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## Weights of Seeds and Numbers per Plant ${ }^{1}$

## O. A. Stevens ${ }^{2}$

THE present paper is supplementary to one previously published (3) which received more comment than had been expected. In the meantime Salisbury's book (2) appeared in which reference was made to the paucity of data on the subject and many records from the previous paper were quoted. Salisbury made statistical and ecological studies of various species in Great Britain.

Methods of collection have been the same as for the earlier report (3). In most cases a single plant, judged to be of average size and growing where competition was low, was harvested at maturity or when a maximum number of seeds could be obtained. The plants were air dried for two weeks or more, threshed and cleaned to remove immature seeds, empty florets, etc. In some cases (Epilobium, Pyrola), visual examination had to replace the usual cleaning.

This method serves well for species the seeds of which are retained until all are mature. For species in which ripening extends over a considerable period and seeds are shed as soon as mature, only a part of the total number can be secured at a single collection. In most cases that number is given, with footnotes to indicate that more would have developed, or if some had already dropped. As noted in the previous report (3) the total yield for these plants might be estimated at twice as many if some had dropped or had not matured or four times as many if both factors prevailed.

In a few cases daily collections were made or (Lactuca scariola, L. biennis) heads were counted and total number estimated. In some plants seeds were extensively damaged by insects and this is noted. In most cases the total number listed is that of good seeds only for one plant. In those groups where seed is not separated readily from fruit the weights are usually of the fruit or parts thereof, such as caryopsis with lemma and palea, achenes, nutlets or mericarps.

For perennials which increase in area, a single stalk was usually taken. The propriety of choosing an "average" plant has been discussed by Salisbury (2) who sought to obtain average yields from a large number of individuals. However, conditions vary so widely that averages would be valid only for the conditions under which samples were taken. Production by occasional plants that survive in fields is an important item which is often overlooked. Further discussion is made under a few species.

Material is from North Dakota unless otherwise indicated. A few species have been duplicated, usually without intention. Specimens from the same lot of a few species have been distributed to several

[^0]Table 1. Seed weights and production of individual plants.

