**Glossary**

**achene:** A small, dry, indehiscent, 1-seeded, usually hard fruit in which the ovary wall is free from the seed.

**acorn:** The fruit of oaks.

**acorn cup:** The involucre of an acorn (comprised of bracts).

**acuminate:** Gradually tapering to a point.

**aggregation:** A group composed of many distinct parts.

**alternate:** Any arrangement of parts along the axis other than opposite or whorled.

**angled:** Having definite corners and/or edges.

**angular:** Angled and not rounded. Used when an organ shows a determinate number of angles.

**annual:** A plant that completes its development in one year or season and then dies.

**appressed:** Pressed flat against another organ.

**aromatic:** Fragrant, pungent, spicy to smell or taste.

**ascending:** Rising or curving upward, but not erect.

**attenuate:** Gradually tapering to a very slender tip.

**awn:** A terminal slender bristle on an organ.

**axil:** Upper angle formed by a leaf or branch with the stem.

**axillary:** Situated in the axil.

**basal:** Relating to, or situated at, the base.

**beak:** A long, firm, slender point.

**bearded:** Bearing long stiff hairs.

**berry:** A pulpy, indehiscent fruit with few to many seeds.

**bi:** Latin prefix signifying two, twice or doubly.

**biennial:** A plant that completes its development in two years and then dies (usually blooming the second year).

**bifurcating:** Becoming 2-forked or 2-pronged.

**bilateral:** Arranged on opposite sides.

**bilaterally symmetrical:** Referring to an organ which can be divided in only one place to yield mirror-image halves.

**bipinnate:** Doubly or twice pinnate; when both primary and secondary divisions of a leaf are pinnate.

**bipinnatifid:** Twice pinnately cleft, with the divisions extending deeply, but not to the rachis or midvein.

**bisexual:** Referring to a flower that has both male and female flower parts. Usually used in describing plants that also have single-sexed flowers.

**blade:** The expanded portion of a flattened structure such as a leaf or flower petal; the blade of a grass leaf is the usually flattened, expanded portion above the sheath.

**bract:** A reduced leaf subtending a flower, usually associated with an inflorescence.

**branched:** Divided into multiple entities.

**bunch grass:** Referring to grasses with growth forms that are clumped or tufted, rather than single-stemmed, sod-forming, etc.

**calcareous:** Used in referring to soil that contains an excess of available calcium, usually in the form of calcium carbonate.

**calyx:** The external, usually green, whorl of a flower, contrasted with the inner showy corolla; the portion of the flower composed of sepals.

**canopy:** The uppermost spreading branchy layer of a tree, shrub or whole association of woody plants.

**capsule:** A dry, dehiscent fruit with more than one carpel.

**carpel:** A foliar, ovule-bearing unit of a compound pistil or a simple pistil.

**caryopsis:** A dry, hard, indehiscent, 1-seeded fruit with the thin ovary walls grown fast to seed coat; the characteristic fruit of grasses.

**catkins:** A spikelike inflorescence of unisexual flowers having bracts and no petals.

**ciliate:** With marginal hairs.

**crenate:** Having the margin cut with rounded teeth; scalloped.
**crown:** The persistent base of a herbaceous perennial; the aerial portion of a tree; the portion of a tree where the roots and stem join.

**culm:** The stem of a grass.

**cup:** The involucre of an acorn which is comprised of bracts.

**cylindrical:** Having the shape of a cylinder.

**cyte:** A flat-topped or convex inflorescence of pedicelled flowers with the central one opening first.

**deciduous:** Not persistent; falling off, as leaves of a non-evergreen tree in the fall.

**decumbent:** Lying down, but with the tip ascending.

**decurrent:** Extending down the stem below the point of attachment.

**dehiscent:** Opening spontaneously when ripe to discharge the contents.

**deltoid:** Equilaterally triangular.

**dessicate:** Dry out.

**dichotomous:** Forked regularly in pairs.

**dioecious:** Having staminate and pistillate flowers on different plants.

**disk flower:** In Asteraceae, the tubular flowers that usually make up the central portion of the head.

**divided:** Separated to the base.

**drupe:** A fleshy, 1-seeded, indehiscent fruit containing a stone with a kernel.

**drupelet:** A little drupe, often found in clusters, as in blackberries.

**edge:** The zone where different habitat types or plant communities come together.

**elliptic:** In the form of a flattened circle usually more than twice as long as broad.

**elongate:** Drawn out in length.

**endocarp:** The inner layer of the pericarp or fruit wall.

**entire:** With an unbroken or even margin; without teeth or other indentations.

**erect:** Upright in relation to the ground or sometimes perpendicular to the surface of attachment.

**exfoliate:** To come off in scales or flakes.

**family:** A category or group of related plants or animals; in biological classification, the ranking above a genus and below an order.

