The 1100th meeting of the New England Botanical Club, Inc. will be held Friday, 6 March 2015, at 6:45 p.m. in Haller Lecture Hall (room 102), Geological Museum, 24 Oxford St., Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.

1100th meeting of the New England Botanical Club - Celebrating Students
“Case Studies in Domestication and Biological Invasions in Genera Cichorium and Centaurea (Asteraceae)”

By Tomas Zavada
UMASS Boston, Boston, MA

PLEASE NOTE:

1) NEBC 1100th MEETING – CELEBRATING STUDENTS: A long-standing NEBC tradition is to plan something special every 100 meetings. The March meeting is the 1100th of NEBC, and we are celebrating students this month. Our speaker is only weeks away from completing his PhD. Also all previous Graduate Student Research Award Winners (1985-2014) and Student Councilors have been invited to this meeting. We ask all members to please make a special invitation to attend this meeting to any students that you know who are interested in botany. Please join us in celebrating students, the future of our science.

2) TOMAS ZAVADA'S ABSTRACT: The current flora of New England consists of both native and non-native species. Nonindigenous plants have been introduced since first Europeans landed in North America in the 15th century. The first record of planting Cichorium intybus (chicory) in the U.S. can be found in Thomas Jefferson’s 1774 correspondence. The future success of this species in colonizing the United States was indicated in Jefferson’s 1811 letter “...[Sichorium Intibus] has been growing here in abundance and perfection now 20 years without any cultivation after the first transplanting.” We sampled and genotyped native Eurasian, North American current, and herbarium chicory in order to reconstruct patterns of genetic variation over the past 200 years. The talk will also cover the domestication history in Cichorium endivia (endive) and hybridization between Centaurea (knapweed) species in New England.

3) 2015-2016 NEBC SLATE: The vote on the Slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee sent last month and found on the NEBC website will be taken at the NEBC Annual Meeting on 6 March 2015. Committee Chairs will also give their annual reports then.

4) NEBC GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD(S) APPLICATIONS DUE 1 MARCH 2015: Each year NEBC offers up to $3000 in support of botanical research conducted by graduate students. Sunday, 1 March 2015 is the deadline for receipt of proposals and supporting letters. Additional details may be found on the NEBC award web site.

5) PLEASE REGISTER EARLY FOR THE 5-7 JUNE 2015 FREE CONFERENCE: NEBC will celebrate its 120th year by sponsoring a free conference to be held at Smith College, Northampton, MA. The deadline to register is April 1st, but space is limited, so please register early to participate. Conference includes a reception in the greenhouses, a keynote speaker, posters and presentations on current botanical research, tour of a LEED-certified field station, a botanical foray, and information about other regional botanical organizations and their activities. NEBC Conference
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FIRST RECIPIENTS OF LES MEHRHOFF BOTANICAL RESEARCH FUNDS: The first five recipients of funding from the Les Mehrhoff Botanical Research Fund are Karolina Fučíková, Jason Karakehian, Ian Medeiros, Timothy Whitfeld, and Susan Williams. Their project titles are on the What's New page.

VIDEO POSTED for NEBC FEBRUARY MEETING: Please go to the Meetings/Past Summaries page on the web site to view Pat Swain’s presentation. Use your new 2015 password to access all videos.

NEXT NEBC MEETING (SECOND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH): The Friday, April 10th meeting will be our 2015 NEBC Distinguished Speaker, Dr. Ned Friedman, Director of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, Boston, MA, speaking on "Mutants in our Midst: Darwin, Horticulture, and Evolution."

COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT: The NEBC Council holds its Annual Meeting in April after the new Council election. At that time, the members on all committees are reviewed and revised. If you have an interest in or want to learn more about these committees, please reply.

VASCULAR AND NONVASCULAR PLANT HERBARIA WORK: Please see the What's New web page if you wish to volunteer.

EAGLE HILL INSTITUTE DISCOUNTS: Eagle Hill Institute, Steuben, ME, is offering NEBC members a 20% discount for the 2015 Workshops and Seminars. Also, NEBC will give a stipend of $150 towards costs for the first five NEBC members who register for a summer botany course. Contact Matt Hickler at nebc@rhodora.org for details.

PARKING LOCATION: From 5 PM-10 PM, our designated FREE parking lot is the 52 Oxford St. Garage, near the intersection of Everett St. and Oxford St. Parking in any other lot will likely lead to towing. Please find a map showing the Oxford Garage (52OX) at the following link: Interactive Harvard University Map.

EARLIER ARRIVALS: For those arriving before 5 PM, visitor permits ($15.00/day) are available from Harvard Parking Service at Harvard Campus Service Center, 8th floor, Holyoke Center, 1350 Massachusetts Ave. (8AM-5PM) and on-line at Visitor Parking Permit. Select OEB/ MCZ/ HUH for building and 2017 for the department code. License plate number needed for transaction. Print pass and display on dash. For more information, Parking Services may be contacted at 617-495-3772 or parking@harvard.edu. [An alternative: Some members park at Alewife T station and ride the red line train to the Harvard Square T stop.]

The Council will meet 4–5 PM in the meeting room near Haller Lecture Hall