| Species | Wt. 1000 seeds grams | Total number per unit of measure | Unit of measure | Remarks |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sparganiaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Sparganium eurycarpum. | 46.600 |  | 1 stem | 14 heads |
| Alismataceae |  |  |  |  |
| Sagittaria cuneata. | . 235 | 5,150 | 1 plant | 16 flowers |
| Gramineae |  |  |  |  |
| Aristida longiseta. | 3.500 | 130 | 1 plant | Awns present |
| Aristida longiseta. | 2.000 | - 220 | - | Awns removed |
| Bromus inermis. . | 2.900 | 220 | 1 stem |  |
| Bromus latiglumis Bromus tectorum. | 2.200 2.400 | 1,220 700 | 1 plant |  |
| Cinna latifolia. | . 080 | 6,400 | 3 stems |  |
| Deschampsia caespitosa. | . 200 | 50 | 1 plant |  |
| Elymus villosus. | 3.300 | 390 | 1 plant |  |
| Elymus virginicus, var. submuticus. | 4.950 | 435 | 1 plant | 14 spikes |
| Eragrostis spectabilis. . . . . . . . . | . 103 | 86,430 | 1 plant $^{4}$ | Kansas |
| Eragrostis spectabilis. Festuca obtusa. . . . | .073 1.100 | 980 | $\overline{1 \text { plant }}$ | Caryopses |
| Glyceria grandis. | .400 | 2,550 | 1 stem |  |
| Glyceria striata. | . 200 | 1,650 | 1 plant |  |
| Leersia oryzoides. | 1.200 | 4,240 | 1 plant |  |
| Lolium persicum ${ }^{3}$. | 8.650 | 490 | 1 plant |  |
| Oryzopsis hymenoides. | 3.150 | 280 | 1 plant |  |
| Phalaris arundinacea. | 1.100 | 120 | 1 stem |  |
| Poa annua.. | . 200 | 2,050 | 1 plant |  |
| Poa palustris. . . . . . | . 130 | 2,770 | 1 plant | Plus many infertile |
| Puccinellia nuttalliana. . . | . 170 | 3,530 | 1 plant |  |
| Schedonnardus paniculatus. | . 300 | 125 | 1 plant |  |
| Schedonnardus paniculatus. | . 340 | 1.380 | 1 plant ${ }^{4}$ |  |
| Scolochloa festucacea. | 1.100 | 1,430 | 1 stem |  |
| Setaria faberii. . | 1.900 | 4,030 | 1 plant | Kansas |
| Setaria verticillata. . . | 1.050 | 3,180 | 1 plant |  |
| Sphenopholis obtusata. | .090 0.040 | 6,330 | 1 plant |  |
| Stipa comata. | 9.040 3.600 | 125 | 1 plant | Incl. awns Without awns |
| Stipa spartea. | 34.400 | 72 | 1 plant | Incl. awns |
| Stipa spartea. | 16.100 | - | - | Without awns |
| Cyperaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Carex cristatella . | . 240 | 2,160 | 1 plant |  |
| Carex filifolia... | 2.900 | 232 | 1 plant | Tuft $1.5 \mathrm{dm} ., 92$ spikes |
| Carex gracillima. | 1.350 | - 550 | 1 plant |  |
| Carex retrorsa. | 1.260 | 10,400 | 1 plant |  |
| Carex stenophylla . | 1.400 | 12 | 1 stem | Av. from 100 spikes |
| Eriophorum angustifolium. | .300 1.460 | 35 400 | 1 stem |  |
| Scirpus acutus....... | 1.460 |  | 1 stem | Av. of 10 panicles |
| Scirpus cyperinus. | .023 8.500 | 100,000 | 1 plant | Minn., bristles mostly off |
| Scirpus fluviatilis. Scirpus paludosus. | 8.500 2.730 | 420 | 1 stem |  |
| Scirpus paludosus. Scirpus validus. | 2.730 .700 | 1,779 | 1 stem 1 stem | Av. of 10 panicles |
| Araceae |  |  |  |  |
| Acorus calamus. | 3.720 | 435 | 1 stem |  |
| Arisaema atrorubens. | 21.400 | 101 | 1 plant |  |
| Commelinaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Tradescantia occidentalis. | 3.000 | 305 | 1 plant | 1 |
| Liliaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Allium stellatum | 1.800 | 303 | 1 plant | 3 umbels |
| Allium textile. | 2.350 | 136 | 1 plant | 3 umbels |
| Allium textile. | 2.140 | 56 | 1 plant | 2 umbels |
| Allium textile. | 2.560 | 168 | 1 plant |  |
| Allium tricoccum. ... | 13.250 | 24 | 1 plant | Av. of 15 |
| Asparagus officinalis... | 19.850 | 2,650 | 1 stem |  |
| Fritillaria atropurpurea ${ }^{5}$. . . | 2.780 | 2,650 | 1 plant | 1 capsule |
| Polygonatum canaliculatum. . . | 17.080 | 270 | 1 stem |  |

Table 1. Seed weights and production of individual plants (Continued).


Berberidaceae
Caulophyllum thalictroides.............|121.000| 30 | 1 plant |

## Papaveraceae

| Corydalis sempervirens. | . 460 | 1,000 | 1 plant | Minn. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Papaver somniferum. | . 280 | 13,800 | 1 plant | 7 fruits |
| Sanguinaria canadensis | 7.260 | 31 |  | 1 fruit |

Table 1. Seed weights and production of individual plants (Continued).

