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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.

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TELEPHONE
GLASSPORT 245

PRINCIPAL OFFICE AND WORKS, GLASSPORT, PA.
(PITTSBURGH DISTRICT)

Glassport, Pa.

April 12th, 1929.

Mr. Rodney H. True,
University of Pennsylvania,
Woodlawn Ave.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:

NO CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES, LABOR OR OTHER EXPENSE, ON MATERIAL FURNISHED, WILL BE ALLOWED UNLESS AUTHORIZED IN WRITING.
ALL AGREEMENTS CONTINGENT UPON STRIKES, ACCIDENTS OR OTHER CAUSES BEYOND OUR CONTROL.

I have been advised by Dr. O. E. Jennings, Curator of Botany at the Carnegie Museum, that you are interested in carices.

I have been working through most of the western counties of the state, and have a fairly complete collection of the species growing in this region.

I am at present writing an article on the Carices of Penna., for our botanical society triennial publication, and need some records of the southeastern counties. I can furnish you with a list of species we have here, and can send you specimens of any or all of the species on my list, in exchange for specimens or information concerning a few coastal-plain species found occasionally in Delaware, Chester, Philadelphia and Bucks counties.

I use Mackenzie's nomenclature.

Sincerely yours,

John Bright
John Bright,
P.O. Box "R",
Glassport, Pa.

JB/eva

April 15, 1929

Mr. John Bright,
Glassport, Pa.

My dear Mr. Bright:

In reply to your note of April 12 concerning carices of Pennsylvania, I am very glad to know of your interest in this subject. Our best authority, however, on this group in this University is Mr. John M. Fogg, Jr., instructor in Botany and curator of the herbarium. He is in touch with Mackenzie's work and has collected in the region you speak of. I have done some collecting myself which Mr. Fogg knows about and on which he can report.

I think you will find Mr. Fogg very much interested in exchange of specimens in this group, should you care to make exchanges. I am placing your letter in Mr. Fogg's hands and you will hear from him directly.

If it is not asking too much, I should be glad to have a copy of your paper when it is published.

Very truly yours,

from Fagg

May 11, 1929.

Dear Mr. Bright: The head of our department, Dr. Rodney H. True, has turned your letter of April 12th over to me for consideration.

I have heard of your interest in the genus *Carex* thru my old friend Otway Brown and am indeed happy to have this opportunity of communicating with you directly.

Unfortunately, we have at present almost no material for exchange purposes. During the last few months I have sent away hundreds of specimens to various large herbaria thruout the country, with the result that we are practically destitute of duplicates and require another collecting season to build up our supply.

I may, however, be able in the near future to furnish you with information concerning the status of the genus in SE Penna., as I am slowly working over the material in the vast collections of the Philadelphia Botanical Club. Incidentally, I do not see how you can well treat the *Carex* of Penna. without consulting the herbarium of this Club, which as you doubtless know, is located in the Phila. Academy of Natural Sciences. It includes approximately a hundred thousand specimens from the area within 50 miles of Phila, constituting the second largest local herbarium in the country. A comprehensive study of any group in this state conducted without reference to this collection would be out of the question. For example, our friend E.M. Cress in compiling his *Grasses of Penna.* failed utterly to take into account the records of the Phila. Club Herb. and as a result has gone astray more than once in his interpretation of natural ranges. Incidentally, the *Carex* of this collection have all passed thru Mackenzies hands and most of the sheets bear his comments.

(over)

The situation in SE Penna is complicated by the fact that the fall line, which crosses the Delaware River near Trenton, bears slightly west of south, with the result that portions of Bucks, Montgomery, Philadelphia and Delaware Counties belong geologically as well as botanically to the coastal plain. This statement also holds, to a certain degree, for Chester Co. We find many typical coastal plain plants, among them numerous *Carices*, in these areas, and much of our effort as students of the local flora is now being directed to determining the distribution and occurrence on the Piedmont of these austro-riparian types.

The problem is far from being solved. Mr. Benner is working Bucks Co. Bayard Long has done pioneer labor in Montgomery. Mr. H.E. Stone has tackled Chester and I have collected a bit in Delaware and plan to do more.

Meanwhile, I am working on a revised check-list of the entire local flora and will soon be in the *Cyperaceae*. And altho I can give you little information offhand concerning the occurrence of various species of *Carex* in the region, I should be glad to consider any special problems which you may have in mind and to give you what help I can. For instance, if you question any of the references quoted in Keller and Brown for SE Penna (and a great many of them were erroneous) or if you are in doubt concerning the existence of any species within our limits I should be happy to try to set you right.

I am sorry not to have material ready for exchange just now. We should be eager to receive *Carices* or any other forms from you from your own part of the state (which is poorly represented in our collections) and as soon as possible I shall try to prepare a series which I think might prove of interest to you.

With every good wish for success in your undertaking,

I am,

Sincerely yours,

Curator of Herbarium.

Pittsburgh Steel Foundry Corporation

TELEPHONE
GLASSPORT 245

PRINCIPAL OFFICE AND WORKS, GLASSPORT, PA.
(PITTSBURGH DISTRICT)

Glassport, Pa.

September 24th, 1929.

Mr. John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Curator of Herbarium,
University of Pennsylvania,
P. O. Box "R",
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:-

NO CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES, LABOR OR OTHER EXPENSE, ON MATERIAL FURNISHED, WILL BE ALLOWED UNLESS AUTHORIZED IN WRITING
ALL AGREEMENTS CONTINGENT UPON STRIKES, ACCIDENTS OR OTHER CAUSES, BEYOND OUR CONTROL.

I have your very interesting and instructive letter of May 11th before me, and I am afraid I have not shown any appreciation by not answering it sooner.

