



*Eriogonum umbellatum*, v. *subaridum* in raised bed in Utrecht Botanic Garden in the Netherlands. Photo by Gerard van Buiten.

# ERIOGONUM SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1, NO. 3      MAY 2009

## GROWING ERIOGONUMS IN THE NETHERLANDS

**Gerard van Buiten**

Head Gardener at the Rock Garden  
Utrecht Botanic Garden, Utrecht, Netherlands

In the North American section of our garden previous gardeners had planted some species of *Eriogonum* over the decades, and a few plants survived our climate. About eight years ago, a patch of *E. umbellatum*, completely covered by sulfur yellow flowers, caught my eye. According to our database, it must have been there since 1970, and so proved to be very hardy. Once I discovered this *Eriogonum* in our garden, I paid more attention to the few others and got more interested in the genus. The plants in the garden at that time were the ones that survived more than ten years in the open. In fact they were kind of a natural selection by our climate. Among these were some varieties of *E. umbellatum*, like *E. umbellatum* var. *subaridum*, *E. umbellatum* var. *umbellatum* and *E. umbellatum* var. *furcosum*. Others included, *E. douglasii*, *E. strictum* var. *greenii* and an unidentified species that has never flowered in our garden, but has thrived here since 1965.

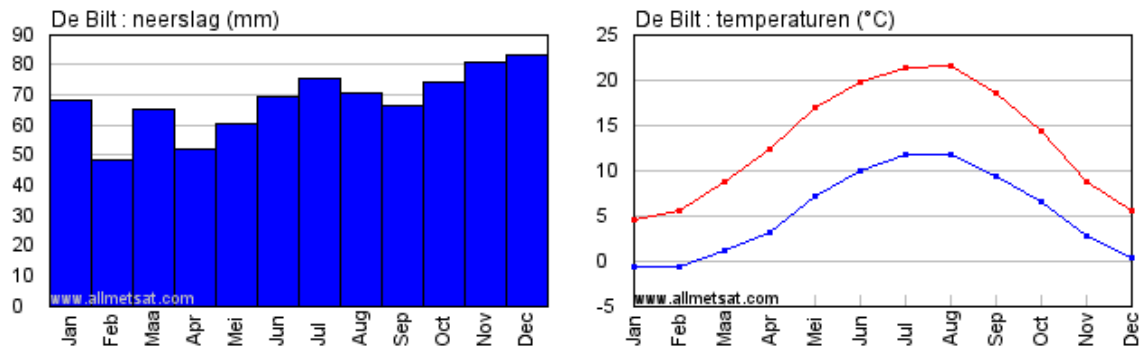
At this time, we decided to appoint the genus *Eriogonum* as a special collection in our garden, and started to increase our activities to enlarge the collection. The main object is to select species and clones that are suitable for our Northwest European climate. During the last five years many new species were sown and introduced to the garden.

## Climate

It is, of course, a precarious business to grow high mountain and desert plants in a lowland Atlantic climate. We have grown a collection of *Penstemon* for several decades, and the results with these were not very encouraging.

The yearly precipitation amounts about 800 mm, quite regularly spread over the year. There is no snow cover in winter, and daily minimum temperatures in winter can fluctuate under and above freezing point.

So, in general, it's too warm and wet in winter and the moist warmth of summer is far from ideal for both the desert and high mountain species.



## Propagation

On the subject of propagation I don't have much to say in addition to Graham Nicholls' article in the previous newsletter. New species and collections are grown from wild collected seeds, mostly obtained from Ron Ratko and Alplains who each offer excellent quality and quite a number of species. I have been trying several seed collections from both our own plants and from other botanic gardens, but as Graham mentioned in his article most have contained mostly chaff and very little seed. (after reading his article I will face the challenge and harvest and clean seeds from some of our selections, just to see whether the plants set viable seeds or not.)

I usually sow in December or January, but sometimes even in April, and keep the seed pots outdoors until seeds germinate. Later this year I will extract the last 5 years of data concerning sowing and germination from our database. It might be interesting to see if a period of cold stratification is needed for any of the species.

