

## Preface

The study and exploration of the Missouri flora has engaged the author's attention during the past thirty years. Grants from the National Science Foundation have enabled him to complete the task of amassing all the data, rechecking the herbarium material, preparing the maps showing the geographical distribution of species, and of writing the present manuscript.

Despite the intensive exploration of the state undertaken by the writer since the publication in 1935 of *An Annotated Catalogue of the Flowering Plants of Missouri* by Palmer and Steyermark (Ann. Mo. Bot. Gard. 22: 375-758), large sectors of each county in the state remain botanically unexplored. Another century of careful and thorough botanizing in Missouri should undoubtedly reveal scores of additional species previously unknown to exist in the state. At the time of publication of their *Annotated Catalogue* (*ibid.*, p. 686) Palmer and Steyermark recorded a total of 2,281 species, 371 varieties, and 78 forms, for a grand total of 2,790 taxa, referred to 707 genera. In the present enumeration, this number has been considerably increased to a total of 2,438 species, 517 subspecies and varieties, and 297 forms, altogether totalling 3351 taxa which are referred to 799 genera.

### Acknowledgments

The records included in the present flora have involved a re-examination of all Missouri material contained in the herbaria of the Missouri Botanical Garden, Chicago Natural History Museum, and the University of Missouri, which together possess the largest assemblage of Missouri collections. Collections of certain Missouri material were also checked at the

Gray Herbarium of Harvard University, the New York Botanical Garden, the United States National Museum, Southeast Missouri State College, Southwest Missouri State College, Northwest Missouri State College, Park College, William Jewell College, School of the Ozarks, Central College, and the private herbaria of Mr. Donald Rhodes, Mr. Bruce Dowling, Mr. Bill Bauer, Mr. Ernest J. Palmer, and Drs. Victor Muehlenbach, Alfred Etter, and John Dwyer. To the curators and administrators of these institutions I am deeply appreciative of their kind consideration and co-operation in making this mass of specimens available for study.

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To the University of Missouri I wish to acknowledge thanks for the completion of the distribution maps of Missouri used in this work.

I wish to make grateful acknowledgment and thanks to the following publishers for permission to use certain information from their books: *Edible Wild Plants of Eastern North America* by Merritt Lyndon Fernald and Alfred Charles Kinsey (Harper & Brothers); *A Natural History of Trees of Eastern and Central United States* by Donald Culross Peattie (Houghton Mifflin Company); *Economic Botany* by A. F. Hill (McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc.).

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Many of the illustrations have been drawn from living and herbarium material and were executed by the following artists: Miss Dorothy Anderson, Mr. George Burian, Miss Lila Campbell, Miss Sharon Harkless, Mr. John Hendee, Mr. Tom Kendzie, Mr. Donald Kreamelmeyer, Miss Patricia McNabb, Mr. Charles McNabb, Miss Kay Oman, Mr. Marvin Rabe, and Miss Sandra Vorbeck. The original drawings from the author's *Spring Flora of Missouri* have provided the remainder of the drawings included in the present volume.

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JULIAN A. STEYERMARK