid Sedge

"Rare" in Grey County. This species was locally common in a large fen two kilometres south of Cruickshank. CJR 582, E.Oberndorfer.

Carex oligocarpa Schkuhr ex Willd.

Few-fruited Sedge

New for Halton. On Tyler Smith's recommendation, we looked for this rare sedge (S2) in Clappison Escarpment Woods east of Hwy. 6. There were approximately eight clumps seen along the Bruce Trail for the first ~300 meters east of Hwy. 6. It was more common closer to the highway, becoming scarce farther in (where *C. hitchcockiana* becomes more common). Invasives (especially *Cynanchum*) are present, but not as dominant as at Berry Tract. We only searched the trail. CJR 602, S.R.Spisani, J.L.Sylvester.

Scirpus cespitosus L. ssp. *cespitosus*

Cespitose Bulrush

"Rare" in Grey County. This species was one of the dominants in a large fen two kilometres south of Cruickshank. CJR 577, E.Oberndorfer.

EUPHORBIACEAE

**Mercurialis annua* L.

Herb Mercury

New for RBG and Hamilton. This species has a rank of SEH ("historical"), meaning that it has not been recorded in Ontario for twenty years or more. It was weakly established

(two sprawling plants) at the Mercer's Glen compost area. CJR 731, S.R.Spisani, J.L.Sylvester.

FABACEAE

**Glycine max* (L.) Merr.

Soya Bean

New for RBG and Halton. This species is perhaps most notable for having one of the best scientific names ever. It was growing along the edge of the road by Sunfish Pond, and presumably arrived there with seeds that people feed to the birds at that spot. CJR 787, S.R.Spisani.

Strophostyles helvola (L.) Ell.

Trailing Wild Bean

Second site for Hamilton. This was one of the most exciting finds of the year – this rare species (S3) hasn't been seen in Hamilton since it was last collected in 1900! It was growing along the edge of Carroll's Bay near the Desjardins Canal. P.G.O'Hara. HAM# 17729.

GENTIANACEAE

Gentiana andrewsii Griseb.

Closed Gentian

Second site for Halton. From immediately east of the Hamilton/Halton border south of Lake Medad. Albert Garofalo, Kelly Cain, Brian Jamieson. HAM#17866.

HALORAGACEAE

Proserpinaca palustris L.

Mermaid-weed

"Rare" in Grey County. One patch at the edge of a small creek in a large fen two kilometres south of Cruickshank. CJR 580, E.Oberndorfer.

LAMIACEAE

**Ballota nigra* L. ssp. *nigra*

Black Horehound

New for RBG and Hamilton. This species has a rank of SEH ("historical"), meaning that it has not been recorded in Ontario for twenty years or more. It was growing along the waterfront trail at the west end of Cootes Paradise. Determined by J.S.Pringle. CJR 716, S.R.Spisani.

Stachys hispida Pursh

Rough Hedge-nettle

New for Halton, third record for Hamilton. This species is locally common in Hendrie Valley (where it was first collected by P.G.O'Hara in 2000), and was also found along the west side of Carroll's Bay. CJR 707, J.L.Sylvester, S.R.Spisani, P.G.O'Hara. HAM# 17842.

OLEACEAE

**Syringa pekinense* Rupr.

Pekin Lilac

New for RBG, Hamilton, and Ontario. This tree lilac is abundant in a weedy forest by the northeast corner of Churchill Park. Both large trees and small saplings (suckers) are common, and the larger individuals flowered and fruited. We need to investigate this area and the potential sources of introduction of this species. CJR 662; 911, S.R.Spisani. Determined J.S.Pringle.

ONAGRACEAE

**Gaura longiflora* Spach

Large-flowered Gaura

New for RBG and Hamilton. Several plants growing in the Mercer's Glen compost area. CJR 834; 957, J.Lundholm.

OROBANCHACEAE

Orobanche uniflora L.

One-flowered Cancer-root

Second record for Halton. Over 50 stems seen on Joshua Creek upstream of Ford Drive. A.Garofalo et al. HAM#17877

POACEAE

**Agrostis capillaris* L.

Colonial Bent Grass

New for Halton. This non-native grass was common with native associates in a rich ravine forest in Sassafras Woods. Is this an invasive species to watch? CJR 528, M.J.Thompson, et al. Determined CJR, J.S.Pringle.