To keep our proven clones alive, to share them with others and to try them at other places in the garden I also propagate by taking cuttings. The method of partial burying as Graham mentioned, has proven to be the most successful up to the present time. The only difference is, that I "bury" the plants in spring (instead of Autumn) and take the rooted stems from the plants in August or the following spring.



Propagating *E. unbellatum*, v. *greenei* by partially burying cuttings in a mixture of compost and grit. Photo by Gerard van Buten.

Cuttings are taken and placed in coarse sand in the cold frame, watered and covered with a thin fleece just above the cuttings. The frame is covered with glass, and carefully shaded to keep cool conditions inside. I used to take the cuttings in late August or September, and depending on the species, was able to get 10- 60 % rooted. Last year I took the cuttings in late June, and the percentage of rooting was remarkably higher.

### **In the garden**

In the rock garden we have several different places where we try to meet the needs of *Eriogonum*. The geographical part of our North American garden is situated on a steep, sunny slope with sandy, loam soil which provides good drainage. The *E. umbellatum* varieties grow very well at this spot and build huge mats over the years.

Near the entrance building there are several raised beds, built from old roof tiles and concrete paving stones. Half of these beds are covered with a plastic tunnel in winter, to keep the rain off. At this place there are also many troughs. This is where we plant the smaller species, both under the winter protection and in the open. It is funny to see that after one winter the plants that were covered look better, and after another the plants in the open were. Overall I still can't say which method is the best for most species.

At the nursery we have a cold frame, filled with coarse sand and a top layer of granite split. From the end of October until the end of February this is covered with glass, but the wind can freely pass through. Of all new obtained species, I plant one plant in this frame. I got the idea that the perfect drainage, poor soil and rain shelter in winter would be the best guarantee to keep them alive. Sadly last winter some of the plants in this frame died, while some of their brothers and sisters in the open still look very healthy. However, this frame gives me a good opportunity to compare and examine the different species and clones, and to take cuttings when I have raised only one plant from a seed batch.





Cold frame used at Utrecht Botanic Garden to propagate Eriogonums.  
Photo by Gerard van Buiten.

### Successful species

During the last five years many new species have been planted at the different locations in the garden, and many of them have already perished. The most successful among them:

*E. arborescens* was grown from seed, and survived several winters until the last. Severe frosts in January might have been too much. This was a pity, because it formed a beautiful shrub, with a late and long lasting flowering period. So if anyone could provide us some seeds again??

*E. heracleoides* does survive, but is not as easy as I expected it to be. I've seen it growing in its natural habitats in Utah and Nevada, and the enormous variation in habitats made me think it would not be hard to grow here. But hopefully there will certainly exist a good form somewhere .....

*E. siskiyouense* is doing very well in the rock garden and has built a nice, compact silvery mat. The sulfur inflorescence completes its beauty, and luckily, I was able to propagate this one by cuttings. It survived last winter, so I expect this one to be a keeper.

Another form of *E. douglasii*, that was grown from seed and planted in one of the raised beds differs by having creamy white flowers instead of the yellow flowers in our oldest form. It has now survived several winters in the open.

*E. brevicaule subsp. laxifolium* is represented by plants from different places of their natural distribution, and seems to be relatively easy to grow. Sadly they are all the more fluffy form. I'm eager to lay my hands on the superb form I've seen at the Snowbird Ski station in the Wasatch mountains. (check a photo at: <http://botgard.bio.uu.nl/spgm-1.4.4/index.php?spgmGal=Eriogonum&spgmPic=1&spgmFilters=t&group=Alpine#pic>) Let's hope this form will be as easy to grow, and keep its qualities at lower altitudes.

*E. racemosa* has grown in the rock garden since 2002 and survived last winter, although the branches died back and it sprouts from the base of the plant.

*E. jamesii* var. *xanthum* has lived for more than 15 years in the open, but passed away last year.

