



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
5th Floor, Hunt Library
Carnegie Mellon University
4909 Frew Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890
Telephone: 412-268-2434
Email: huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu
Web site: www.huntbotanical.org

The Hunt Institute is committed to making its collections accessible for research. We are pleased to offer this digitized item.

Usage guidelines

We have provided this low-resolution, digitized version for research purposes. To inquire about publishing any images from this item, please contact the Institute.

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.

In sending specimens of plants for investigation it is desirable to have the leaves, flowers, and fruit, and, in the case of bulbous plants, the bulbs, also. When they are sent from a distance it is best to prepare the specimens by drying them under pressure between folds of absorbent paper, otherwise the parts shrink and break so as to be hardly recognizable. When the dried plants are sent they should be protected from breakage in the mail by being inclosed between pieces of stiff pasteboard. Packages weighing less than four pounds can be sent by mail at the rate of one cent per ounce. Write the name of the sender on the outside. In the letter accompanying the specimens state where collected, the date, and any other particulars of the plant, whether reputed poisonous, pestiferous, medicinal, or useful.

UNITED STATES

Department of Agriculture.

BUREAU OF BOTANY.

Washington, D. C., Dec 6th 1884

Mr E. Hackel, St Pölten, Austria

My dear Sir

Two weeks ago I sent to the Express Office for transmission to you a package of grasses, which I hope you are in possession of by this time. I ought to have written sooner to make some notes concerning the contents. There are a few specimens which are without names and which I thought you might be able to help me about.

I will particularly mention *Luziola Peruviana*? from La. - *Hemarthria*, perhaps *fasciculata* - *Andropogon* from California - *Aristetum* from Mr Lamy's La - a *Leptochloa*, from the same - Should you determine that any of these are new species I would be glad to join you in the naming of them, with the suggestion that the *Hemarthria* might be *H. Haradii*, & the *Leptochloa* *Lamyi*, indeed as to this last I have informed Mr Lamy that if new I proposed calling it thus - A little stimulus of this kind sometimes helps the enthusiasm of collectors. There are a number of others of which I have some doubt as to the accuracy of the names, in which respect I hope you can assist me,

A few other grasses have been received since I sent
the package, particularly some *Andropogon* from D. Mohr
of Mobile - among them good specimens of *Andropogon*
tetrastachys, Ell. which you may think sufficiently distinct
to be retained as a species - also ~~the~~ a new *Diplachne*
from Texas. These and some others I shall ere long
make into another package for you.

Meantime I hope to hear from you at an early date and
to receive your notes upon the grasses

Truly Yours
Geo. Vasey

Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Andropogon tetrastachys Ell.
Digo - immixta Ell.
Chalk

In sending specimens of plants for investigation it is desirable to have the leaves, flowers, and fruit; and, in the case of bulbous plants, the bulbs, also. When they are sent from a distance it is best to prepare the specimens by drying them under pressure between folds of absorbent paper, otherwise the parts shrink and break so as to be hardly recognizable. When the dried plants are sent they should be protected from breakage in the mail by being incased between pieces of stiff pasteboard. Packages weighing less than four pounds can be sent by mail at the rate of one cent per ounce. Write the name of the sender on the outside. In the letter accompanying the specimens state where collected, the date, and any other particulars of the plant, whether reputed poisonous, pestiferous, medicinal, or useful.

U. S. Department of Agriculture.

DIVISION OF BOTANY,

Washington, D. C., April 27th 1887.

Prof. Ed. Haskel

My dear Sir,

I was very glad indeed to receive your letter of the 14th ult. containing the Report on Dr Palmer's *Andropogon* - As to *A. piptanthus* the largest specimens I have seen are about 16 inches high, and have about 10 spikes on a culm - but they are very variable in that respect. It seems that you do not adopt Benth's *Chrysopogon* as a genus - The *A. nutans* subsp. *incompletus* appears to me to be a good species, well characterized and easily recognized. But I am quite surprised at your conclusion as to *Andropogon Mohrri* - in your postal Apr. 3^d. To me the *A. Liebmanni* is extremely different not only in size and the number of spikes, but in the leaves, those of *Liebmanni* being short, smooth & obtuse; while those of *Mohrri* are very long and narrow, and hairy. I think they must be different species, but perhaps you have intermediate & connecting forms. I did not feel quite satisfied in calling No 270. *Catharticum prostratum* and am glad to be corrected as to it.

Antiarthrus leptogynus ^{inglor}

I appreciate the importance of the rule you have made
as to your critical botanical work; I hope you may
live long enough to work over the entire field of Gramineae.
I am now studying the genus *Muhlenbergia*. We have in
hand 50 species including such as we have from Mexico.
We have within our borders (U.S.) about 35 species. These
are enumerated in the *Biol. Cent. Am.* 35 species, of
which only about 5 are also belonging to the U.S. The new
Muhlenbergia from Chihuahua are not probably among those
of the *Biol. Cent. Am.* Dr. Gray is now in Europe and I sent
by him a set of the Grasses of Dr. Palmer's Mex. Coll. and he
said he would personally request Mr. Edu. Bureau to have
them compared in the Herb. Mus. Nat. Hist. I hope therefore soon
to know a little more about them. But there are still
many of which I can hardly hope to get specimens for comparison.