**Apera interrupta* (L.) P. Beauv.

Interrupted Bent Grass

New for Hamilton. This minuscule grass was abundant on compacted gravel edges at the west end of Kay Drage Park. There is a slight possibility that it is *Apera spica-venti* instead of *A. interrupta*, but it fits the latter species more closely. CJR 613.

Eragrostis frankii C.A. Mey. ex Steud.

Frank's Love Grass

Second record for Durham Region. Now this is a small grass! It was common in the cracks in the walkway stones, etc., at the Ganaraska Forest Centre. It's a new species for the Oak Ridges Moraine (Steve Varga, pers. comm.). CJR 869.

**Miscanthus sinensis* Anderss.

Japanese Plume Grass

New for RBG and Hamilton. Confirmed by S.Darbyshire. A large clump of this species was growing on the west side of Long Pond, in an inaccessible spot far from any cultivated areas. Perhaps it came in via Hwy. 403 somehow? CJR 909.

Melica smithii (Porter ex A. Gray) Vasey

Smith's Melic Grass

New for Brant County (Dore and McNeill 1980) and substantially south of previous Ontario Records (M.J. Oldham pers. comm. 2003). We collected it in 2002 (an over-ripe specimen) from the shores of the Grand River south of Glen Morris, where it was locally common. CJR 436. Determined by P.W. Ball and W.J. Crins.

**Phalaris canariensis* L.

Canary Reed Grass

New for Halton. This species was growing in Hendrie Park near the Auxillary Garden, where it was an escape from the bird feeder. CJR 708, S.R.Spisani, J.L.Sylvester.

Zizania aquatica L.

Southern Wild-rice

Add to RBG, Hamilton, and Halton. Stephen Darbyshire generously checked over our *Zizania* specimens and

determined that they were mostly *Zizania palustris* L. (Northern Wild-rice), but did find one *Zizania aquatica* specimen from Cootes and another from Hendrie Valley. So we have both species on RBG properties. *Zizania palustris* is probably introduced from elsewhere in North America, whereas *Z. aquatica* would historically have been common. [It would be useful to know how recently collected the specimens were, particularly *Z. aquatica*, which is probably declining in Ontario. Note that *Z. aquatica* is mapped for Hamilton in Dore and McNeill (1980) and Aiken at al. (1988; “Wild Rice in Canada”), so technically is not “new” for Hamilton.]

PONTEDERIACEAE

Heteranthera dubia (Jacq.) MacMill.

Water Star-grass

Fourth site for Durham Region. This species was abundant (dominant) in an off-stream pond near Claremont. It formed a mass of vegetation at least four feet wide and four feet deep, extending most of the way around the pond. CJR 769.

POTAMOGETONACEAE

Potamogeton friesii Rupr.

Fries' Pondweed

New for RBG and Halton, needs to be removed from the Hamilton list. C.B.Hellquist has annotated a previous record of this species from Cootes to a hybrid between *P. zosteriformis* and some other species (probably *P. friesii*). We collected true *P. friesii* from Osprey Marsh in Hendrie Valley. This species is listed as extirpated from the GTA (Halton, Peel, Mississauga, Toronto, York, and Durham) by Varga, so this is a very exciting record! CJR 678, S.R.Spisani. Determined by C.B.Hellquist.

Potamogeton strictifolius A. Bennett

Straight-leaved Pondweed

New for RBG, Hamilton, and Halton. This species (along with *P. friesii*) is one of the most exciting surprises from our submergent monitoring this year. We found it in Hendrie Valley (Pond 4 and Blackbird Marsh) and Cootes Paradise (Mac Landing and Upper Paradise Marsh Pond). CJR 672; 673; 686; 709; 739, J.L.Sylvester, S.R.Spisani. Determined by C.B.Hellquist.

RANUNCULACEAE

**Consolida ajacis* (L.) Schur

Rocket Larkspur

New for Halton. One plant was growing at the site of a future subdivision (?) on the north edge of Hendrie Valley by the railway tracks, on exposed eroding clay at edge of large cleared area. CJR 904. Determined J.S.Pringle, S.Spisani.

ROSACEAE

**Duchesnea indica* (Andrz.) Focke

Indian Strawberry

We found this species to be locally common in young hackberry forest near the Stone Road Alvar on Pelee Island. It is previously known for Pelee Island from a sight record in 2000 (Oldham 2001), and is a problematic invader in Chicago, for example (J.L.Sylvester, pers. comm.). CJR 500.