**fascicle:** A close cluster or bundle.

**fascicled:** Referring to flowers, leaves, etc., that are arranged in fascicles.

**fissures:** Cracks or fractures in the bark of a tree.

**flexuous:** Bending alternately in opposite directions; zigzagged.

**floret:** An individual flower in Asteraceae (composites) and Gramineae (grasses).

**foliaceous:** Leaflike; said especially of sepals or bracts that in texture or appearance resemble leaves.

**forb:** Herbaceous plant other than a grass, sedge or rush; usually broad-leaved.

**fruit:** The ripened pistil with all its accessory parts.

**glabrous:** Without hairs.

**glandular:** Bearing depressions, protuberances or appendages on the surface of an organ which secrete a usually sticky fluid.

**globose:** Spherical or rounded.

**glutinous:** Sticky.

**head:** A dense globular cluster of sessile or sub-sessile flowers arising essentially from the same point on the peduncle.

**hybridize:** To cross between two species.

**imperfect:** Having either functional stamens or functional pistils; unisexual.

**incised:** Cut rather deeply and sharply.

**indehiscent:** Not splitting open.

**inequilateral:** Unequal-sided.

**inflorescence:** The flower cluster of a plant or more correctly the disposition of the flowers on an axis.

**internode:** The portion of the stem between two nodes.

**interrupted:** Not continuous; broken in arrangement of symmetry.

**introduced:** Brought from another region; not native.

**involucel:** A secondary, often reduced, involucre.

**involucre:** A whorl of bracts under a flower cluster.

**keeled:** Having a longitudinal ridge.

**lanceolate:** Lance-shaped; much longer than broad, widest near the base and tapering to the tip.

**lateral:** At or on the side.

**leaf blade:** The expanded portion of a leaf; the blade of a grass leaf is the usually flattened, expanded portion above the sheath.

**leaf sheath:** In grasses, the basal portion of the leaf that encloses the stem.

**leaflet:** One part or blade of a compound leaf.

**legume:** A leguminous plant or its fruit.
**leguminous**: Of or pertaining to a plant in the families Fabaceae or Mimosaceae, or to something with characteristics of such plants.

**lens-shaped**: Shaped somewhat like a flattened sphere.

**lenticel**: Corky growth or spot on young bark.

**linear**: Resembling a line; long and narrow, of uniform width.

**lobed**: Referring to an organ with divisions or segments, usually rounded or obtuse.

**loment**: A flat, leguminous fruit that is constricted between the seeds, falling apart at the constrictions when mature.

**margin**: The edge of an organ.

**mat**: A relatively thick interlacing growth of vegetation lying on something.

**median**: Of the middle.

**microclimate**: Referring to the environmental conditions surrounding a particularly small area.

**microhistological**: Refers to looking at tissue and cell structures and characteristics that are identifiable only under a microscope.

**midrib**: The central rib of a leaf or other organ.

**monoecious**: Having staminate and pistillate flowers on the same plant.

**naturalized**: Of foreign origin, but established and reproducing itself as though a native.

**nerved**: With simple veins or ribs.

**nodding**: Hanging down; drooping.

**node**: The joint of a stem; the point of insertion of a leaf or leaves.

**ob**: Latin prefix meaning inverted.

**oblique**: Slanting; of unequal sides.

**oblong**: Much longer than broad with nearly parallel sides.

**obtuse**: Rounded; blunt.

**ocrea**: A sheath around the stem derived from the leaf stipules.

**odd-pinnate**: Used in describing a pinnate leaf with a terminal leaflet.

**opposite**: Arranged two at each node, on opposite sides of the axis.

**orbicular**: Approximately circular in outline.

**organ**: A part of a plant or animal forming a structural unit.

**oval**: Broadly elliptic.

**ovary**: The part of the pistil containing the ovules.

**ovate**: With the outline of a hen's egg in longitudinal section, the broader end downward.

**ovoid**: Solid ovate or solid oval.

**ovule**: The body that when fertilized becomes the seed.

**palmate**: Divided in a handlike or palmlike manner; in a leaf, having the lobes or divisions radiating from a common point.

