

## FLORA AMERICANA

EDWARD R. WOLPOW  
 Brookline, Massachusetts

The usual compilation of official state flowers is based upon people's likes and dislikes regarding the plants themselves. We should attempt instead a logologist's list - in particular, try to provide an example for the species name of the Latin binomial, for each state. (There is, as far as I can tell, only one genus name which qualifies, IDAHOA.) Most names in the list below are taken from H.W. Rickett's Wild Flowers of the United States (1966). Those marked with an asterisk are from N. Britton and A. Brown's An Illustrated Flora of the Northern United States and Canada (1913; reprinted 1970). The single example from Alaska is from E. Hulten's Flora of Alaska (1968), and the Hawaiian flower is from B.D. Morley's Wild Flowers of the World (1970).

AL	<i>Scutellaria alabamensis</i>
AK	<i>Agrostis alaskana</i>
AZ	<i>Agoseris arizonica</i>
AR	<i>Erysimum arkansanum</i>
CA	<i>Abutilon californicum</i>
CO	<i>Erigonum colorandense</i>
CT	<i>Potamogeton lonchites connecticutensis</i>
FL	<i>Buchnera floridana</i>
GA	<i>Amorpha georgiana</i>
HI	<i>Argyroxiphium sandwicense</i>
ID	<i>Lomatium idahoense</i>
IL	<i>Desmanthus illinoensis</i>
IA	<i>Chrysosplenium iowense</i>
KS	<i>Zephyranthes kansensis</i>
KY	<i>Aster kentuckiensis</i> *
LA	<i>Proboscidea louisianica</i>
ME	<i>Carex mainensis</i> *
MD	<i>Desmodium marilandicum</i>
MI	<i>Lilium michiganense</i>
MS	<i>Cassia mississippiensis</i>
MO	<i>Astragalus missouriensis</i>
MT	<i>Arnica montana</i>
NE	<i>Cirsium nebraskense</i>
NV	<i>Allium nevadense</i>
NJ	<i>Lechea novae-caesareae</i> *
NM	<i>Acalypha neomexicana</i>
NY	<i>Aconitum noveboracense</i> *
OH	<i>Solidago ohioensis</i>
OK	<i>Phlox oklahomensis</i>

OR	Chrysopsis oregona
PA	Cardamine pennsylvanica
TN	Astragalus tennesseensis
TX	Abronia texana
UT	Agave utahensis
VA	Agave virginica
WA	Lilium washingtonianum
WY	Besseya wyomingensis

We could add *Anemone caroliniana* to represent the Carolinas. This leaves Delaware, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, the Dakotas, Vermont, West Virginia and Wisconsin unrepresented.

There is an *Aster novae-angliae*, for New England, and even *Ilex bronxensis*\*, for the holly that did not grow in Brooklyn. Because Eboracum was the name of the Roman town whose ruins were at about the same location as the English town of York, the Latinization of New York (as I noted years ago, on my Columbia College diploma) is noveboracense, or some such, and therefore unrecognizable. Caesar's connection to the island of Jersey leads to novae-caesareae for New Jersey. The silversword, found only in Hawaii, is Latin-named for the state's former designation, the Sandwich Islands.

Readers are called upon to complete the list. The search into floral binomials will at the least lead one to encounter such wonders as the vowel-rich *Allium aaseae*, and the simple joys of *Phacelia cookie* and *Veronica beccabunga*.

### AN ALICE LEXICON

*Alice aficionados will be delighted with Isn't That Lewis Carroll?, a lexicon of more than one thousand "mimsy words" and their exact locations in Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, Through the Looking-Glass, and The Hunting of the Snark. The book, a paperback of 126 pages, has been compiled by Charles A. Miller, and is available for \$3.95 plus \$1 shipping from the Lake Forest Book Store, Lake Forest IL 60045. The author comments in the Preface*

*To go through the index methodically is to enter the world of Lewis Carroll in his own words. Here we find bathing machines, deal-boxes, orange marmalade, macassar oil, and pocket watches. Unexpectedly, perhaps, we find no direct reference to either religion or empire, subjects one would suppose concerned the Reverend Charles Lutwidge Dodgson (Lewis Carroll) and his friends at Oxford University in the late nineteenth century. Maybe these subjects were unfit for children. But the index does contain many entries on law and justice, from the "Mouse's Tale" in Alice in Wonderland to the "Barrister's Dream" in The Hunting of the Snark.*