| Species | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{Wt} . \\ & 1000 \\ & \text { seeds } \\ & \text { grams } \end{aligned}$ | Total number per unit of measure | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Unit } \\ & \text { of } \\ & \text { measure } \end{aligned}$ | Remarks |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cruciferae |  |  |  |  |
| Arabis divaricarpa | . 140 | 3,000 | 1 plant |  |
| Arabis holboellii.. | . 085 | 4,590 | 1 plant |  |
| Arabis holboellii | . 110 | 9,455 | 1 plant |  |
| Brassica hirta. | 4.600 | 3,125 | 1 plant |  |
| Brassica juncea | 1.840 | 4,780 | 1 plant |  |
| Brassica nigra. | 1.500 | 5,600 | 1 plant |  |
| Camelina microcarpa. | . 280 | 12,820 | 1 plant ${ }^{4}$ |  |
| Camelina microcarpa. | . 280 | 5,035 | 1 plant |  |
| Cardaria draba... | 2.150 | 2,300 | 1 stem | Plus many infertile |
| Cardaria pubescens. | 1.000 | - 20 | 1 stem | Av. 10 stems |
| Descurainia sophia. | . 110 | 842,700 | 1 sq. yard |  |
| Draba nemorosa. | . 019 | 1,340 | 1 plant |  |
| Draba reptans. | . 037 | 1,300 | 1 plant |  |
| Lepidium sativum. | 2.150 | 2,300 | 1 plant |  |
| Lesquerella alpina ${ }^{5}$. . | . 476 | 210 | 1 plant $^{4}$ |  |
| Lesquerella ludoviciana. | . 467 | 300 | 1 plant ${ }^{4}$ | Herb. Stevens 139 |
| Raphanus raphanistrum | 7.650 | 1,875 | 1 plant | Grown in garden |
| Raphanus sativus. | 8.500 | 160 | 1 plant | Wild form |
| Rorippa islandica, var. hispida. | . 047 | 18,080 | 1 plant ${ }^{4}$ |  |
| Rorippa obtusa. | . 075 | 19,730 | 1 plant |  |
| Sisymbrium loeselii. | . 080 | 37,200 | 1 plant |  |
| Saxifragaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Heuchera richardsonii | $.063$ |  | 1 plant |  |
| Ribes setosum. | $1.300$ | $1,830$ | 1 plant |  |
| Rosaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Chamaerhodos nuttallii. | . 270 | 780 |  |  |
| Geum aleppicum. | 1.750 | 1,000 | 1 plant |  |
| Geum triflorum. | . 600 | 142 | 1 plant |  |
| Potentilla pensylvanica | . 130 | 15,200 | 1 plant |  |
| Potentilla pentandra. | . 047 | 32,100 | 1 plant |  |
| Rosa arkansana. | 12.100 | 200 | 1 stem |  |
| Rosa woodsii. | 10.640 | 1,140 | 1 stem |  |
| Leguminosae |  |  |  |  |
| Amorpha fruticosa | 9.250 | 4,070 | 1 plant | Fruits |
| Amorpha fruticosa. | 5.600 | 2,310 | $\underline{\text { Pren }}$ | Seeds |
| Amorpha nana. | 4.800 | 2,310 | 1 plant | Fruits |
| Amorpha nana. . . | 2.450 | -130 | - | Seeds |
| Amphicarpa bracteata. | 35.000 | 130 | 1 plant | Plus $50 \%$ weeviled |
| Astragalus bisculcatus ${ }^{5}$. | 4.750 | 1,870 | 1 plant | Plus $50 \%$ weeviled |
| Astragalus canadensis. Astragalus racemosus. | 1.600 | 2,125 | 1 plant | Plus many infertile or weeviled |
| Astragalus racemosus Astragalus racemosus. | 4.000 | 2,800 | 1 plant |  |
| Astragalus racemosus. | 4.300 | 4,400 | 1 plant |  |
| Astragalus striatus. | 1.550 | 3,000 | 1 plant |  |
| Astragalus tenellus. | 3.410 | 117 | 1 plant |  |
| Desmodium canadense. | 5.150 | 2,160 | 1 plant |  |
| Hedysarum boreale ${ }^{5}$. | 5.050 | 2,160 | 1 plant | Segments, mostly infertile |
| Hedysarum boreale. | 2.240 | 125 | 1 plant | Seeds |
| Lathyrus venosus. | 37.500 | 80 | 1 stem |  |
| Lupinus pusillus ${ }^{5}$. | 17.600 | 50 | 1 plant ${ }^{4}$ |  |
| Petalostemum multiflorum. | 1.200 | 1,750 | 1 plant | Kans., plus many infertile |
| Petalostemum purpureum. | 1.500 | 368 | 1 plant | Plus many infertile |
| Psoralea argophylla..... | 19.000 | 53 | 1 stem | Plus many infertile |
| Thermopsis rhombifolia ${ }^{5}$. | 15.200 | 40 | 1 stem |  |
| Vicia americana...... | 16.400 | 62 | 1 stem |  |
| Geraniaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Geranium bicknellii.... Geranium carolinianum. | $\begin{aligned} & 1.840 \\ & 1.950 \end{aligned}$ | 87 470 | 1 plant ${ }^{4}$ <br> 1 plant ${ }^{4}$ |  |
| Linaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Linum sulcatum. | . 200 | 110 | 1 plant ${ }^{4}$ |  |
| Oxalidaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Oxalis violacea. . . . . . . . . . . | . 450 | 231 | 1 plant | Av. of 5 plants |

Table 1. Seed weights and production of individual plants (Continued).

