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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.

Demores, Ga

Feb 20th / 93-

My dear Mr Leiby :-

I read with exceedingly
interest your letter giving an
account of the wild, out of the way
station where you found the
new Willow - which I have named
from the discoverer. I confess
when I recognized its character
I was thrilled with a feeling
of awe and wonder - There is
a group of Willows hitherto
known only from Siberia and
Alaska which as species are
little known and ill defined
but the group in itself is one
of marked character however

confirmed the constitution may be,
and to this group, certainly a
Doubt. P. Leubergii belongs -
What eyes have elapsed since
the connection between the two
was complete - How strange that
this outlying member should
have lived on so tenaciously and
escaped extinction - Usually, too,
when an austral member of an
Arctic group exists we do not
find it so completely dis-associated
- there are connecting stations -
- or there has been some
suggestion of variation in the
direction of the stray member -
But in this case nothing - as
yet - of the sort. Though I
believe

called to the matter that
S. Leubergii will be found at
intermediate stations.

It might be well for you
to look over the specimens of
S. myrtilloides in the Nat. Herb.
to see if possibly it may not
have been already overlooked.

In the description I omitted
your statement as to the
circumference of the clumps. I
was afraid there was some mistake
about it - "2 to 5 feet high" and only
"3 to 8 feet in circumference" that
would make the diameter only 1 to
2 $\frac{2}{3}$ ft which considering the height
seemed disproportionate and so
discredited the word clump -

I would have been glad the name
 appeared your description of
 the locality to those of the
 species but concluded that this
 would come in no doubt. was
 appropriate in your general
 report -

Yours sincerely
 M. S. Bebb

The ground had been burned over some
 years since and the willows had
 suffered as well as the balance of the
 vegetation in the locality -
 sufficient time had not elapsed since
 the fire to give the species a chance to
 regain its full growth hence the small
 size of the clumps.

J. B. Leiby.