## Candidates

Many more species have been sown, planted and died. Some of them have survived in the cold frame, or just for one or two years in the garden. *E. ovalifolium*, *E. purpushii*, *E. kennedyi*, *E. ursinum*, *E. thymifolium*, *E. flavum*, *E. coloradoense* and many others are still alive at the moment, and I hope we can select some durable clones over the next few years.

It is pretty hard for us to figure out (from a distance) which species will be good candidates for our climate. So if anyone has some suggestions please contact me at, gvanbuiten@solcon.nl



*Eriogonum umbellatum* in the rock garden at Utrecht Botanic Garden in the Netherlands. Photo by Gerard van Buiten.

## NOTES ON ERIOGONUM. II

**James L. Reveal**

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In the first issue of the *Newsletter* some of the general morphological features were discussed that defines the subg. *Eriogonoideae*, as traditionally circumscribed, and the habit, duration and leaves of *Eriogonum*. This time we will review characters associated with stems, branches and inflorescences; involucre, flowers and fruits will follow in the next issue.

In *Eriogonum* the term “stem” is used to denote the stalk that extends from the base of the plant to a node from which two or more branches arise. In general stems tend to be slender and solid when observed in cross-section. Perhaps the most distinct stem feature in *Eriogonum* is the inflated stems seen in such species *E. inflatum*, *E. clavatum*, *E. fusiforme*, and *E. trichopes*. The inflated or swollen stem contains high levels of carbon dioxide, and inasmuch as these species lose their leaves, the processes of photosynthesis in the stems and branches probably is enhanced by the increased levels of CO<sub>2</sub>. The second curious modification is seen in the Death Valley endemic *E. intrafractum*, a two meter tall herbaceous perennial with small basal leaves and a terminal inflorescence on a few centimeters long. The long stem is composed of large,



parenchyma cells—cells that can be seen with the naked eye—so that the stem can move sway in the wind as the individual cells expand or contract as the stem flexes. As the stem matures, it breaks into napkin-ring like segments at the base which permit even greater flexibility.

In many perennials, the stems form loose mats of woody, highly branched stems at or just below the surface of the substrate. This is seen in *Eriogonum umbellatum*. This array of stems is term a **caudex**. Branches arise at the nodes of the caudex as do fascicles of leaves. Sometimes the caudex also roots at the node thereby firmly attaching the plant to its substrate. In others, like *E. marifolium*, a mat can be several decimeters across and yet be attached only by a single, central root.

Stem surfaces may be **glabrous** or **hairy**. The surface may also be **smoothed** (as in most), **ribbed** (as in *Eriogonum heermannii* var. *sulcatum*), or bumpy (**pustulose**, as in *E. scabrellum*). Likewise, stems may be **glandular**. Pubescent types will be discussed later.

The branching system is variable in *Eriogonum* and thus critical as this feature is used frequently to define large groups of species. The definition of the branching system as used traditionally in *Eriogonum* is influenced by the position of the involucre. How they are arranged often results in the names applied to the inflorescence. But first, it is useful to discuss just the branches themselves.

A stem is terminated by a whorl of typically three (but sometimes numerous) **scale-like** or **foliaceous** bracts. The term “ternate” is used when there is a whorl of three bracts at the node. Such bracts also terminate branches. The evolutionary history of the branching system also will be discussed in the future, so suffice to say now that some stems can seemingly have a **whorl of bract** midway along their length as in *Eriogonum heracleoides*.

Branches tend to occur in groups of two or three at a node so that the branching pattern is either **dichotomous** (two branches) or **trichotomous** (three branches). In some annuals one will often find additional short, slender, highly reduced branches. Often at the node is a branch-like stalk that lacks bract at its tip being terminated instead by an involucre. This stalk is termed a **peduncle** when applied to members of *Eriogonoideae*.

Like stems, the branches in *Eriogonum* can be glabrous or hairy, smooth or ribbed, and the hairs may be sparse to dense, of several different types, and glandular hairs can be present. In the case of the latter, they may be common all along the branch or restricted along its length.

