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*About the Institute*

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

DR. PROBERT;  
Here is the dope on  
Clement, for your files,  
IF YOU CARE  
TO KEEP IT.  
Pack -

HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
MARIA MOORS CABOT FOUNDATION  
FOR BOTANICAL RESEARCH

27 September 1957

I. D. CLEMENT  
ATKINS GARDEN AND RESEARCH LABORATORY  
APARTADO 414, CIENFUEGOS, CUBA.

Mr. Paul Allen  
Escuela Agricola Panamericana  
Apartado 93  
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Dear Paul,

Your letter of the 23d reached me while I was on vacation. Plans are now getting settled for my trip, which begins next week. I shall be going to Belize, then to La Ljma and at the end of my session with the Fruit Co. timber plantings, to Teguc. The trip is a study tour on fast growing trees, part of a world-wide study I am making for the Cabot Foundation. Forgive me for not making myself clear in my earlier letter. I'm so full of the project I assume at times that everybody must know all about it.

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I do plan to see Dr. Holdrige and also Gerardo Budowski at Turrialba, after leaving Honduras. Then to Panamá, to see if anything worth recording is there, and then on to Trinidad. Beard, unfortunately, has left Trinidad and is working for a tan-wattle growing concern in Natal, South Africa. A real loss to our area, I think, but he's probably getting 4 times the pay he had.

The way things shape up now, I shall be in Teguc. sometime in mid-October, depending on how things go at La Ljma. I'll wire you from there as soon as I know my dates. It will be good to see you two again.

Sincerely,

*Duncan*  
Duncan Clement



Mr. Paul Allen  
Escuela Agricola Panamericana  
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

13 August 1957

Dear Paul:

Your "Rain Forest of Golfo Dulce" arrived from the University of Florida Press a few days ago, and I have had a great deal of pleasure in reading around ~~in~~ it (I won't pretend that I read it like a novel). I liked it so much that I have a copy ordered for the library and will keep your gift in my personal library. I do wish you hadn't used the spur on those Doctors of Philosophy in Botanical Science, though, even if they merited it, because the book itself is a magnificent spur in itself. Do you hear an "ouch" from me? You do!

Plans are shaping up for my travels rather nicely now, and I expect to be able to stop by and say hello, at the very least, sometime in November. If you have the time, I'd much appreciate any tips you could give me on the men who know the trees in the circuit Jamaica-Trinidad-the Lesser Antilles - Puerto Rico, as I'm heading that way first, before going Honduras - Costa Rica - Panama.

Best to you and Dorothy

Sincerely

*Duncan*

Duncan Clement

*ai*

Mr. Paul Allen, Director  
Fairchild Tropical Garden  
Box 407  
Cocoanut Grove, Florida

I. D. Clement, DIRECTOR  
F. G. Walsingham, SUPT.  
A. Valiente, ASST. SUPT.

17 August 1953

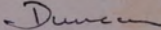
Dear Paul:

First of all, belated congratulations on your new post and my hope that it turns out as well as it promises to. The opportunity and the challenge it offers should prove stimulating to one of your energies.

I have recorded your request for seed of Saraca thaipingensis and they will be sent as soon as collected. A magnificent plant which I hope will succeed in Miami. We have sent it several times to Florida but I have no knowledge of its success or failure. Walsingham thinks it too tender, for but ~~in~~ some of the protected spots, it would be well worth the trial.

I read of Harry Dunaway's resignation and note his name x'd off the letterhead. A stimulating person, and I am glad to read that his replacement seems highly qualified. I hope to see all of you when I next go through Miami (date still most uncertain). Vivian joins me in sending best regards to you and Barbara. Thanks for the reprint of your fine Cyanoches paper, one of the most beautifully illustrated orchid papers I have ever read. I hope the FTG publications can be kept to such a standard.

Sincerely yours,

  
I. D. Clement

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~  
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

August 14, 1953

Dr. I. D. Clement  
Atkins Institution of Harvard University  
Soledad, Cienfuegos  
Cuba

Dear Duncan:

We have been in Florida for about six weeks, and although I still can't quite believe we have broken our lifetime pattern and left the tropics for good, do believe we may like it here very much once we have a house to live in.

You may remember that during our exceedingly pleasant visit with you that I particularly admired a fine blooming plant of Saraca thaipingensis. Since your growing conditions rather closely approximate ours, I am hoping we may be able to grow it here, since it is far superior to S. indica. As I remember it Mr. Wallsingham told me that the seeds rather resembled those of Brownea, and were produced in the summer. Even a few would be tremendously appreciated.