It is too bad we do not have more good collectors in the western section of the state who are willing to do the same intensive work you are carrying on in the vicinity of Philadelphia. I am working alone, and there is a great deal of work to be done here.

There are a number of good things among my seasons' collections, and I will send you some of them just as soon as I work through the material I have on hand.

I am working on a descriptive list of the Carices of Pennsylvania for the triennial publication of the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania, and I lack a lot of information on some species from the eastern counties.

If you can furnish me with any Pennsylvania records of the following, I will greatly appreciate the favor:

Carex	ormostachya	Wiegand
"	leucorum	Will'd
"	exilis	Dewey
"	rosaeoides	E.C.Howe
"	harmothodes	Fernald
"	Longii	Mackenzey
"	silicea	Olney
"	conoidea	Schk.

Sincerely yours,

John Bright

John Bright,
127 Roup St.,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

-8-

October 20, 1929.

Mr. John Bright,

-105127 Roup St.,

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Bright:

It was a pleasure to receive your letter of September 24th and I am glad to learn that your work on the Carices of Pennsylvania is progressing. It is certainly gratifying to know that someone is carrying on a study of this difficult group within our state.

Such information as I can furnish you concerning the distribution of the eight species mentioned in your letter is here included:

C. ormostachya Wiegand. Unknown in southeastern Penna. So far as I am aware the only material from the state is from Blair County.

C. lucorum Willd., or C. pennsylvanica Lam., var lucorum (Willd.) Fernald (and Professor Fernald tells me that there is an earlier name of Peck's for this variety which will have to be exhumed.) This is rare in SE Penna., being known from only three localities: Wescoesville (Lehigh Co.); Easton (Northampton Co.); and New Hope (Bucks Co.).

C. exilis Dewey. Unknown from Penna. Common in N.J.

C. rosaeoides Howe. Unknown from SE Penna.

C. hormathodes Fernald. Unknown from SE Penna.

C. longii Mack. Known only from Slatington and Slatedale (Lehigh Co.) and from Bristol (Bucks Co.) The latter county is remarkable for the occurrence of coastal plain forms, which are often found in the vicinity of gravel pits.

C. silicea Olney. Unknown in SE Penna.

C. conoidea Schkuhr. Apparently fairly general. We have it from Northampton, Lehigh, Berks, Bucks, Montgomery, Philadelphia, Delaware, Chester and Lancaster Counties. I can send you the exact localities if you so desire: they would certainly total over forty.

I am wondering if you would care to have a small collection of Dr. True's Carices from Delaware. His Bucks Co. (Pa.) material has not been named yet, but I shall surely send you a set as soon as they come thru.

You have kindly offered to send us some of your own specimens from the western part of the state. Let me hasten to assure you that we shall be more than eager to receive any material which you can spare.

I am still hoping that you may find it possible to pay us a visit in order to inspect the collections here and at the Philadelphia Botanical Club, which has its headquarters in the Academy of Natural Sciences. Could you not come on at the time of one of our Club meetings (which are held the fourth Thursday of each month) and tell us something about your work? If there is any possibility of this do let me know and I shall have our secretary get in touch with you.

I shall at all times be glad to be of service to you in any way possible.

Most sincerely yours,
W. H. Silliman

O. Indurum Willd., or *O. pennsylvanicum* Lam., var. *incanum* (Willd.) Greene (and Professor Vernalis tells me that there is an earlier name of Beck's for this variety, which will have to be examined). This is rare in Pa. Penna., being known from only three localities: Lancaster (Lanigh Co.); Easton (York Co.); and New Hope (Berks Co.).

- O. scilla* Newey. Unknown from Penna. Common in N.Y.
- O. racemoides* Newey. Unknown from Pa. Penna.
- O. porterioides* Vernalis. Unknown from Pa. Penna.
- O. localis* Mack. Known only from Ellington and Glendale (Lehigh Co.) and from Bristol (Berks Co.). The latter county is responsible for the occurrence of several plant forms, which are often found in the vicinity of gravel pits.
- O. allicia* Gray. Unknown in Pa. Penna.
- O. comoides* Schumbr. Apparently fairly general. I have it from Northampton, Lehigh, Berks, Bucks, Montgomery, Philadelphia, Chester and Lancaster Counties. I can send you the exact localities if you so desire; they would certainly repay your inquiry.

Pittsburgh Steel Foundry Corporation

TELEPHONE
GLASSPORT 245

PRINCIPAL OFFICE AND WORKS, GLASSPORT, PA.
(PITTSBURGH DISTRICT)

Glassport, Pa. Nov. 8, 1929.

Dear Mr. Fogg:-

NO CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES, LABOR OR OTHER EXPENSE, ON MATERIAL FURNISHED, WILL BE ALLOWED UNLESS AUTHORIZED IN WRITING.
ALL AGREEMENTS CONTINGENT UPON STRIKES, ACCIDENTS OR OTHER CAUSES BEYOND OUR CONTROL.

I must take some time and answer your valued letter of Oct. 20th. The steel casting business is better this season than it has been for years, and I have no time to do anything but work, and I fear, neglect my cherished hobby.

It is very kind of you to give me a lot of information I have been needing for some time. I have done some collecting in Bucks and Northampton counties, but always in the fall. For several years, I have intended to go over there and collect carices, but so far, have been unable to get there in proper season.

I will express my appreciation both by word and deed, if you send any carex material from Bucks County and Delaware. My collection is sadly lacking in material from these regions.

My specimens to you will be ready about Feb. 1. Having just started to work through my last seasons collections, it will take me two months to finish. I also will send from my collection some unusual things, gathered in previous ^{years}, I know you will be glad to have.

If I can visit Philadelphia this winter, and attend one of your meetings, I will let you know. I wish I could come.

Sincerely yours,

John Bright