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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.

13 June, 1989

Curator
Herbarium
Department of Botany
University of Ife
Ife-Ife
NIGERIA

Dear Dr. Olorode,

I am writing an "Etymological Dictionary of the Grasses" and have come across *Pennisetum maiwa*. The specific name is the vernacular for the grass which grows widely in Nigeria.

I suspect it to be either a Yoruba or Hausa name. If you are familiar with the maiwa I would be grateful to learn of its meaning.

Many years ago, I lectured in Agriculture at the University of Ibadan, at which time there was no University at Ife. One of my good friends, an Agricultural Economist, became the first Vice-Chancellor at Ife.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



H.T. CLIFFORD
Professor of Botany