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## Grassland Plants of South Dakota and the Northern Great Plains

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#### Description

This guide is a revision and expansion of an earlier book, *Plants of South Dakota Grasslands*, the idea for which originated with Dr. James T. Nichols, one of its authors. During its development, Dr. Nichols was a faculty member at South Dakota State University, stationed at the Newell Field Station. James R. Johnson was his assistant, and in that first book, with brief narratives and photographs, they provided a guide to range and pasture plants common to South Dakota. It was a highly popular publication, revised slightly and re-released in a 1982 edition, long out of print.

This publication is intended for persons interested in the grasslands of South Dakota and the Northern Great Plains. With the necessary exception of scientific names and some terminology, plant narratives are intentionally nontechnical. Technical terms are defined in the glossary. The authors hope that this bulletin will be of value to those interested in plants for aesthetic reasons, and will provide pertinent information helpful to ranchers, farmers, conservationists, and students.

#### Keywords

grassland plants, South Dakota native plants, Upper Midwest prairie plants, Great Plains prairie forbs, grasses, sedges, shrubs, plant field guide

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1999. Grassland Plants of South Dakota and the Northern Great Plains. Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin 566(rev), SD State University, Brookings, SD. \$17.95 from the SDSU Ag Heritage Museum (ph. 605-688-6226). If you liked the original Plants of the South Dakota Grasslands, you'll love this new, revised, expanded and improved version. It features excellent color photographs of 289 grassland plants. The best reference to wetland plants of South Dakota. Primarily a taxonomic key with descriptions and county distribution maps for each species covered, but there are many line drawings and some color photos. Larson, Gary E. and James R. Johnson. 1999. Grassland plants of South Dakota and the Northern Great Plains. South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD. Jones, R. 1963. Identification and analysis of lesser and greater prairie chicken habitat J. Wildl. Manage. 27:757-778. USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Plant Materials Center, Bismarck, North Dakota 58501. Published: May 2013. Edited: May 2016. While this grassland was generally free from woody plants, apparently there was a dynamic ecotone between the mountains and deserts to the west and the eastern deciduous forests in central and northern portions of the grassland (Bazzaz and Parrish, 1982; Gleason, 1913; Transeau, 1935). Topographically, the Great Plains are relatively level, but minor topographic variations are important in influencing plant species distributions and other inclusions within the grassland. Plate 6.7 Mixed-grass prairie - west side of the Missouri river, just south of Mandan, North Dakota. Jeff printz, usda-nrcs. Plate 6.8 Mixed-grass prairie - north-central North Dakota, USA. The northern and southern Great Plains (including Texas)