Dorothy joins me in our best to all of you,

Most sincerely,

HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
ATKINS GARDEN AND RESEARCH LABORATORY

Paul Allen  
Esquinas Experiment Station  
Cia. Bananera de Costa Rica  
Palma Sur  
Costa Rica

APARTADO ~~EX~~ 414  
(SOLEDAD) CIENFUEGOS, CUBA

17 August 1950

Dear Paul:

Nothing if not unprompt, I ! A good excuse, what with the Summer School crowd and confusion, at least it's one I hope you will accept.

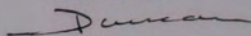
Everything seemed to go quite well, and it was grand to have Walter in charge. Does nothing ever fluster that guy ? The Honduras part of the trip was really exciting, to me and to all of us. I'm really sorry we missed connections with you there, as I know Walter was quite anxious to tackle Sta. Barbara, even more so after we had a look at it.

Many thanks for the notes on *Pithecellobium arboreum*. Dunlap and I are working out comparison trials on some other puzzlers that keep cropping up. The cedars, for example. Incidentally, I see that Oatrecasas just ~~xxxx~~ described another one. I quite agree with you on *Calycophyllum*'s behavior in various places. It doesn't even act the same in different parts of Honduras, at first look.

I'm very pleased that the seed lots are getting through to you. Don't hesitate to ask for what you want. After what your company did for us this Summer, it's the least we can do.

All join in sending the very best to you and Dorothy.

Sincerely,



I.D. Clement

ESQUINAS EXPERIMENT STATION  
CIA. BANANERA de COSTA RICA  
PALMAR SUR, COSTA RICA

June 12, 1950

Dr. I. D. Clement  
Atkins Garden and Research Laboratory  
Apartado 414  
Cienfuegos, Cuba

Dear Duncan:

Your several good letters have been with me now for some time, and I have delayed answering until I knew definitely what had become of the seeds listed in your letter of March 21. I had an understanding with Mark Trafton of the Research Department in Honduras that they were to keep half of anything you sent that they needed there, and forward the balance to me. When Trafton went on leave he evidently didn't make this clear to whoever took his place and they pinched the entire lot. In any event it's all in the same Company, and I'll work 'em for seedlings when I'm in Honduras again.

The second shipment sent April 24 came through in fine shape and I already have plantlets potted off of quite a number of them. I particularly am glad to get Bombax Ceiba started here. I first saw it in Jamaica about in 1939, at Hope Gardens, but have never seen it in Central America anywhere. It is a striking thing, and I hope does for us in our wet climate. Many thanks.

I don't exactly know what to say about the seed differences in Pithecellobium arboreum. I have noticed that trees of presumably this same thing exhibit considerable differences in habit throughout its range. In the central highlands of Costa Rica, at about 3500 ft. it forms a bushy tree, rarely exceeding 35 ft. in height. With us, in our local forests, it is one of the giants, averaging 100-120 ft. On the north coast of Honduras it is about intermediate between the two. Your guess is as good as mine. The seeds I sent you are from the largest race (if such it is) of the thing that I at least have ever seen, if that's any comfort to you. I have, in passing, noticed this same local variability in a number of other trees. For example, your West Indian Calycophyllum candidissimum looks very different (better) than our Central American specimens. Since the populations have been separated for some millions of years it would seem likely to expect to find well marked geographic races. It is all very perplexing, but timber woods are chills play compared to Orchid species that sometimes seem to maintain reproductive isolation in the wild by means of tenuous characters like differences of scent which attract different pollinating agents. No wonder all taxonomists become just a wee mite queer!

Enclosed you will find a few punkish pictures, taken when we were last there. In a moment of supreme delusion I decided I'd no longer put up with the slow, sloppy photographic work done in San Jose, and sent the negatives off to Chicago. The photographic firm there were in the process of moving from one building to another, and slightly misplaced the negatives for some two months! Then on the return of the finished product, the local Customs, not to be outdone by city slickers, cooperated by holding the parcel incommunicado for nearly two months more. By that time I was in the mood to hoist my camera kit into the Rio Terraba. Maybe things don't happen like that in Cuba, or do they?

Dorothy joins me in our very best to you and yours, to Walsy, and the gang at the mill.

As ever,

HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
ATKINS GARDEN AND RESEARCH LABORATORY

APARTADO ~~XXXX~~ 414  
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ CIENFUEGOS, CUBA

May 12, 1950

Mr. Paul H. Allen  
Research Department, Tela Railroad Co.  
c/o Dr. V.C. Dunlap  
La Lima, Honduras

Dear Sir:-

We have sent you today by parcel post a shipment  
of seeds of the following:

Carissa edulis  
Combretum farinosum  
" mucronatum  
Dialium guineense  
Tabebuia serratifolia

The remainder of your request, if any, will be sent  
when available.

We will appreciate a notice from you of the arrival  
of the shipment.

