

December 30, 2006

### Biosketch

Roger C. Anderson graduated with a BS Degree, Magna cum Laude, from Wisconsin State College, LaCrosse in 1963 where he was inducted into Kappa Delta Pi, an honor society in education. He received MS and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1965 and 1968, respectively. He served two three-year terms on the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, 21 years as a member of the ParkLands Foundation Board and as that organization's President from 1992-1995. Dr. Anderson has been a member and chairman of the Fermilab Environmental Advisory Committee and Director of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Arboretum from 1970-1973. He has been a member of the editorial board of the international journal *Restoration Ecology* since 1993.

Roger Anderson's research is in the area of plant ecology. His work in Illinois has provided documentation of the presettlement vegetation of the state with the publication a map of the distribution of prairie and forest in Illinois in 1820. Publications coauthored with his colleagues and graduate students describe the role of fire in shaping the historic

vegetation of the state and the influence of environmental determinants on tree species composition and abundance in central Illinois forest and on prairie vegetation at Goose Lake Prairie State Park. In a recent publication based on the Illinois Natural Areas Inventory Data Dr. Anderson and a former doctoral student demonstrated that soil moisture, as determined by soil texture and site aspect, and slope, is the primary



determinants of the distribution of prairie species in Illinois. Research in his laboratory has also included studies of the relationships between mycorrhizal fungi and prairie plants. This work was among the first studies to demonstrate that under conditions of high availability of soil phosphorus the often mutualistic relationship between plants and their fungal symbionts can be neutral or result in the suppression of plant growth. Studies of white-tailed deer documented the impact of excessive deer browsing on tree regeneration, forest understories, and the abundance and diversity of prairie forbs. His development of the use of the height of white-flowered trillium as an indicator of deer browsing intensity has been widely adopted as a method to determine the intensity of deer browsing. Studies of American ginseng and the invasive plant species garlic mustard, have laid the ground work for numerous studies of the two species by other researchers. Dr. Anderson's research has been supported by NSF, USDA, the Forest Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Twenty eight Masters Degree students and four doctoral students have completed their graduate work under his supervision. Numerous of Dr. Anderson's former students are involved in restoration ecology and conservation related activities as employees of the state of Illinois, Department of Interior, or private organizations. Dr. Anderson has published 114 peer reviewed papers in journals and conference proceedings, and 9 book chapters. He is a co-editor of *Savannas, barrens, and rock outcrop plant communities of North American* (1999), R. C. Anderson, J. S. Fralish, and J. M. Baskin, editors, Cambridge University Press.

Roger Anderson is a Fellow of the Illinois Academy of Science and has served as a Chairman of the Botany Section and Vice-President for meetings for the organization. He has been honored at Illinois State University by being selected a College of Arts and Sciences Lecturer in 1985, an Outstanding College and University Researcher in 1991, and Distinguished Professor of Biology in 1995.