



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
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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.

BRAUN, E. LUCY

October 24, 1941.

Dr. E. Lucy Braun,
University of Cincinnati,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Braun:

Please accept my belated thanks for the series of reprints which you so kindly sent me some weeks ago. I have enjoyed reading all of your papers and wish to express my sincere interest in the work that you are doing.

You may be interested to know that Mr. Lloyd G. Carr, formerly a student at the University of Virginia, is working under me now and plans to carry on studies in the Cumberland Plateau of southwestern Virginia. He has already turned up some rather interesting things from there and will probably communicate with you in the near future. On his most recent trip he discovered a station for Eulalia viminea, which I note that you report from several localities in Kentucky. I wonder if this grass is on the move.

Would it be possible for you to supply us with herbarium material of your Rhododendron cumberlandense. I should greatly appreciate having a specimen of this species, if you have one to spare.

Sincerely yours,

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY—BIOLOGY BUILDING

Cincinnati, Ohio,
December 12, 1941

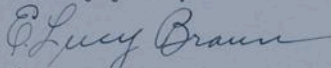
Dr. John M. Fogg,
University of Pennsylvania,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Fogg:

Your letter of October 24 has remained unanswered because I thought that in sorting over some duplicates of past years I might turn up a specimen of *Rhododendron cumberlandense* to send to you, but have found none. You mention that Mr. Carr is collecting on the Cumberland Plateau in southwestern Virginia; it would not be very far for him to visit the Big Black Mountain area where this shrub is abundant. It grows in the summit forest, along the little road which leaves the Appalachia to Lynch highway at the state line, and in that locality, blooms the end of June.

Eulalia viminea is not, I believe, as uncommon as its few reports would indicate. I knew it in vegetative condition for years before I found it in bloom (in October) and was able to identify it. Few people would bother to collect a grass, however distinct, unless in flower or seed. I would expect a number of interesting things to turn up in that southwestern part of Virginia; it certainly looks very different once one crosses "Dividing Ridge."

Sincerely yours,



E. Lucy Braun

The Ohio Academy of Science

(Affiliated with A.A.A.S.)

OHIO FLORA COMMITTEE

October 27, 1953

Dr. John N. Fogg, Jr.
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia 4, Pa.

Dear Dr. Fogg:

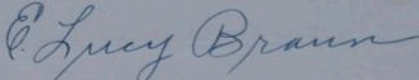
May I ask you a few questions concerning procedures you are using in connection with work on a Flora of Pennsylvania? Here in Ohio we are embarking on such a project, and as chairman of the committee, I have been trying to work out recommendations for procedure as well as work on actual preparation of the first unit of the project -- the woody plants of Ohio.

We are building up a card catalog of Ohio specimens, using the form enclosed. These are made out for specimens in various herbaria throughout Ohio. Obviously, there must be many incorrect identifications, but even so, we do get an idea as to number and location (herbarium) of specimens. We want to prepare a map for each native species which will show counties in which the species is known to occur. The question is, to what extent is it possible to accept records? My feeling is that at least one authentic specimen should be known for a particular county before it can be shown on the map as occurring in that county. By authentic, I mean that the person working that particular group of plants must personally check identification of a specimen for each county. Do you do this, or do you feel that, for the commoner species at least, it is permissible to accept the identification as on the herbarium slip returned to the committee? Some time ago, Mr. Almon N. Rood sent to me a map of the distribution of Viola affinis which he had received from you, together with a letter you had written at that time. (Both have been returned to Mr. Rood.) On that map, you showed a couple of northwestern Pennsylvania records, and made the statement that these records would have to be checked. This is the basis for my question concerning the acceptance of records. In other words, would I be justified in accepting, for example, records sent to me by Dr. Grover at Oberlin, if he has given the specimen his personal attention? I am not a taxonomist, primarily, and he probably knows northern Ohio plants better than I do. On the other hand, records from some colleges are so confused that student work is indicated and I would not trust a record. In some instances, I know from personal observation (but not collecting) that some common species is in a certain county; this species is recorded in some local herbarium; must I see the specimen when I know I could go and pick up one if I had to?

woody plants

Any suggestions which you can make will be appreciated. There really are no taxonomists in Ohio at the present time, and a cooperative project of this sort will necessarily move slowly, but if it is to be done, I do not want to be connected with it unless it is done right, unless any contribution we make toward a flora of Ohio is of such quality that it can be accepted, not only in Ohio but elsewhere.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "E. Lucy Braun". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

E. Lucy Braun

5956 Salem Road
Cincinnati 30, Ohio

November 13, 1953.

Dr. E. Lucy Braun,
5956, Salem Road,
CINCINNATI, 30, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Braun:

Upon re-reading your recent letter, together with my reply, it occurs to me that I did not answer one of your questions.

With respect to the two records of *Viola affinis* from West Pennsylvania, I should have made it clear that we had originally examined these sheets before they were recorded and mapped. Now that we know a great deal more (though still far too little) about the stemless blue violets than we did some years ago, we shall ask the Carnegie Museum, where these two sheets are housed, to let us borrow them again for re-examination. We are constantly doing this in the case of material concerning which there have been new interpretations since our original studies were made.

