

**The Merritt Lyndon Fernald Award
For Best Paper published in *Rhodora*
Volume 119, 2017**

presented to

**Jesse Bellemare, Bryan Connolly, and Dov F. Sax for their
paper, “Climate change, managed relocation, and the risk of
intra-continental plant invasions: A theoretical and
empirical exploration relative to the flora of New England”**

This year's recipients of the New England Botanical Club's Merritt Lyndon Fernald Award are Jesse Bellemare, Bryan Connolly, and Dov F. Sax for their paper published in *Rhodora* 119 (978):73-109.

The Fernald Award Committee notes that "the authors have provided a timely and well-reasoned review of the justification and risks involved with managed relocation of plants to assist species in surviving climate change. This is a very thoughtful, detailed and even-handed treatment of a very timely topic. Given climate forecasts, we anticipate that land managers and others dealing with loss and maintenance of diversity -- and possible species extinctions -- will look to this review for guidance and advice. This is a controversial topic that needed this sort of benchmark discussion to move forward productively, and we note that the authors have thought carefully about opportunities for further research and collaboration. Though not a criterion for achievement of the award, we anticipate that this paper will be highly cited in coming years."