

Preface for Volume 8

Since the publication of *Flora of North America* volume 27 (the fourteenth volume to have been published in the *Flora* series) in late 2007, Steffi M. Ickert-Bond, James S. Miller, and Debra K. Trock (Taxon Editor) have become members of the Flora of North America Association Board of Directors. The Board succeeded the former Editorial Committee as the result of a reorganization finalized in 2003, but for the sake of continuity of citation, authorship of *Flora* volumes is still to be cited as “Flora of North America Editorial Committee, eds.”

The vast majority of editorial processing for this volume of the *Flora* was undertaken at the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. The occurrence maps were prepared at the editorial center at the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis based on taxon distribution statements found in the treatments. Pre-press production for the volume, including typesetting and layout, plus coordination for all aspects of planning, executing, and scanning the illustrations, was done at the St. Louis center. Art panel composition and labeling was completed in Gaston, Oregon.

Line drawings published in this volume were executed by four talented artists: Barbara Alongi prepared illustrations for Clethraceae, Ebenaceae, Grossulariaceae, Iteaceae, Penthoraceae, Styracaceae, and Theaceae, plus selected genera of Ericaceae (*Andromeda*, *Calluna*, *Chamaedaphne*, *Chimaphila*, *Elliottia*, *Erica*, *Eubotrys*, *Gaylussacia*, *Kalmia*, *Leucothoë*, *Menziesia*, *Moneses*, *Orthilia*, and *Pyrola*), Myrsinaceae (*Ardisia* and *Myrsine*), Primulaceae (*Primula*), Saxifragaceae (except those genera credited here to others), and Theophrastaceae (*Bonellia* and *Jacquinia*); Linny Heagy prepared illustrations for Sarraceniaceae plus several genera of Saxifragaceae (*Cascadia*, *Micranthes*, and *Saxifraga*); John Myers illustrated Paeoniaceae plus he composed and labeled all of the line drawings in this volume; and, Yevonn Wilson-Ramsey prepared illustrations for Crassulaceae, Cyrillaceae, Diapensiaceae, Sapotaceae, and Symplocaceae plus selected genera of Ericaceae (except those genera here credited to Barbara Alongi), Myrsinaceae (*Anagallis*, *Lysimachia*, and *Trientalis*), Primulaceae (all genera except *Primula*), Saxifragaceae (*Bensoniella*, *Boykinia*, *Chrysosplenium*, *Heuchera*, *Jepsonia*, *Leptarrhena*, *Lithophragma*, and *Telesonix*), and Theophrastaceae (*Samolus*)—additionally, she prepared the color frontispiece depicting *Rhododendron maximum*.

Starting with this volume, users will find that the circumscription and ordering of some families within the *Flora* have been modified so they mostly reflect that of the Angiosperm Phylogeny Group [APG] rather than the previously followed Cronquist organizational structure. The groups of families found in this and other yet-to-be published volumes in the series are mostly ordered following E. Haston et al. (2007); since APG views of relationships and circumscriptions have evolved, and will certainly change further through time, some discrepancies in organization will occur. Volume 30 of the *Flora of North America* will contain an overall index to the published volumes.

The Flora of North America Association remains deeply grateful to the many people who continue to help create, encourage, and sustain the *Flora*.