| Species | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{Wt.} \\ 1000 \\ \text { seeds } \\ \text { grams } \end{gathered}$ | Total number per unit of measure | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Unit } \\ & \text { of } \\ & \text { measure } \end{aligned}$ | Remarks |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Polygalaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Polygala alba. | . 700 | 515 | 1 plant | \| Many yet undeveloped |
| Euphorbiaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Croton monanthogynous. | 5.760 | 26 | 1 plant ${ }^{4}$ | Kansas |
| Euphorbia dictyosperma. | 1.350 |  | 1 plant ${ }^{4}$ |  |
| Euphorbia dentata..... | 4.650 |  | 1 plant ${ }^{4}$ | Kansas |
| Euphorbia maculata (nutans) | . 330 | 156 | $1{ }^{\text {plant }}$ | Plus 285 immature, Kansas |
| Euphorbia marginata. . . . . | 14.500 | 660 | $1{ }^{1} \mathrm{plant}^{4}$ | Kansas |
| Euphorbia missurica.. | . 600 |  | 1 plant ${ }^{4}$ | Kansas |
| Malvaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Abutilon theophrasti | 8.750 | 4,300 | $1 \mathrm{plant}^{4}$ | Below average |
| Hibiscus trionum. . | 3.500 | 58,600 | 1 plant | Large plant collected daily |
| Malva parviflora. | 3.500 | 2,130 | 1 plant | Carpels |
| Sida spinosa. . | 3.190 | 510 | $1 \mathrm{plant}^{4}$ | Kans., carpels |
| Sphaeralcea coccinea. | 2.100 | 1,860 | 1 plant | Carpels, large plant |
| Violaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Viola nuttallii ${ }^{5} .$. Viola pensylvanic | 2.900 2.430 | 117 43 | 1 plant |  |
| Loasaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Mentzelia decapetala. | 1.150 | 4,460 | 1 plant $^{4}$ | \| Below average |
| Cactaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Opuntia fragilis. . <br> Opuntia humifusa | $\begin{aligned} & 20.850 \\ & 29.400 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 485 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | 1 plant | One large clump |
| Lythraceae |  |  |  |  |
| Ammannia coccinea. |  | \| 335,000 | 1 plant | 1 |
| Onagraceae |  |  |  |  |
| Epilobium glandulosum. Gaura parviflora . . . . . . | .084 8.100 | 72,600 520 | 1 plant $^{4},{ }^{8}$ 1 plant $^{4}, 8$ | Kans., fruits |
| Umbelliferae |  |  |  |  |
| Cryptotaenia canadensis. | 2.450 | 270 | 1 plant |  |
| Cymopterus acaulis. | 3.020 | 116 | 1 plant |  |
| Heracleum maximum. . | 8.000 | 2,280 | 1 plant | Aphid damage |
| Lomatium foeniculaceum. | 5.100 | 149 | 1 plant |  |
| Lomatium macrocarpum ${ }^{5}$. | 4.400 | 1,000 | 1 plant |  |
| Musineon divaricatum ${ }^{5}$. | 2.350 | 625 | 1 plant |  |
| Pastinaca sativa. | 4.450 | 6,240 | 1 plant |  |
| Zizia aurea. | 2.100 | 1,120 | 1 plant |  |
| Pyrolaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Pyrola elliptica. | . 001 | \| 23,000 | 1 stalk | \| Av. of 2 stalks, 18 capsules |
| Primulaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Androsace occidentalis. Lysimachia quadriflora. | 0.210 4.400 |  | 1 plant <br> 1 plant |  |
| Gentianaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Gentiana andrewsii.. | . 060 | I 2,400 | 1 plant | 1 |
| Asclepiadaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Asclepias incarnata. | 4.400 | 1,200 | 1 plant |  |
| Asclepias ovalifolia. | 4.150 | 200 | 1 plant |  |
| Asclepias speciosa. | 5.890 | 630 | 1 stem | Av. wt. and No. |
| Asclepias syriaca ${ }^{9}$. | 5.850 | 760 | 1 stem | Av. wt. and No. |
| Convolvulaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Cuscuta glomerata. | 1.200 | 1,960 | 1 host stem |  |
| Cuscuta gronovii. | 2.300 | 22,900 | 1 clump | On Chrysanthemum uliginosum |
| Evolvulus nuttallianus ${ }^{5}$. | 4.950 | 363 | 1 plant | S. Dakota |

Table 1. Seed weights and production of individual plants (Continued).

