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.

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**Julian A. Steyermark**