Inflorescences in *Eriogonum umbellatum* and its relatives typically form umbels—branches arising atop the stem with each branch terminated by one or more involucre. *Eriogonum umbellatum* var. *umbellatum* has an **umbellate** inflorescence. In var. *stellatum*, however, the branches themselves branch so that one has a **compound umbellate** inflorescence. Involucres may be racemosely arranged along a branch (as in *E. racemosum*) or at the very tips of branches (as in *E. nummulare*). For the most part, one or more involucre are found at the node formed by the branches of the inflorescence with the uppermost branched suppressed so that there is only a solitary involucre.

Peduncles are variable in *Eriogonum*, and among the annuals they are an important diagnostic feature. Not only is it necessary to determine if a peduncle is present, its aspect to the branch, vestiture (kinds of hairs, if any), and other features are diagnostic. Most peduncles are clearly visible and resemble a slender branch. This is particularly true in most of the perennials where peduncles are less frequently seen and usually not particularly significant.

However, among the annuals, peduncles may be exceedingly slender to the point that some are characterized as being **capillare**. In terms of their aspect, most tend to be straight and situated so that they position the involucre above or below the branch. In a few cases the peduncle is so short that the involucre is more or less horizontal to the stem. The **peduncle can**

**be straight or variously curved.** When present, the peduncles can orientate the involucre so that seemingly they are arranged in **racemes, panicles or cymes**—terms that are then given as the branching pattern, especially among the perennials. Even when peduncles are lacking, the position of the involucre influence the inflorescence type so that in the extreme case of a **capitate** inflorescence, all of the involucre arise from a single point atop a stem (as in *Eriogonum ovalifolium*). In even more extreme cases, branches are lacking entirely so that in *E. soliceps*, only a solitary involucre is found atop a bractless peduncle.

Understanding branching patterns in *Eriogonum* is critical to distinguishing among the many species. How the inflorescences are arranged, and how the flowers are displayed, is often the single most influential factor in determining if a particular species is attractive in the garden. See the glossary at <http://www.eriogonum.org/> for more information on the terms mentioned here.

## **GROWING ERIOGONUMS IN THE GARDEN**

**Bob McFarlane**

One of the primary purposes of our new society is to share information on growing eriogonums in our gardens. The literature in this area appears to me to be fairly limited although I'm sure good information exists. One good article is found in Graham Nicholls' book, "Alpine Plants of North America" and the follow up article he wrote for the last issue of our newsletter. Gerard van Beiten has also contributed some good experience in this issue on growing them in a rather hostile climate.

The purpose of this short article is to generate interest and set up a process for all of us who grow eriogonums to share experiences. I will be glad to compile the information in a hopefully useful manner and provide it in the newsletter and on our website in the member's only section. Or, perhaps one of you would like to take on this task. I would view this as an on-going exercise as more of you share additional information and more new members contribute their experience.

A partial list of information that would be useful to many of us might include the following;

Collecting Seed. How soon after blooming does that seed become viable? How do different people collect it? Is seed collected later in the season more viable than seed collected sooner after blooming? Are these results similar for all species or are there differences?

Viability of Seed. What is the best method of storing seed? How long does eriogonum seed remain viable? What is our experience in this area with different species? Have there been any studies made of the length of time the seed stays viable?

Propagation. Most authors suggest that propagating eriogonums by seed is the best method but there has also been some success with vegetative propagation. What has been the collective experience of our members? What medium is the best for germinating seeds? How about media for vegetative propagation? How do we make our cuttings? What different procedures have we tried? What were the results?

Germination. How long does it take for different species seed to germinate? What is required for germination in the areas of stratification, light, etc.? What percentage germination

should one expect with the different species being germinated in the proper manner? What is our collective experience in stratification using the refrigerator versus setting the seed outside (in areas with cold enough winter temperatures)?

