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Serving the Society for Ecological Restoration

# Restoration & Management Notes

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**Abandoned Sonoran Desert Farmland Restoration**

You may expel nature with a pitchfork, but she will always return.

Horace  
*Epistles* I:10.24

**Editor:** William R. Jordan III  
**Associate Editor:** David Egan  
**Proofreaders:** Peg Watrous and Betty Paddock  
**Arboretum Director:** Gregory D. Armstrong  
**President, Society for Ecological Restoration:**  
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**Cover:**

*The corrugations of old furrows still mark the land in the Sonoran desert near Phoenix decades after abandonment, and natural revegetation is painfully—often invisibly—slow. Research is now underway to find ways of hastening recovery of ecosystems on thousands of square kilometers of such land in the Santa Cruz Valley. A report on results so far begins on page 71. The plant in the foreground is tumbleweed, or Russian thistle (Salsola kali).*

*Photo courtesy of Laura L. Jackson*