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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.

March 26, 1929.

Mrs. Agnes Chase,
Assistant Agrostologist,
Bureau of Plant Industry,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Chase:

I am taking the liberty of forwarding to you by mail several specimens of Panicum, concerning which I should like very much to have your opinion.

These plants were collected by me on the Elizabeth Islands, Massachusetts, where I have been working for several years and where certain sections of the genus present a baffling array of variations.

The material which is on its way to you probably all falls into what Fernald is calling P. Lindheimeri, var. fasciculatum, but there is a smoother phase present which puzzles me and on which I should be very grateful for your judgement.

These specimens are duplicated here, so that, if they have any value as a contribution to the National Herbarium, please retain them, using merely my collecting number in reply.

Thanking you in advance, I am,

Yours very truly,

John M. Fogg, Jr.
Curator of Herbarium.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

BOTANY

April 6, 1929.

Mr. John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Curator of Herbarium,
University of Pennsylvania,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Mr. Fogg:

The grasses sent with your letter of March 26th are listed below. I am returning No. 3374 which included two species: *Panicum implicatum* and *P. huachucae silvicola*.

Sincerely yours,

Agnes Chase

Agnes Chase, Associate Agrostologist.

Office address: Smithsonian Institution.

3374. *Panicum implicatum* Scribn. *mixed*
huachucae silvicola Hitchc. & Chase

3376. " *huachucae silvicola* Hitchc. & Chase

3433. " " "

3903. " " "

3456. " " "

3420. " " Ashe-- This is stiffer and more like the species itself than the var. The pubescence on upper surface of blades varies from very scant or almost wanting to fairly copious.

*Of the specimens cited below Mrs. Agnes Chase, who has kindly examined some of the orig. det. material, has designated no. 3374 as *P. implicatum* no. 3420 as *P. huachucae* det. typical & non-^{var.} *silvic.**

April 9, 1929.

Mrs. Agnes Chase,
Assistant Agrostologist,
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture,
Bureau of Plant Industry,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Chase:

I am certainly indebted to you for your very kind and speedy response to my inquiry concerning the Panicum material from the Elizabeth Islands.

This section of the genus seems more than usually puzzling in southeastern Massachusetts, and I am very happy to have your determinations.

Another puzzling group on these islands, and elsewhere, of course, is the meridionale-albemarlense-oricola complex. I must confess I should be very pleased to learn of any reliable method for distinguishing these. I have had many a session with my good friend, Mr. Long, over these baffling forms, and I am sure that he is often as much embarrassed as am I to know just where to draw specific lines.

Tubescence does not hold, difference in size of spikelets appears to me to be rather trivial, and habit is infinitely variable. Certainly, there is a well marked meridionale extreme and an equally characteristic oricola one, but between them exists, as I see it, almost complete intergradation.

Thanking you again for your courtesy, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

John W. Fogg, Jr.
Curator of Herbarium.

from Fogg

Jan. 17, 1930.

Mrs. Agnes Chase;
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture,
Bureau of Plant Industry,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Chase:

I desire to acknowledge the receipt of the package of grass specimens returned by you; I am glad if you found this material of some interest.

In looking over the duplicates of my Elizabeth Islands grasses I find that I have but a small set of only 19 numbers remaining. I am forwarding these to you under separate cover, with the hope that they may help to fill out your representation from southeastern Massachusetts. I am sorry not to have more material, but my collections have already been distributed to five herbaria.

You are so kind as to offer me a choice of material in exchange. I should be happy to receive specimens of Danthonia (especially D. apicata) from eastern North America, as I have been much interested in the degree of variation within that genus. Otherwise anything that you might select would be acceptable. I am writing to Mr. Maxon concerning an exchange of material other than grasses.

Sincerely yours,

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

BOTANY

December 6, 1930.

Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.,
University of Pennsylvania,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Doctor Fogg:

In your paper on the Flora of the Elizabeth Islands in the November issue of Rhodora are listed three grasses not represented from Massachusetts in this herbarium, *Paspalum setaceum* Michx., *Panicum longifolium* Torr., and *Diplachne maritima* Bickn. Professor Hitchcock is checking up very carefully all extension of range for his Manual of Grasses of the United States. Will you be so kind as to send us duplicates of these species if you have them, and if you have no duplicates will you lend us the specimens to be returned to you? I inclose a frank and shall be very grateful to you.

Sincerely yours,

Agnes Chase

Agnes Chase, Associate Agrostologist.

Office address: Smithsonian Institution.

Dec. 15, 1930.

Mrs. Agnes Chase,
U. S. Department of Agriculture,
Bureau of Plant Industry,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Chase:

In response to your letter of December 6, I have forwarded to you under separate cover specimens of the grasses in which Professor Hitchcock is interested.

You will find two sheets of Panicum longifolium. One is the Elizabeth Islands plant referred to in Rhodora (vol. xxxi : 39 and vol. xxxii : 232) and the other is from the station recorded by Professor Fernald from Marion, Mass. (Rhodora xxx : 190). Both of these are duplicates and you are more than welcome to them.

In the case of the Paspalum and the Diplazium ne I have unfortunately no duplicate material and so am lending you mounted sheets from our herbarium.

I might take this opportunity to say that I have a fairly representative series of grasses from the Elizabeth Islands in duplicate form and that if these would prove of interest to you or Professor Hitchcock I should be glad to forward them. Moreover, I have a partial set of the rest of the flora of these islands which I would be willing to exchange for local material from the Washington area. These plants all possess such value as attaches to specimens which have formed the basis for published records. If the National Herbarium cares for this material would you or Mr. Maxon be so kind as to let me know ?

Sincerely yours,

John W. Fogg, Jr.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

BOTANY

December 18, 1930.

Professor John M. Fogg, Jr.,
University of Pennsylvania,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Professor Fogg:

Your letter of December 15th and the package containing the grasses of Elizabeth Islands which we asked for have been received. I agree with your identifications in each case. Thank you very much for the loan which enables us to record the species for Massachusetts. We are glad to have specimens of *Panicum longifolium*. The other two we shall return to you after the Holidays. The Department disapproves of sending out official packages unless absolutely necessary during the Christmas rush.

We shall be very glad to have duplicates of grasses from Elizabeth Islands and to send you grasses from this region in exchange. We have a large number of duplicate grasses of the United States, and if you would care to have specimens of any particular genus or tribe, please let us know and we shall select them for you.

I am referring your inquiry in regard to other plants to Mr. Maxon who will answer you direct.

Sincerely yours,

Agnes Chase

Agnes Chase, Associate Agrostologist.

Office address: Smithsonian Institution.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

BOTANY

February 3, 1931.

Professor John M. Fogg, Jr.,
University of Pennsylvania,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Professor Fogg:

Your letter of January 17th and the package of 19 grasses of Elizabeth Islands sent in exchange have been received. The delay in acknowledging the letter and package is due to the fact that our office has been undergoing a much needed painting and cleaning. We are very glad to have these grasses and as soon as we can get at it, probably within a week or so, we shall send you material in exchange. I think we can include several of *Danthonia spicata*. Its extreme variability with all the multitudinous forms has always been very puzzling. I collected a great many of them on Long Island some years ago, trying to discover whether they were one species or half a dozen.

Sincerely yours,

Agnes Chase

Agnes Chase, Associate Agrostologist.

Office address: Smithsonian Institution.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

BOTANY

February 21, 1931.

Professor John M. Fogg, Jr.,
University of Pennsylvania,
Botanical Laboratory,
38th St. and Woodland Ave.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Professor Fogg:

We are sending you herewith a package of grasses which I
hope will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

Agnes Chase

Agnes Chase, Associate Agrostologist.

Office address: Smithsonian Institution.

March 7, 1931.

Mrs. Agnes Chase,
Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Chase:

I desire gratefully to acknowledge the receipt of the package of grasses recently sent by you and containing twenty-six (26) specimens. These plants are of great interest to me, especially the series of Manthonia, and I am indebted to you for your kindness in selecting them.

Sincerely yours,