Seedlings. What are the best environmental conditions for seedlings from the time they first show themselves up until they are transferred into individual pots? What diseases do we need to watch out for? When should seedlings be pricked up into individual pots? What media should be used? What is the best environment for the growth of the seedlings? What is our experience with watering and fertilizing the seedlings? How does all this change with different species?

Transferring Plants into the Garden. How long should seedlings be in their individual pots before being large enough to plant in the garden? What are the preferred soil characteristics required for the different species? What about the amount of sun, water, drainage requirements for the different species.

In the Garden. How fast do the different species grow? What is our experience with transplanting eriogonums? What species are the easiest to grow? Which are the hardest? How long do the different species live?

As you can see this list is long and very incomplete. I initially sat down to try and design a form that might be used to collect this information but I believe it is too soon to try and attempt this. What I think would be very useful, is a section of the website devoted to the propagation and cultivation of eriogonums based upon actual experience by our members and others.

One of our members, Barbara Lewis, has done a tremendous amount of work in the American Penstemon Society putting such a section together for the APS Website, which many of you are familiar with. In the case of penstemons there is a large amount of information available and the initial effort was focused on condensing, evaluating, and put it into one place in a useful form for people to use. However, for eriogonums I don't believe there is that much information available and most will have to come from our members.

What would be greatly appreciated is for you to think about these questions and your experiences with them and send me an email ([www.denverbob@aol.com](mailto:www.denverbob@aol.com)) and tell me what you think of this idea and hopefully include a little or a lot of information. Perhaps you might direct me to other related published information that is available. If there is enough interest and information sent in, I will collate it and try to develop a form which might be used to gather further information in an easier manner. If one of you would like to take on the job of developing a section of our website devoted to our experiences in this area it would be greatly appreciated.

I do believe that if we can generate a good body of data and experience on propagating and growing eriogonums in our gardens it will be very useful for our members and would also aid in the recruitment of new members.





*Eriogonum thymoides* in Eastern Washington. Photo by Diane Stutzman.

## **THYME-LEAF BUCKWHEAT: ERIOGONUM THYMOIDES**

Diane Stutzman

Desert Jewels Nursery

Thyme-leaf wild buckwheat may be my favorite of all the wild buckwheats that I know. It has a wonderful, gnarled appearance, with a woody gray trunk and tiny pale green leaves. It flowers early in the spring, with white to pale yellow or yellow flowers, becoming pink to rose as the seeds develop. The flowers are gorgeous and eye-catching in April and May. In the driest part of summer, in drier sites like the lithosols at the top of the basalt outcrops that they love, the plants go dormant. They are every bit as eye-catching in dormancy, because the leaves turn red and maroon before they become completely dormant.

Thyme-leaf buckwheat in bloom resembles a fabulous flowering bonsai tree. Indeed, it is known in the bonsai trade as the 'Ming Tree'.

Thyme-leaf wild buckwheat grows on sandy to gravelly, often volcanic flats, slopes, and outcrops, on mixed grassland and in sagebrush communities, and montane conifer woodlands in Idaho, Oregon and Washington. I have only seen it in the channeled scablands of eastern Washington, where it grows on the lithosols (thin, rocky soils) on the top of basalt formations, forming a community with the small tufts of Sandberg's bluegrass.

### **Where to Find It**

*Eriogonum thymoides* is widespread on the lithosols of Lincoln County, Washington. There are numerous Bureau of Land Management (BLM) parcels where the public can access the wonderful Channeled Scablands of eastern Washington. The lithosol communities are particularly interesting to those of us who enjoy *Eriogonum*, *Penstemon*, *Erigeron*, *Talinum* and other dry site genera.

BLM's Telford and Hawk Creek parcels have particularly nice populations of *Eriogonum thymoides* in their lithosol communities. Hawk Creek parcel is located along highway 2, approximately eight miles west of Davenport, WA. Telford is twelve miles west of Davenport, stretching a couple of miles north and south of the Telford Rest Stop. Maps showing locations of these and other BLM parcels offering recreational hiking, birding, and wildflower viewing are available at the Spokane District Office. Some information on is also available at <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane/recreation/index.php> .