| Species | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{Wt} . \\ 1000 \\ \text { seeds } \\ \text { grams } \end{gathered}$ | Total number per unit of measure | $\begin{gathered} \text { Unit } \\ \text { of } \\ \text { measure } \end{gathered}$ | Remarks |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Polemoniaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Collomia linearis Phlox hoodit | 1.260 1.000 | 183 50 | 1 plant |  |
| Hydrophyllaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Hydrophyllum virginianum. Phacelia heterophylla ${ }^{5}$. | $\begin{array}{r} 8.100 \\ .850 \end{array}$ | 60 740 | 1 plant <br> 1 plant ${ }^{4}$ |  |
| Boraginaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Amsinkia idahoensis ${ }^{5}$. | 1.200 | 350 | 1 plant ${ }^{4}$ | Herb. Stevens 629 |
| Amsinkia menziesii. | 1.700 | - 1,870 | - |  |
| Cryptantha bradburiana ${ }^{5}$. | 1.450 | 1,870 | 1 plant |  |
| Cynoglossum boreale. | 15.400 | 50 | 1 plant |  |
| Hackelia americana. | 1.400 | 770 | 1 plant |  |
| Heliotropium curassavicum. | 2.550 | 3,035 | 1 plant ${ }^{4}$ |  |
| Lithospermum incisum. | 4.700 | 100 | 1 plant |  |
| Mertensia lanceolata ${ }^{5}$. | . 960 | 52 | 1 plant |  |
| Labiatae |  |  |  |  |
| Hedeoma drummondii ${ }^{\text {a }}$. | . 190 | 1,340 | 1 plant ${ }^{4}$ |  |
| Lycopus uniflorus. | . 250 | 1,360 | 1 plant |  |
| Physostegia parviflora. | 1.900 | 200 | 1 stem |  |
| Salvia reflexa. | 1.450 | 3,560 | 1 plant $^{4},^{8}$ |  |
| Scrophulariaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Castilleja coccinea. | . 048 | 2,710 | 1 plant | Yellow form |
| Castilleja coccinea. | . 035 | 1,290 | 1 plant | Yellow form |
| Castilleja sessiliflora. | . 100 | 3,900 | 1 plant |  |
| Castilleja sessilifora. | . 170 | 1,500 | 1 plant |  |
| Orthocarpus luteus. | . 120 | 1,170 | 1 plant |  |
| Pedicularis canadensis.. | . 445 | 1,530 | 1 stem |  |
| Penstemon angustifolius ${ }^{5}$. | 1.000 | 3,730 | 1 plant |  |
| Penstemon eriantherus ${ }^{5}$. | 1.620 | 2,340 | 1 plant |  |
| Penstemon nitidus ${ }^{10}$. | 1.500 | 513 | 1 plant |  |
| Penstemon nitidus ${ }^{10}$. | . 900 | 180 2650 | 1 plant |  |
| $V$ Veronica peregrina. | . 035 | 2,650 | 1 plant $^{4}, 8$ |  |
| Martyniaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Proboscidia lousianica. | 0.600 | 870 | 1 plant | Colo. |
| Orobanchaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Orobanche ludoviciana.. | . 0025 | 240,000 | 1 plant |  |
| Phrymaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Phryma leptostachya. | 5.000 | 70 | 1 plant | Fruits with calyx |
| Plantaginaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Plantago eriopoda. | . 440 |  | 1 plant |  |
| Plantago eriopoda. | . 470 | 1,570 | 1 plant |  |
| Plantago indica. | 1.500 | 100 | 1 plant |  |
| Rubiaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Galium aparine . | 7.600 | 105 | 1 plant |  |
| Campanulaceae |  |  |  |  |
| Lobelia siphilitica. | . 024 | 8,100 | 1 plant |  |
| Compositae |  |  |  |  |
| Agoseris cuspidata . | 2.090 | 105 | 1 plant | 2 heads |
| Agoseris glauca. | 1.820 | 137 | 1 plant | 4 heads |
| Aster brachyactis. | . 170 | 47,000 | 1 plant |  |
| Aster hesperius. | . 260 | 10,000 | 1 stem |  |
| Aster umbellatus. | . 575 | 4,000 | 1 plant | Pappus present |
| Aster umbellatus. | . 500 |  | $\underline{1}{ }^{\text {plant }}$ | Pappus removed |
| Carduus crispus. Centaurea repens. | 1.600 4.600 | 700 128 | ${ }_{1}^{1}$ plant ${ }^{\text {plant }}$ | Plus $80 \%$ infertile |
| Cichorium intybus. | . 800 | 4,600 | 1 plant | Wis. |

