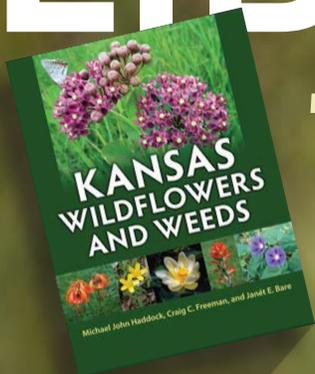




PRAIRIE LIBRARIAN



'Kansas Wildflowers and Weeds' selected as a 2016 Notable Book

BY: SARAH HOYT

"Kansas Wildflowers and Weeds" includes 1,163 species and 742 color photographs. Haddock was the lead author on the project.

Mike Haddock, associate dean for research, education and engagement for K-State Libraries, has two offices: One is on the fifth floor of Hale Library. The other is on the prairie.

Haddock combs the state to identify and photograph the state's native wildflowers and grasses.

It started in 1996 when, as the university's agricultural librarian, Haddock created a website devoted to native plant identification called Kansas Wildflowers and Grasses (www.kswildflower.org).

Twenty years later, The Kansas Center for the Book selected his most recent publication, "Kansas Wildflowers and Weeds," as a 2016 Kansas Notable Book. It's one of 15 titles written by Kansans or about Kansas related topics to receive the honor.

Haddock was the lead author on the project, which was published by the University Press of Kansas. His co-authors, Craig C. Freeman and Janét E. Bare, gathered 35 years of new information discovered since the publication of Bare's 1979 volume, "Wildflowers and Weeds of Kansas." The expanded work covers 1,163 species and 742 color photographs, most of which were taken by Haddock.

"All of us at K-State Libraries are thrilled that Mike's book has received such wonderful recognition," said Dean Lori Goetsch. "Some people might be surprised that a librarian authored an

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— DEAN LORI GOETSCH

award-winning book in botany, but many of our librarians have their own subject expertise. Mike's work exemplifies the valuable knowledge librarians draw on to support researchers in all fields across the university."

Haddock's familiarity with native plants started with his father, who taught him about their uses in Native American culture and medicine.

He pursued a different path at K-State, receiving a degree in German literature in 1977. After

studying in Giessen, Germany, Haddock returned to campus and took a dozen agriculture classes. He worked on the family farm outside of Minneapolis, Kansas, and eventually completed a master's in library science from Emporia State University in 1988.

Haddock won a Kansas Notable Book Award in 2006 for his first book, "Wildflowers and Grasses of Kansas: A Field Guide." The State Library of Kansas also named it one of the "150 Best Kansas Books" in 2011 as part of the state's sesquicentennial celebration.

He is co-authoring a third book, "Trees, Shrubs and Woody Vines of Kansas," due out in 2019.

A FEW OF MIKE'S FAVORITES



LEAVENWORTH ERYNGO

Though it appears exotic, this wildflower is a member of the parsley family.



SPOTTED TOUCH-ME-NOT

Also called: Jewelweed

When touched, the fruit capsules spring apart and propel the seeds outward. The plant's juice alleviates the itch of poison ivy.



COMPASS PLANT

The name alludes to the tendency for the leaves at plant's base to align their edges north and south.



MAY-POP

Also called: Passion-flower

Native Americans cultivated the edible fruits. In the late 1800s, an extract of the plant was used to treat insomnia and epilepsy.



PINCUSHION CACTUS

This cactus can be found in dry, sandy or rocky prairies from Texas to Canada.