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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.

Columbia University
in the City of New York
[NEW YORK 27, N. Y.]
DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

October 15, 1951

Dr. Bernard Lowy
Department of Botany, Bacteriology
and Plant Pathology
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Dr. Lowy:

Thank you for the reprint and for your letter of October 8th. Also, let me take this opportunity to congratulate you on the new job at L.S.U. You will find the people a most congenial group to work with, and it is an ideal place for collecting interesting fungi. I am glad to hear that you have discovered "Olive's orchard." Be sure to have them show you the area about five miles south of L.S.U. along the River Road.

There will be a couple of fungi that you could pick up for me later if you have time. One of them is the smut Sphacelotheca cruenta, which is very common in the spring and summer on Johnson grass. I have already written Dr. Wheeler about the second one which occurs in the spring as a parasite on the saw palmetto. Dr. Wheeler can give you the information on that, and I will write you again about it early in the spring.

Yours sincerely,

Lindsay S. Olive

Lindsay S. Olive
Assoc. Prof. of Botany

LSO/fj

P.S. I am mailing some reprints to you today - LSO!

Columbia University
in the City of New York

[NEW YORK 27, N. Y.]

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

February 1, 1952

Dr. Bernard Lowy
Department of Botany
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Dr. Lowy:

Since spring will soon be arriving down there, I am writing to request a couple of fungi which will be available then. The smut, Sphacelotheca cruenta, will probably begin to appear on Johnson grass in another month or two, and I could use a dozen or more heads of it.

We are also very anxious to obtain some telial material of Gymnosporangium clavipes, which occurs on the twigs of the red cedar. This species has orange red telial pustules and carrotiform teliospore stalks, which distinguish it from G. nidus-avis on the same host. There is a large red cedar out at "Olive's Orchard" which is infected with the rust. The twigs should be broken off and mailed without moistening. It doesn't matter if they arrive in a dry condition. One important point is that the telia should be collected before they gelatinize in the spring rains. I believe that they will be mature in that area about the last week in February, or possibly the first week in March.

If this is not too much of an imposition on you, we would greatly appreciate your help. I hope that you are enjoying your work in Louisiana and that the area is yielding many fungi of interest to you.

Sincerely,

Lindsay S. Olive

Lindsay S. Olive
Assoc. Prof. of Botany

LSO/fj

Columbia University
in the City of New York

[NEW YORK 27, N. Y.]

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

March 16, 1952

Dr. Bernard Lowy
Department of Botany
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Dr. Lowy:

Thank you for your letter of March 8
and for the Gymnosporangium and Sphacelotheca
theca material, which arrived in good order.
If it is not inconvenient, I would appreciate
your sending me one more package
of the Sphacelotheca material about a
month from now.

Thanks again for your kindness
in sending these fungi to me.

Sincerely yours,
Lindsay S. Olive

Columbia University
in the City of New York
[NEW YORK 27, N. Y.]

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

April 16, 1952

Dr. Bernard Lowy
Department of Botany
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Dr. Lowy:

The Sphacelotheca material arrived the other day. Many thanks for collecting and sending it to me.

If I remember correctly, this is an excellent time of year for fungi in Louisiana, and I suspect that you are up to your neck in them by now. I will be interested in knowing what you do with the Auricularias down there, as I was never certain about them -

Yours sincerely,
Lindsay S. Olive

Columbia University
in the City of New York
[NEW YORK 27, N. Y.]
DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

February 17, 1953

Dr. Bernard Lowy
Department of Botany
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Dr. Lowy:

Your letter of February 13 arrived this morning. I have looked back over my collections of fungi from Louisiana and find that I have only three specimens of Auricularia from there, and all are from the Baton Rouge area.

Your findings concerning the species of this genus in that area were of interest to me since I had often wondered if some of the specimens that I came across might not be species other than A. auricularis.

Sincerely yours,

Lindsay S. Olive

Lindsay S. Olive
Assoc. Prof. of Botany

LSO/rj