Table 1. Seed weights and production of individual plants (Concluded).

| Species | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Wt. } \\ & 1000 \\ & \text { seeds } \\ & \text { grams } \end{aligned}$ | Total number per unit of measure | $\begin{gathered} \text { Unit } \\ \text { of } \\ \text { ofasure } \end{gathered}$ | Remarks |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cirsium altissimum. | 5.500 | 55,120 | ${ }^{1} \mathrm{plant}^{4}$ |  |
| Circium undulatum, var. megacephalum. | 5.300 | 136 | 1 plant | 5 heads, plus $50 \%$ weeviled |
| Dyssodia papposa.. | . 550 | ${ }^{420}$ | 1 plant |  |
| Erigeron canadensis.... Eupatorium maculatum. | . 052 | 32,000 2,700 | ${ }_{1}^{1}$ plant | Incl. 84\% immature |
| Gaillardia pulchella | 2.250 | 1,730 | 1 plant |  |
| Helenium autumnale | . 330 | 125 | 1 plant | Plus $90 \%$ weeviled |
| Helianthus maximiliani | 1.700 | 9,120 | 1 plant | 4 or 5 stems |
| Lactuca biennis. | . 900 | 3,600 | 1 plant | Est. total |
| Liatris aspera. | 1.100 | 145 | 1 plant | Plus 70\% infertile or weeviled |
| Liatris punctata... | 4.660 | 58 | 1 plant | Plus $90 \%$ infertile or weeviled |
| Liatris pycnostachya | 1.100 | 330 | ${ }_{1}$ plant | Plus 60\% infertile or immature |
| Petasites sagittatus. Ratibida pinnata. | . 723 | 550 4,300 | 1 1 1 1 plem plant | Minn. |
| Senecio integerrimus. | . 760 | 760 | 1 plant | Minn. |
| Silphium perfoliatum.. | 6.850 | 295 | 1 stem |  |
| Solidago canadensis, var. gilvocanescens. | . 100 | 16,500 | 1 stem |  |
| Solidago mollis. | . 175 | 4,850 | 1 stem |  |
| Taraxacum erythrospermum | . 410 | 20,000 | 1 plant | Large plant |
| Taraxacum erythrospermum <br> Taraxacum officinale. | . 3740 | 12,000 | 1 plant | Pappus removed |
| Taraxacum officinale. | . 620 |  |  | Pappus removed |
| Tragopogon major | 6.000 | 150 | 1 plant | Outer flowers |
| Tragopogon major. | 4.000 | 330 | 1 plant | Inner flowers |

[^1]large herbaria and collector's numbers of these are cited. Nomenclature follows M. L. Fernald, "Gray's Manual of Botany", 8th. edition, (1950) in most cases. Western species are according to H. D. Harrington, "Manual of the Plants of Colorado" (1954).

## Comparison of seed numbers per plant

In the previous paper (3) seed weights were compared with those reported by other workers because of the utility of these in seed analysis. Salisbury (2) also emphasized seed weight. In Table 2 numbers of seeds per plant are shown for species listed by Korsmo (1), Salisbury and Stevens. There seem to be only six that have been reported in all three listings. Where ranges were given by Salisbury the averages are shown and the totals are rounded off.

The numbers found by the three workers probably agree in the main as well as could be expected. Korsmo's figures run low as a rule, apparently because plants under considerable competition were used. ${ }^{11}$ In a few cases (Linaria, Matricaria, Stellaria, Solanum) they are high. Salisbury mentions 16 stems for his Linaria.

[^2]Table 2. Numbers of seeds per plant found by three workers.