May I make a further comment, which I realize is none of my business or, rather, perhaps put this in the form of a question? Why is your Committee planning to prepare a flora of only the woody plants of the State? It seems to me that if such a treatment is later to be followed by one dealing with the herbaceous vegetation, you are doing a less useful thing than if you took up the flora in systematic sections, say, first the monocots followed by the dicots, perhaps dealing successively with the apocets and sympets. I am sure it is a temptation to deal first with the trees and shrubs of the State, but I could wish, even though to do so might delay publication, that you were planning to deal with the flora as a whole, rather than dismembering families which are both woody and herbaceous.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.

5956 SALEM ROAD
MT. WASHINGTON
CINCINNATI 30, OHIO

December 11, 1953

Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia 4, Pa.

Dear Dr. Fogg:

I want to thank you for your two letters with their many helpful suggestions; also, for the copy of your record card and outline map. These will be shown to the committee at our late winter meeting; *also your paper on methods.*

Do not become too hopeful about an Ohio Flora. There has not been the amount of interest that was hoped for, and, as you well know, there are not at present any workers whose primary field is taxonomy. Your comments will help me in my stand concerning the mapping of authentic records, only.

In Ohio, the one large herbarium is at Ohio State University in Columbus. There are many others scattered about the state, whose specimens should be examined. Perhaps, in time, some progress will be made.

You ask why we are starting with the woody plants. After the first year of inactivity, we thought that some unit might arouse interest. About then, Little made the plea (in Rhodora) for more information on the distribution of trees. As there is no real line of demarcation between trees and shrubs, I decided on woody plants. If we could complete this, as a preliminary bulletin, we would have something to show for our work. This does not mean that the herbaceous plants will be treated separately; we do plan on a systematic treatment, but not necessarily taking families in order, if a chance occurs to have someone work on a particular group. The long-range plans call for the final putting together of all material in systematic order. But that is a long time ahead.

I was glad to hear that you will have so much opportunity this year to work on your Pennsylvania flora. To be able to concentrate always helps.

Sincerely yours,

E. Lucy Braun
E. Lucy Braun

5956 SALEM ROAD
MT. WASHINGTON
CINCINNATI 30, OHIO

March 14, 1955

Dr. John M. Fogg
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia 4, Pa.

Dear Dr. Fogg:

I have been working on a biometric study of variation in *Polemonium reptans*, with some very interesting results. While to date, much of the work has been based on population sampling, I am including some herbarium data. I would like to borrow the Pennsylvania material of this species, as considerable variation has been reported in that area. It will not take me very long to make the necessary measurements, hence I would retain the material for only a short time.

The reprints you sent me about a year ago concerning methods used in your work on the Pennsylvania flora have given our Ohio flora committee a number of suggestions. This work is progressing very slowly.

Yours sincerely,

E. Lucy Braun
E. Lucy Braun

P.S. I do not live within city limits, hence am not in the territory where Railway Express deliveries are made. If the package of specimens is sent by Express, it should be sent to me in care of Dr. Margaret Fulford, Department of Botany, University of Cincinnati. It would be simpler if it could be sent by Parcel Post to my home, unless you have other regulations.

62 sheets

April 1, 1955

Dr. E. Lucy Braun
5956 Salem Road
Mt. Washington
Cincinnati 30, Ohio

Dear Dr. Braun:

There is going forward to you, by Parcel Post Insured, a package containing 62 sheets of Polemonium reptans, representing our entire collection of this species from the State of Pennsylvania. This is being sent to your home address. I trust that it will reach you promptly and in good condition.

I have also copied off from our master map the known distribution of this species within our State. You will not find a specimen corresponding to every dot on the map because in many cases the dots are records from other herbaria throughout the State which we have borrowed, studied and incorporated into our master records.

I trust that you will find this material of interest and hope also that your work on the Ohio Flora is progressing in a satisfactory manner.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Curator of the Herbarium
University of Pennsylvania

5956 SALEM ROAD
MT. WASHINGTON
CINCINNATI 30, OHIO

April 20, 1955

Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia 4, Pa.

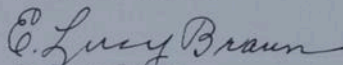
Dear Dr. Fogg:

Today, I am returning by Parcel Post, insured, the package of *Polemonium* specimens you so kindly loaned me. I am addressing package to the Morris Arboretum, Chestnut Hill, as that was where your package was insured.

I appreciate this loan; it was a pleasure to work with such good specimens. Glad you sent the map; it was useful.

One specimen, collected by E. T. Wherry, May 10, 1942, 1.25 mi. e. of Strickersville, Chester Co., was labeled by Wherry "*Polemonium reptans* L. forma *villosum* (Braun) Wherry." This is not what I call var. *villosum*, and does not look anything like it. Your specimen is well within the range of variation of *P. reptans* var. *reptans*.

Sincerely yours,


E. Lucy Braun

April 29, 1955

Dr. E. Lucy Braun
5956 Salen Road
Mt. Washington
Cincinnati 30, Ohio

Dear Dr. Braun:

I am writing to acknowledge the return of the package of Polemonium specimens as announced in your letter of April 20th. I am glad that this material was of some interest to you.

I have shown the sheet of villosum to Dr. Wherry who agrees that it is not sufficiently pubescent to bear that designation. He says, however, that in the collections at the Academy of Natural Sciences are two sheets which he considers to be good villosum. I do not know whether you are planning to borrow the Academy material, but if you do so, these collections will come to light at that time.

With best wishes and warm regards,

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.
Director