**panicle**: A compound racemose inflorescence.

**paniculate**: Borne in a panicle.

**parted**: Deeply cleft nearly to the base.

**pedicel**: The stalk of a single flower in a flower cluster, or of a spikelet in grasses.

**pedicelled**: Having a pedicel (as opposed to sessile).

**peduncle**: The stalk of a flower cluster or of one flower when it is the only member of an inflorescence.

**perennial**: Used in reference to plants that last several years (as opposed to annual).

**perfect**: Having both functional stamens and pistils.

**pericarp**: The wall of a fruit.

**petal**: One of the segments of a corolla.

**petaloid**: Resembling a petal.

**petiole**: The stalk of a leaf.

**petioled**: Having a petiole (as opposed to sessile).

**pilose**: Bearing soft, straight, spreading hairs.

**pinnate**: A compound leaf with leaflets arranged on both sides of the axis; featherlike.

**pinnatifid**: Pinnately cleft into narrow lobes not reaching to the midrib.

**pistillate**: Referring to flowers with pistils and no functional stamens; female.

**plates**: Flattened structures.

**pod**: A dry, dehiscent fruit.

**polygamous**: Bearing unisexual and bisexual flowers on the same plant.

**procumbent**: Trailing on the ground, but not rooting.

**profusely**: Abundantly.

**prostrate**: Lying flat upon the ground.

**protuberance**: A protrusion or bulge such as a bump or swelling.

**pubescent**: Covered with short, soft hairs; downy.

**punctate**: Having colored or translucent dots or pits.

**raceme**: A simple, elongate inflorescence with pedicelled flowers.
racemiform: In the form of a raceme.
racemose: Having racemes or raceme-like inflorescences.
rachis: The axis of a compound leaf or an inflorescence.
ray flowers: In Asteraceae, the marginal flowers of the head with a straplike corolla.
reclining: Turning downward, usually with the tip resting on the ground.
recurred: Curved downward or backward.
reflexed: Abruptly bent or turned downward.
retrorse: Bent backward or downward.
rhizome: An underground stem, usually lateral and rooting at the nodes.
rhambic: Shaped like an equilateral, oblique-angled figure; somewhat diamond shaped.
ribs: Primary or prominent nerves or veins.
root sprouter: Used in reference to trees or shrubs that initiate new aboveground growth from the existing root system. This is often stimulated by damage to the existing aboveground growth.
rosette: A crowded cluster of radiating organs, usually leaves, appearing to rise from the ground.
sagittate: Shaped like an arrowhead, with the basal lobes turned downward.
samara: An indehiscent winged fruit.
scales: Any thin, dry, appressed organ; usually referring to bark, leaves or bracts.
scaly: Covered or having an abundance of scales; cleaving off in flakes.
scarify: To superficially wound the seed coat (often facilitates germination).
sepal: One division of the calyx.
sepaloid: Resembling a sepal.
serrate: Saw-toothed, with sharp teeth pointing forward.
sessile: Attached directly by the base; not stalked.
sheath: A tubular structure surrounding part or all of an organ (e.g., the portion of a grass leaf that surrounds the stem).
shreds: Long, narrow, thin pieces.
shrub: A woody plant often with a number of stems from the base, usually smaller than a tree.
simple: Single or unbranched.
sinus: The cleft or recess between two lobes of an expanded organ such as a leaf.
spatulate: Rounded at the tip, with the broadest portion being at the tip and then slowly tapering to the base.
spherical: Globular or orbicular.
spicate: Spikelike.
spike: An elongated inflorescence with sessile flowers.
spikelet: A small or secondary spike; the basic unit of the grass inflorescence.
spine: A sharp, rigid outgrowth, usually from the stem.
stamen: The male organ of the flower which bears the pollen.
staminate: Referring to flowers with stamens and no functional pistils; male.
standard: The upright large petal of the legume flower.
stellate: Star-shaped.
stem: The axis or axes of a plant arising from its roots.
styled: The receptive part of the pistil that receives the pollen; usually at the top of the pistil.
stipel: The stipule of a leaflet of a compound leaf.
stipulate: Possessing stipules.
stipule: An appendage at the base of a petiole, usually in pairs.
stone: The bony endocarp of a drupe.
striate: Marked with fine longitudinal lines or furrows.
style: The usually elongated part of the pistil between the ovary and the stigma.
sub: Latin prefix meaning “beneath,” but sometimes signifying “almost” (e.g., subglobose means “almost globose”).
subclimax: Used in reference to plants or plant communities that are of lower successional stages than “climax.”
subtend: To be below and close to.
succession: The sequence of change from one stage or community to another as the available competing organisms respond to the environment; the progressive replacement of plant communities on a site which leads to the potential natural and stable plant community.
swale: A low area or depression.
symmetrical: Possessing one or more planes which divide the object into mirror-image halves.
tardily: Late.
tendril: A slender, coiling or twining organ by which a climbing plant grasps its support.
tepals: Used in reference to sepals and petals which are not readily differentiated, both being either sepaloid or petaloid.
terete: Round in cross section.
**terminal**: Proceeding from, or belonging to, the end or apex.

**thicketization**: The process of becoming a thicket.

**tomentose**: With dense, matted hairs (woolly).

**toothed**: Having any small, marginal lobe.

**trailing**: Prostrate, but not rooting.

**trifoliolate**: Having three leaflets.

**triquestrous**: Three-edged, with the faces between concave.

**troughlike**: V-shaped in cross section.

**tuber**: A thickened, solid and short underground stem with many buds.

**twining**: Coiling about a support.

**umbel**: A flat-topped or rounded inflorescence in which the pedicels arise from a common point.

**understory**: Referring to the vegetation growing under the tree canopy in a forested or wooded situation.

**vein**: A bundle of externally visible transporting tissue in a leaf or other organ.

**villous**: Bearing long, soft hairs (not matted).

**vine**: A plant with a stem that is too slender, flexible or weak to hold itself erect and that trails along the ground or supports itself by twining around or climbing on (often using tendrils or specialized aerial shoots) other objects or plants.

**warm-season**: Used in reference to plants that initiate and/or complete most of their growth during summer.

**whorled**: More than two arranged around a common point.

**windrow**: A row, heap or ridge of material. In the context of this publication, it generally refers to the soil and plant material that is piled and remains after tree and brush removal.

**wing**: A relatively thin extension of an organ along its border.

**woolly**: Having long, soft, entangled hairs.