| Species | Authority |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Korsmo | Salisbury | Stevens |
| Achillea millefolium. | 3,300 |  | $210^{12}$ |
| Alisma plantago and A. triviale |  | 36,500 | 21,200 |
| Arctium minus. | 1,900 |  | 31,600 |
| Atriplex patula. | 3,000 | ——— | 16,400 |
| Avena fatua. | 450 | - | $250{ }^{4}$ |
| Berteroa incana | 7,300 | - - | 2,530 |
| Brassica kaber. | 1,200 | - | 2,700 |
| Brassica hirta. | 1,800 |  | 3,125 ${ }^{13}$ |
| Capsella bursa-pastoris. | 21,000 | 3,700 | $38,500^{4},{ }^{8}$ |
| Chenopodium album... | 3,100 |  | 72,450 |
| Chenopodium glaucum. | 2,800 |  | 80,000 ${ }^{13}$ |
| Chenopodium rubrum. | 3,000 | 250,000 | 176,300 |
| Chrysanthemum leucanthemum | 2,000 | 2,700 | $510^{12}$ |
| Cichorium intybus. . . . . . . . . | 6,500 |  | $4,600{ }^{13}$ |
| Descurainia sophia | 6.000 | - | 75,650 |
| Echinochloa crusgalli | 600 |  | 7,1604, ${ }^{8}$ |
| Erigeron canadensis |  | 25,000 | $32,000{ }^{13}$ |
| Erysimum cheiranthoides. | 3,750 |  | 30,500 |
| Galium aparine. | 360 |  | $105^{13}$ |
| Hyoscyamus niger. | 8,000 | 6,300 |  |
| Juncus bufonius.. |  | 34,000 | 5,300 |
| Linaria vulgaris. | 8,700 | 31,500 | 2,280 |
| Malva rotundifolia (borealis) | 500 |  | 47,500 |
| Matricaria matricarioides. |  | 6,400 | 850 |
| Mentha arvensis | 200 |  | 5,500 ${ }^{12}$ |
| Plantago major. | 21,500 | - | 36,150 |
| Polygonum aviculare. | 160 | -- | 6,380 ${ }^{13}$ |
| Polygonum convolvulus. | 170 385 | - | 11,900 |
| Polygonum hydropiper... | 385 | -- | 3,300 |
| Polygonum lapathifolium | 825 | - | 19,300 |
| Polygonum persicaria. . | 500 |  | 1,5504 |
| Ranunculus sceleratus. |  | 26,500 | $3,2700^{4}, 8,13$ |
| Raphanus raphanistrum. | 160 |  | 1,875 ${ }^{13}$ |
| Rorippa palustris and R. islandica. |  | 13,000 | 18,000 ${ }^{13}$ |
| Rumex acetosella. . . . . . . . . . . . | 1,000 |  | $250{ }^{12}$ |
| Rumex crispus... | 3,700 | - | 29,500 |
| Rumex domesticus. | 9,000 |  | $63,250^{13}$ |
| Rumex maritimus. |  | 64,000 | 98,250 |
| Salsola kali. | 300 |  | 24,700 |
| Setaria glauca. . | 850 |  | 6,420 ${ }^{\text {+ }}$ |
| Silene dichotoma. Solanum nigrum. | 1,100 | 8,000 | $15,325^{4},{ }^{13}$ |
| Solanum nigrum. Sonchus arvensis. | 40,000 | 8,000 | - |
| Sonchus arvensis. Stachys palustris. | 6,400 | 13,300 | 9,750 ${ }^{12}$ |
| Stachys palustris. | 240 |  | $64^{12}$ |
| Stellaria media. | 15,000 |  | $6004{ }^{13}$ |
| Taraxacum officinale . Thlaspi arvense. . | 3,000 | 2,400 | $12,000{ }^{13}$ |
| Thlaspi arvense. . | 900 | 2,000 | 7,040 |
| Verbascum thapsus. |  | 136,000 | 223,000 |

${ }^{4}$ Additional seeds not matured.
${ }^{8}$ Additional seeds shattered.
${ }^{12}$ One stem.
${ }^{13}$ Reported in present paper; all other in earlier report (3).

## Notes on Individual Species

Actaea rubra. A 20 -year old plant in a flower bed bore 19 racemes with 20 to 40 fruits each.

Amaranthus retroflexus. The small plants grew sparsely in bare garden soil. Late summer was so dry that further growth was prevented. In the square yard of 60 plants only two produced lower branches. The comparisons of this with the large plant is a fair example of what happens under moderate competition compared with unrestricted growth under favorable conditions.

Atriplex glabriuscula. A flourishing colony of this was found in 1954 near a railroad in Fargo, N. Dakota. Another was seen in 1955
about one-half mile from the first but seed production was poor. From the first colony, herbarium material was collected (No. 1507) in early bloom August 27 and fruit September 30. The clusters showed scattered larger fruits the bracts of which averaged 4 mm wide as compared to 2.4 mm for the others. There was some intergradation (maturity?) but the size distribution in the smaller ones followed a normal curve while that of the larger ones was quite irregular. Salisbury (2) reported one to two per cent of the larger seeds in A. patula. The present writer (3) had either overlooked or discarded them.