The *Clomina* group is quite troublesome. I am not sure but
it ought to be restored to a genus. There are 5 or 6 species at least
among them one which Prof. Scribn. has called *Bealia* - but which is a
true *Clomina*. I enclose spikelets of another of the group, *M. longijuncus*.
M. speciosa & *M. argentea* V. of last year Coll. are closely related.
I shall be very glad to have a copy of "Grasses for Engelm. & Prunell."

Hoping to hear from you frequently I am truly Yours
Geo. Vasey

In sending specimens of plants for investigation it is desirable to have the roots, flowers, and fruit, and, in the case of bulbous plants, the bulbs, also. When they are sent from a distance it is best to prepare the specimens by drying them under pressure between folds of absorbent paper, otherwise the parts shrink and break so as to be hardly recognizable. When the dried plants are sent they should be protected from breakage in the mail by being inclosed between pieces of stiff pasteboard. Packages weighing less than four pounds can be sent by mail at the rate of one cent per ounce. Write the name of the sender on the outside. In the letter accompanying the specimens state where collected, the date, and any other particulars of the plant, whether reputed poisonous, pestiferous, medicinal, or useful.

U. S. Department of Agriculture,

BOTANICAL DIVISION,

Washington, D. C., May 12th 1890.

Prof. Ed. Hackel

My dear Sir,

Your recent letter (April 20) was duly received. I sent at the same time with my last letter a small package with a male and female specimen of the plant which you call *Jourea*, but it seems you had not received it when you wrote. You will another poor specimen (but as good as we have) in the present package, which contains some 50 or 60 species of our grasses - some new, and others that I hope will be useful to you. With respect to the *Jourea* the descriptions are too vague for a satisfactory determination, but I presume the grass named by Fournier was of the same genus as that found by Dr. Palmer. A figure and description of it will be published in the May number of the *Botanical Gazette* of which I will send you a copy, and you will see from my remarks that I am not satisfied with its location (systematic) as given either by Fournier or yourself. I think its affinity is more nearly to *Tripsacum* or the *Euchlaena*. But of that you can judge for yourself. It is at all events a very remarkable grass.

Hoping to hear from you often I am truly Yours,
Geo. Vasey

In sending specimens of plants for investigation it is desirable to include the entire plant; if it is too large, portions showing leaves, flowers, and fruit are sufficient. It is best to prepare the specimens by drying them under pressure between folds of absorbent paper, otherwise the parts may shrink and break so as to be hardly recognizable. When dried plants are sent they should be protected from breakage in the mail by being inclosed in sheets of paper between pieces of stiff pasteboard. If specimens are to be sent fresh, moisten them slightly and pack them tightly in a box or in a bundle, wrapping them in heavy paper. Write the name of the sender on the outside. In the letter accompanying the specimens state where each plant was collected, the date, the names of the collector, and add any other notes in regard to the economic value of the plant.

Packages weighing less than four pounds may be sent by mail at the rate of one cent per ounce.

United States Department of Agriculture,

Botanical Division,

Washington, D. C., July 15 1891.

Prof. Edw. Hackel

My dear Sir

Your letter of the 7th ult. came during a month's absence in the Southwest. Since my return I have been very busy and have recently had time to consider your letter.

I was somewhat disappointed at your decision as to the new grass, although I perhaps should not have been, because I received some specimens of the grass last year and then called them *Melica multinervosa*, but on receiving the more complete ones of this year I came to the conclusion that they could not go into *Melica*. I shall however publish the species as a doubtful *Melica multinervosa* and await further developments. You will note that the empty glumes are thicker than the floral ones, and more nervoid, that the upper flowers of the spikelet are not clutched, that the base of the fl. gl. and of the rachilla are densely pubescent, & that the ovary is roundish, concave-concave, with 2 thick horn-like spreading styles, and that the palea splits from top to base into 2 parts.

15. VII. 91

In sending specimens of plants for investigation it is desirable to include the entire plant; if it is too large, portions showing leaves, flowers, and fruit are sufficient. It is best to prepare the specimens by drying them under pressure between folds of absorbent paper, otherwise the parts may shrink and break so as to be hardly recognizable. When dried plants are sent they should be protected from breakage in the mail by being inclosed in sheets of paper between pieces of stiff pasteboard. If specimens are to be sent fresh, enclose them slightly and pack them tightly in a box or in a bundle, wrapping them in heavy paper. Write the name of the sender on the outside. In the letter accompanying the specimens state where each plant was collected, the date, the name of the collector, and add any other notes in regard to the economic value of the plant.

Packages weighing less than four pounds may be sent by mail at the rate of one cent per ounce.

United States Department of Agriculture,

Botanical Division.

Washington, D. C., 189

with the nerves injured.

I am slowly but steadily working on the U. S. Grasses, and hope to live to see the end of it.

I thank ^{you} for your kind permission to make use of your arrangement of the Grasses in your work as far as applicable, and for which as I said before I shall give you proper credit.

It is rare now to have any new grasses from the U. S. proper, although Mexican grasses apparently new are often found, but it is difficult to ascertain what are known and what are unknown. I shall send you some of these soon as possible.

With my kind regards

Truly Yours

Geo. Vasey

P. S. I find I had overlooked an inquiry of yours on a postal card respecting *Agropyrum Japonicum*. I will send you a specimen. Prof Scribn. thought it to be a *Brachypodium*, but I differ.