The Channeled Scablands of eastern Washington have a fascinating history. The bedrock is basalt, laid down to a depth of a mile or more over the entire Columbia Basin of eastern Washington and northeastern Oregon. During the last Ice Age, the cataclysmic Missoula floods sent torrents of water tearing across the basalt from northeastern Washington to the Columbia Gorge, carving canyons in the basalt and scouring the soil off the surface. This created the channels and the 'scabby' areas of nearly bare rock. These floods occurred repeatedly during the Pleistocene epoch.

Near the end of the last Ice Age, the a projection of the Cordilleran ice sheet moved down the Kootenai Valley in northern Idaho, blocking the mouth of the Clark Fork River and creating Glacial Lake Missoula. This massive lake was 2000 feet deep. It contained more than 500 cubic miles of water, stretching eastward for 200 miles. It contained more water than Lake Erie and Lake Ontario combined. When the ice dam on the Clark Fork River in Idaho failed, the waters of Glacial Lake Missoula escaped. The rate of the flow was 10 times the combined flow of all the rivers of the world.

The floods crossed Washington from northeast to southwest, carved the Columbia River Gorge, and deposited topsoil from Montana, Idaho, and Washington in the Willamette Valley of Oregon.

In March of 2009, Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail bill passed Congress. A trail will be developed that provides interpretation all along the route of the Ice Age megafloods.

There are many resources to learn more about these megafloods. Public Broadcasting's NOVA has a presentation on these events called 'Mystery of the Megaflood'.

### **Growing Thyme-leaf Buckwheat**

Thyme-leaf buckwheat comes fairly easily from seed, but it takes a long time to attain any significant size. This woody subshrub is a very slow grower, taking a number of years to reach its full height of 6 inches and width of 6 to 12 inches. I have tried two different planting methods. I've planted seeds in large pots and then moved individual seedlings into 4" pots, and I've planted in 72 cell plug flats and moved the plugs up to 4" pots. In both instances, I planted in fall to late winter (November – January) and left the containers outdoors to naturally stratify the seeds. Both container types worked, but plug flats require careful attention to moisture in the medium. It is easy for plug cells to dry out without appearing dry on the surface, especially when using peat based media. I have been growing this plant for four years in my nursery (Desert Jewels Nursery in Spokane, WA).

Thyme-leaf buckwheat plants bloom when they are two or three years old. By the time the plants are three years old, they are 2-3 inches tall and look quite nice. Three year old plants have a large enough trunk to start preparing as a bonsai.



We have a few plants growing in our demonstration garden. Unfortunately last winter was a tough one and the hungry deer tried to sample a thyme-leaf buckwheat, yanking its roots far enough out of the ground that it looks unlikely to survive. The deer did not actually eat any of the plant, but yanked it hard enough to expose its roots to a near-zero cold snap. I think that if we had applied a mulch of basalt gravel, it would have protected the plants from root exposure from deer sampling and from soil subsidence.

This plant is a delight to grow in a pot of cactus mix. It would probably do well in a trough garden also. I'm looking forward to seeing how they develop over time.



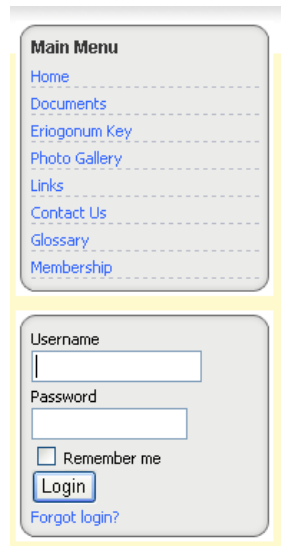
*Eriogonum thymoides* in the Scablands of Eastern Washington. Photo by Diane Stutzman.

### **MEMBERS ACCESS TO THE ERIOGONUM.ORG WEBSITE - ADDITIONAL CONTENT**

Hugh Mac Millan

When accessing our website at <http://erigonum.org> the menu choices listed on the left in the Main Menu is what is accessible by all viewers. In addition one sees a menu holding the 'username' and 'password' login area for users who are given permissions to access additional content. This additional content is set up for those users by the web administrator. All members of the Eriogonum Society who supply an email when becoming a member will be set up with access to this area.