Centaurea repens. Collected in August from stems of previous year but seemed not to have shed.
Polygala alba. This is a species that produces flowers over a considerable period and sheds quickly.

Rumex alluvialis. This was grown from seeds supplied by Rev. S. V. Fraser of Concordia, Kansas. It is probably the same as plants identified by Dr. John W. Moore as R. odontocarpus Sandor. This is well established in North Dakota, also in adjacent South Dakota and Minnesota. Both it and R. domesticus have been overlooked because of their resemblance to $R$. crispus.

Schedonnardus paniculatus. In one case "average" tufts were found to be separable into many (individuals?). One result is from one of these separations and the other probably from an entire tuft.
Stellaria media. The high number given by Korsmo is surprising. The plants most commonly are much crowded in lawns. The present record was from a garden and it was hard to find a specimen that seemed normally fertile.

Taraxacum erythrospermum. The large plant listed in the Table 1 grew in a garden and ripened 162 heads, averaging 120 fruits each from May 26 to June 6.

Taraxacus officinale. The number of fruits varies greatly according to size of plant. Ten plants in an unused city area produced 7 to 79 (av. 24) heads. The number of fruits per head varied from 100 to 300 . The one listed in the Table 1 matured 65 heads, and averaged 124 fruits each, from May 28 to June 2. Yields of 3,700 to 20,800 were given by von Hofsten (4).

Thlaspi arvense. Salisbury (2) calculated an average of 468 seeds per plant from two square yards that the present writer harvested. This would be about one-half as many per plant as Korsmo (1) reported, one-fourth what Salisbury calculated and one-fifteenth what Stevens had reported (3). The square yard samples were taken in fallow ground where there was an even and nearly pure stand but without excessive crowding. Evidently the plants were considerably suppressed. Under extreme crowding a single fruit or none at all is produced. In 1953, plants were harvested in 352 feet of wheat drill rows (equivalent to 176 sq . ft.). There were 189 plants averaging 5.5 fruits each. The largest number of fruits per plant was 22 (about 200 seeds).

Tragopogon major. The figures given were from five heads, a low number. A large plant in the garden produced 154 heads from June 15 to August 18. The inner fruits were thought perhaps infertile but both kinds germinated promptly and completely when tested in a chamber a few days after maturing. The number of flowers per head decreased on later branches. Several heads that flowered July $6-12$ averaged 117 fruits plus 8 undeveloped; July 17-23, 76 plus 2; and Aug. 15-18, 53 plus 17.

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1. Korsmo, E. Unkräuter in Ackerbau der Neuzeit. Transl. and ed. by H. W. Wollenweber. Julius Springer, Berlin. 1930.
2. Salisbury, E. The reproductive capacity of plants. G. Bell \& Sons, London. 1942.
3. Stevens, O. A. The number and weights of seeds produced by weeds. Amer. Jour. Bot. 19:784-794. 1932.
4. von Hofsten, C. G. Studien över släktet Taraxacum Wigg. Lts. Förlag, Stockholm. 1954.

[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Contribution from the Department of Botany, North Dakota Agric. College and Exp. Sta. In part a report on Purnell Project No. 146. Published with the approval of the Director.
    ${ }^{2}$ Formerly Botanist, North Dakota Agric. Exp. Sta. Retired June 30, 1956.

[^1]:    ${ }^{3}$ Hitchcock, A. S., "Manual of the Grasses of the United States", 2nd edition, USDA Misc. Publ. 200, 1950.
    ${ }^{4}$ Additional seeds not matured.
    ${ }^{5}$ Harrington, H. D., "Manual of the Plants of Colorado", 1954
    ${ }^{6}$ Gates, F. C. and MacGregor, R. L., Trans. Kansas Acad. Sci. 53:186, 1949.
    ${ }^{7}$ Wahl, H. B., Bartonia 27:1-46, 1954 ; Stevens, O. A., North Dakota Agr. Exp. Sta. Bimonthly Bul. 17:108-110, 1955.
    ${ }^{8}$ Additional seeds shattered.
    ${ }^{9}$ Stevens, O. A., North Dakota Agr. Exp. Sta. Bul. 333, 1945.
    ${ }^{10}$ Rydberg, P. A., "Flora of the Rocky Mountains and Adjacent Plains", 1922.

[^2]:    ${ }^{11}$ Korsmo, E. Private communication in which it was stated that his figures were averages for weeds growing among crop plants. 1931.

