



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Flora of the Chicago Region

WHEN WILL THE BOOK BE AVAILABLE?

If the fund-raiser is successful, we predict the book could be available in the summer of 2012 (the 100th anniversary of the original find of *Thismia americana*). If not, it may take another five years longer.

HOW WILL THE 5th EDITION DIFFER FROM THE 4th EDITION?

It will NOT be a 5th edition. In fact, the book title will change to Flora of the Chicago Region: An Ecological Synthesis. It will be profoundly different and expanded from the 4th edition of Plants of the Chicago Region (PCR). The new book will be the most unique and comprehensive flora ever produced!

WILL IT BE POSSIBLE TO BULK ORDER PRE-PUBLICATION (WITH A DISCOUNT) AS WITH THE 4th EDITION OF PCR?

No. The only way to order it pre-publication is by contributing to the FCR Project (most contributor levels provide several signed copies gratis). IAS members will be given the opportunity to purchase the book at 75% off the retail price.

WILL THE FORMAT CHANGE?

Mostly no. The basic layout (alphabetical ordering) will be maintained. All species accounts and several sections will be revised and expanded.

WHAT WILL THE NEW BOOK COST?

It is impossible to say at this time, but it will be substantially more than the 4th edition of PCR; probably in the neighborhood of \$75. Factors that will affect the price include production costs, success of the FCR fund-raising project, size of the press-run, et cetera.

WILL THE BOOK BE AVAILABLE ON-LINE?

The book itself will NOT be viewable on-line but we will post an example page on the web site in the near future.

WHAT IF THE FCR FUND-RAISING GOAL IS NOT REACHED?

Quite simply, it will delay the completion of the manuscript and the release of the book AND will increase the price of the book.

HOW BIG WILL THE BOOK BE?

Estimated 1100 pages (about 50 sheets of paper [100 pages] more than the 4th edition of Plants of the Chicago Region). The weight will increase from 4.2 lbs. to ca. 4.8 lbs.

GIVEN THE SCOPE OF THE PROJECT, WILL IT REQUIRE MORE THAN ONE VOLUME/BOOK?

No. This will be accomplished through the use of a more compact (yet easy to read) font, careful selection of paper stock and by modifying the list of plant associates.

WHAT ARE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT NEW FEATURES OF THE BOOK?

(1) Illustration for each genus, (2) derivation of names, (3) animal (vertebrate and invertebrate) associates, (4) expanded natural communities sections including photos, (5) discussion on geologic features as it pertains to the vegetation, (6) revised treatments of all problematic genera (e.g., *Crataegus*, *Panicum*, *Rubus*, etc.), (7) cryptogamic associates, etc.