## MENUS



The image shows two stacked UI components. The top component is a 'Main Menu' box with a light gray background and rounded corners, containing a list of links: Home, Documents, Eriogonum Key, Photo Gallery, Links, Contact Us, Glossary, and Membership. The bottom component is a login form with a light gray background and rounded corners, containing fields for Username and Password, a 'Remember me' checkbox, a 'Login' button, and a 'Forgot login?' link.

**Main Menu**

- [Home](#)
- [Documents](#)
- [Eriogonum Key](#)
- [Photo Gallery](#)
- [Links](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Glossary](#)
- [Membership](#)

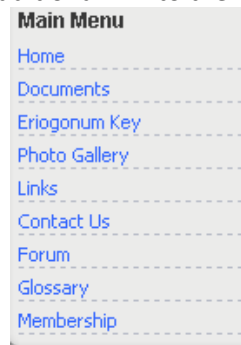
Username

Password

☐ Remember me

[Forgot login?](#)

Most users will be set up as 'registered' users and will see changes to the menu options upon logging in. The main menu will have an additional link to the **FORUM**.



This image shows a 'Main Menu' box similar to the one above, but with an additional link, 'Forum', inserted between 'Contact Us' and 'Glossary'.

**Main Menu**

- [Home](#)
- [Documents](#)
- [Eriogonum Key](#)
- [Photo Gallery](#)
- [Links](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Forum](#)
- [Glossary](#)
- [Membership](#)

An additional menu is exposed.



The image shows a 'User Menu' box with a light gray background and rounded corners, containing a list of links: Your Profile, Users List, and Contributing Photos.

**User Menu**

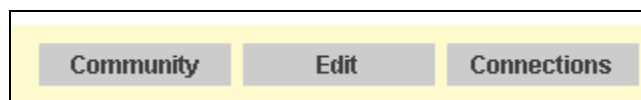
- [Your Profile](#)
- [Users List](#)
- [Contributing Photos](#)

## LINKS

As mentioned previously, new menus and/or menu items became visible once logged into the website.

### 'Your Profile'

This link will open the profile page associated with you as a user. This is set up so that a user can 'self manage' details about themselves, manage connections to other members who may be logged in at the same time, and add a portrait if you so choose. This area allows one to change a password.



The image shows a horizontal row of three buttons: 'Community', 'Edit', and 'Connections'.

[Community](#) [Edit](#) [Connections](#)



**Community** – opens a page that describes the software used to create the user portal

**Edit** – Click on this to either update/enter an image of yourself or update your profile information.

The image shows two screenshots of a web application's user profile editing interface. The top screenshot displays the 'Contact Info' tab, which includes fields for Name, Email, Username, Password, Verify Password, Front-end Language, and Time Zone. Each field has a small icon to its right indicating its status: a yellow circle with an exclamation mark for required fields, a green circle with a checkmark for fields visible on the profile, a red circle with an 'X' for fields not visible, and a blue circle with an 'i' for information. The bottom screenshot shows the 'Portrait' tab, which features a 'Profile image' section with a placeholder image and a dropdown menu set to 'No change of image'. Below the tabs are 'Update' and 'Cancel' buttons. At the very bottom, a legend explains the icons: 'Required field' (yellow exclamation mark), 'Field visible on your profile' (green checkmark), 'Field not visible on profile' (red X), and 'Information: Point mouse to icon' (blue 'i').

Profile Portrait

Contact Info Additional Information

Name: Hugh Yahoo MacMillan

Email: humanator@yahoo.com

Username: Huyahoo

Password:

Verify Password:

Front-end Language:: - Select Language -

Time Zone: (UTC 00:00) Western Europe Time, London, Lisbon, Casablanca

Update Cancel

Profile Portrait

Profile image: No change of image

Update Cancel

Required field | Field visible on your profile | Field not visible on profile | Information: Point mouse to icon

**Connections** – this allows you to communicate with other members if they are logged in at the same time you are. This is done by an invitation method wherein the person who you wish to contact may either accept or decline a conversation.