Sincerely yours,

I. D. Clement

I. D. Clement  
Economic Botanist in Charge



HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
ATKINS GARDEN AND RESEARCH LABORATORY

APARTADO 414  
~~CIENFUEGOS~~ CIENFUEGOS, CUBA

April 24, 1950

Mr. Paul Allen  
Research Department  
c/o Dr. V.C. Dunlap  
La Lima, Honduras

Dear Sir:-

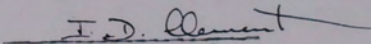
We have sent you today by parcel post a shipment  
of seeds of the following:

Bombax Caiba  
Mauritia flexuosa  
Cochlospermum vitifolium  
Acrocomia totai  
Mimusops albescens

The remainder of your request, if any, will be  
sent when available.

We will appreciate a notice from you of the  
arrival of the shipment.

Sincerely yours,

  
I. D. Clement  
Economic Botanist in Charge

ESQUINAS EXPERIMENT STATION  
CIA. BANANERA de COSTA RICA  
GOLFITO DIVISION

April 12, 1950

Dr. I. D. Clement, Economic Botanist in Charge  
Atkins Institution of Harvard University  
Soledad, Cienfuegos  
Cuba

Dear Dr. Clement:

Tomorrow will probably go down in history as the day when the wild Gringo tried to tear up the San Jose PAA office, but I'm at least going to TRY to send you a batch of seeds, air express, collect, of one of our native timber trees. They are of our common Pithecolobium arboreum, and are probably enough for about two acres. Don't be alarmed at the soft feel and appearance of the seeds, since they were collected only a day or two ago, and it simply happens to be one of the peculiarities of the beast.

Our return trip via Soledad and Honduras couldn't have been more pleasant, and I have been intending to write to you much sooner, but I DID intend also to send you copies of the pictures taken at the party. These went off over a month ago to the U.S. for enlargements, and nary a sign of 'em since. When they at long last get here, I'll send copies along your way.

You may be interested to learn that absolutely all of the plants, seeds and cuttings which you so kindly gave me have survived, at least thus far, and will be a very welcome addition to our collection. Just in passing, the Research people in Honduras have been expecting Mr. Walsingham for the past month, and any of the rest of your group who would like to make the trip. I'm sure that you would find lancetilla worth your while. Their collection is smaller than yours, but of quite different things in many cases, so that you could get propagating material of tropical fruits and timber woods which you lack.

I'm still in the packing stage for my junket to San Jose tomorrow, so this will have to be all for now. Dorothy joins me in our best to Walsy, your good self and wife, and all at the Central.

Most sincerely,

Paul H. Allen

HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
ATKINS GARDEN AND RESEARCH LABORATORY  
APARTADO ~~255~~ (GOLFITO), CIENFUEGOS CUBA

414

Paul H. Allen  
Esquinas Espt. Station  
Cia. Bananera de Costa Rica  
Golfito, Costa Rica

4 May 1950

Dear Paul,

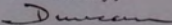
The Pithecellobium arboreum seed arrived yesterday, with only a small amount of mold on them, and will be planted forthwith.

You may be interested to know that our P. arboreum (locally called moruro or moruro rojo) has a seed identical in structure but quite different in shape, being smaller and round. Shall we describe a new species on seed shape or shall we be conservatives?

We've been sending you seed care of Dunlap. If this is not working, notify me immediately. UFGCo. speeds it from Habana to Honduras by ships pursers, which avoids much fuss, but as yet, we don't know what happens after that. Let me know.

Best to yourself and Dorothy.

Sincerely,

  
I.D. Clement

HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
ATKINS GARDEN AND RESEARCH LABORATORY

APARTADO 25X  
~~KODECAS~~ CIENFUEGOS, CUBA

March 21, 1950

Mr. Paul H. Allen  
Research Department  
c/o Dr. V.C. Dunlap  
United Fruit Company  
La Lima, Honduras

Dear Sir:-

We have sent you today by parcel post a shipment of  
seeds of the following:

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Bucida buceras           | Pterocarpus Vidalianus                    |
| Cassia glauca var. flava | Randia formosa                            |
| " Sieberiana.            | Ravenala madagascariensis                 |
| Lagerstroemia Thorellii  | Santalum album                            |
| " turbinata              | Swietenia humilis                         |
| Latania Commersonii      | Syzygium syzygioides                      |
| Platymiscium pinnatum    | Woodfordia fruticosa v. <i>parviflora</i> |
| Portlandia grandiflora   | Triplaris americana                       |
| Pterocarpus cambodianus  |   |

The remainder of your request, if any, will be sent  
when available.

We will appreciate a notice from you of the arrival  
of the shipment.

Sincerely yours,

I. D. Clement  
I. D. Clement  
Economic Botanist in Charge

Please note change in postal address