SAXIFRAGACEAE

**Tellima grandiflora* Pursh

Big-flower Tellima

“New” for RBG, Halton and Ontario. This species is probably not worthy of being “officially” added to the flora of Ontario as it was only minimally escaped from cultivation. Several patches were growing at the edge of the Woodland Garden with weedy associates (*Poa bulbosa*, *Taraxacum* sp., *Alliaria*), at least 10 metres from their nearest planted location. Still, it's a species to watch. CJR 559.

SCROPHULARIACEAE

**Kickxia spuria* (L.) Dumort.

Round-leaved Cancerwort

New for RBG and Hamilton. This rare little trailing scroph has sticky, hairy stems, and was found around the York Road parking area for the North Shore trails. CJR 968, S.R.Spisani.

**Verbascum nigrum* L.

Black Mullein

New for Hamilton. This species is designated as SEH, meaning that it probably hasn't been found in the province for at least 20 years. It is growing along the waterfront trail between the Desjardins Canal and Bayfront Park, where it was first found and identified by D.Gugler. There are at least two clumps, several hundred metres apart. Perhaps it arrived in the seeds used to naturalize this area, or perhaps its mode of introduction has something to do with the adjacent railway yard? CJR 910. Verified by J.S.Pringle. [Stated above that it was identified by D. Gugler.]

**Verbascum phoeniceum* L.

Purple Mullein

Remove from RBG and Hamilton lists. All specimens of this species have been annotated to *Verbascum blattaria* L. (Moth Mullein). The confusion is due to keys which stress flower colour as the key character, without recognizing that the flowers of *Verbascum blattaria* often turn purplish upon drying (J.S. Pringle, pers. comm.). This is another instance of why it is important to note fresh flower colour on the specimen label when making a collection! If anyone sees *Verbascum* growing wild with purple flowers, they should make a collection.

**Verbascum phlomoides* L.

Clasping-leaved Mullein

New for RBG and Halton. Two stems of this species were growing in a waste area under a conifer at the west end of the Rose Garden area. Not in a cultivated area. CJR 951, J.L.Sylvester, J.S.Pringle.

SOLANACEAE

**Hyoscyamus albus* L.

White Henbane

New for RBG, Hamilton and Ontario. We found three plants of this species in the Mercer's Glen compost area. CJR 755, S.R.Spisani, J.L.Sylvester. Determined D.Eveleigh, J.S.Pringle.

**Nicandra physalodes* (L.) Gaertn.

Apple-of-Peru

New for Halton, second site for Hamilton. This species was abundant in the Mercer's Glen compost area, and was also growing in dry waste ground in the west side of the Rose Garden area, near the Auxillary Garden. Previous, unreported, records of *Nicandra* at RBG may have been the result of dispersal by Canada Geese (Pringle 2001). CJR 720;950, J.S.Pringle, J.L.Sylvester, S.R.Spisani.

**Nicotiana rustica* L.

Wild Tobacco

New for RBG and Hamilton. This species was weakly established at the Mercer's Glen compost area. CJR 725, S.R.Spisani, J.L.Sylvester.

**Solanum rostratum* Dunal

Prickly Nightshade

New for RBG and Hamilton. Very prickly – one serious nightshade! One plant, on dry exposed sandy fill in Mercer's Glen compost area. CJR 753, J.L.Sylvester, S.R.Spisani.

VERBENACEAE

**Verbena bonariensis* L.

Purpletop Vervain

New for Hamilton, second Ontario record. We found this species new for Ontario last year (Rothfels 2004), on the Christmas tree barriers at Osprey Marsh (Hendrie Valley – Halton Region). This year we found it to be fairly common and well established in the Mercer's Glen compost area. CJR 718, J.L.Sylvester, S.R.Spisani.

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Notices

Minor Newsletter Changes

Leslie Collins

Recently, I have been lobbied by a few different members of the FBO to remove the authorities from scientific names in trip reports and essays. This suggestion was made based on the fact that their presence can make for very cumbersome sentences. After discussion with the executive I have decided to proceed with this suggestion. Authorities of scientific names will continue to appear in some articles, as appropriate.



Your FBO membership for 2005 is now due.

Single memberships are \$12; and family memberships are \$15.

Cheques are payable to **Field Botanists of Ontario**.

Bill McIlveen, R.R. 1, Acton, Ontario, L7J 2L7