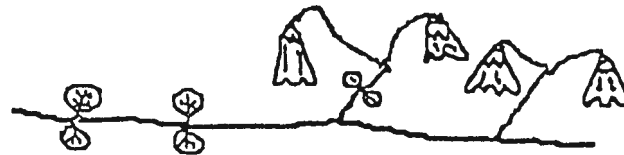


BOREALIS

published monthly
October thru May
by the



ALASKA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 141613, Anchorage, Alaska 99514

November 1991

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ANCHORAGE CHAPTER MEETING NEWS:

The November meeting of the Anchorage Chapter will be held on Monday, November 4th, at 7:30PM in the meeting room of the Muldoon Library in the Carr's Shopping Mall on the corner of Muldoon Road and Northern Lights Blvd. The Library will be closed, so enter by the door at the rear of the building.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: The Board of Directors will meet at 6:45PM just prior to the general membership meeting.

PROGRAM: Steve Tolbert of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will present *Plants of the Aleutian Chain*. Steve has done extensive studies of plants on the chain and his presentation will enlighten us on which plants survive the harsh climate of these exposed slopes and meadows.

PLANT FAMILY: The Parsley or Apiaceae family (formerly Umbelliferae) will be our November topic. (This year we will again do families a section at a time at our meetings, and we are looking for volunteers. Contact Verna at 333-8212.)

There are 14 genera and 24 species and sub-species of these perennial herbs in Alaska. Leaves are alternate and, usually, compound with sheathing bases. Stems are stout and frequently have hollow internodes. Flowers are small, have 5 sepals, 5 petals, 5 epigynous stamens and 2 styles. Fruit is a schizocarp. The inflorescences are usually a compound umbel subtended by bracts. Plants are often aromatic and frequently used for foods, although some species are poisonous.

This month we chose *Buplerum* which is readily separated from the other genera as it does not have compound leaves. It consists of 1 species, *Buplerum triradiatum*, a plant of dry inland sites. This could easily be mistaken for a member of the Lily family as the leaves are long and narrow. The tiny flowers are yellow, sometimes blotched with purple, and in a compound umbel. Size of plant varies from a few inches to nearly 2 feet depending on elevation and soil conditions.

MYSTERY PLANT:

This plant grows in a clump from a stout tap root. Leaves are pinnately compound and are verticillate in fascicles (bunches). Leaflets are ovate to lanceolate (26 to 70 per leaf). The entire plant is soft & silky from dense hairs. The small pea-shaped flowers are pink to purplish. This 8 to 12" plant grows in dry sunny places of eastern interior Alaska.



THANKS !

Many thanks to Toby Tyler, Homer ANPS member and artist, who has offered to soon start doing the mystery plants for us.

HELP WANTED (NEEDED):

We are still looking for volunteers to do short mini-botany (contact Gary Davies) and plant family (contact Verna Pratt) presentations at the meetings.

We also still need a refreshments coordinator.

FIELD TRIPS:

Now, believe it or not, is the time to start planning next years field trips. More elaborate, expensive, or longer than 2 day trips need to be planned well in advance; especially the dates, as people need time to fit these into their budgets and busy schedules.

QUIZ ANSWER:

Showy Oxytrope, *Oxytropis splendens*