See also the link from here to the forum. From this link you can see subscriptions or favorite threads in the forum. More on the functionality of the forum later.

This is a partial screenshot of the user profile editing interface, showing the 'Profile' and 'Forum' tabs at the top of a yellow header bar.

Profile Forum

## 'Users List'

This area shows you who else is registered as a user of the website. Here, you also see who is online.

Image	Username	Oth
	<a href="#">erioadmin</a>	Online Status:  ONLINE Member Since: 10 months ago Last Online: Now
	<a href="#">HughGmail</a>	Online Status:  OFFLINE Member Since: 2 months ago Last Online: 19 days ago
	<a href="#">Huyahoo</a>	Online Status:  ONLINE Member Since: 2 months ago Last Online: Now
	<a href="#">jlreveal</a>	Online Status:  OFFLINE Member Since: 2 months ago Last Online: 2 months ago

By clicking on one of the blue linked usernames, you can navigate to a panel with that users information. Here, you can send an email and request connection with the other user. Hover your mouse over the following links to see your options.

Community	View	Messages	Connections	Moderation
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## 'Contributing Photos'

This link is to a page with instructions on where to load images for the Photo Gallery. PLEASE NOTE: The images will be reviewed before being released to the public view in the Gallery. We want to insure high quality accurate photos are available.

## 'Forum'

A forum is a place where communities of people (eriogonum maniacs for example) can discuss topics by posting new topics and/or replying to posts or topics. We currently are running the Fireboard Forum on our website. We will be exploring better options than this in the near future.

Enjoy your website, there will be additional items in future newsletters about the website.



Eriogonum robustum along US 395 northwest of Reno  
near Desert Research Institute in Washoe County, NV  
Photo by J.L. Reveal

**ERIOGONUM SEED EXCHANGE**  
**Bob McFarlane**

We plan to start an eriogonum seed exchange for the society this fall and cordially invite your participation. It will operate like many other similar ones you are probably familiar with. Members will collect seed, clean it and send it in to the Chairperson of the Seed Exchange. The Chairperson will package it, receive, fill and mail orders to members. A member will be able to choose one packet of seed for each packet of a different species they contribute. Other packets ordered by members will cost \$0.50 each. We will decide on the maximum number of packets one can order when we find out how much seed is contributed.

The seed exchange will accept contributions at any time and will publish an order form with seed availability on the website by the first of December each year and start filling orders in the order received immediately after that date.

We would very much like to have someone volunteer to be our Seed Exchange Chairperson. The job is not difficult; in fact, it can be a lot of fun. We will make sure that the volunteer will be able to pass on the responsibility after two years. If you would like to volunteer, please contact me at [www.denvrbbob@aol.com](mailto:www.denvrbbob@aol.com).

We also would appreciate some advice on how many seed for a given packet would constitute a reasonable amount for propagation. This would obviously be related to how much we would have to distribute but would also be related to the relative degree of germination that many of you have experienced.

So, please plan on collecting eriogonum seed as part of your summer activities this year so that we may get this program off and running in good fashion this year.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Our membership is currently at 33 and growing. Please help recruit new members to join us. Print a copy of the newsletter and pass it to a friend. Talk it over with your gardening and wildflower enthusiast acquaintances. Perhaps take a copy of the newsletter and post it in your local nursery. We are excited about having a society to study and learn more about these fabulous plants.

### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Vote for Location of First Annual Meeting (Select one)**

- ☐ **Rancho Santa Ana, CA**
- ☐ **Bishop, CA**
- ☐ **Reno, NV**
- ☐ **Vernal, UT**

Please send annual dues (January 1 thru December 31) of \$10. to Bob McFarlane at 5609 S. Locust St., Greenwood Village, CO 80111.