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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.

Knoxville Tenn. April 13. 90.

My dear Sir:

Since my last to you
I have examined more carefully
Pentarrhaphis geminata, sketches
of which I enclose. Each spi-
kelet certainly has two empty
glumes at the base, the 1st
one in each being very narrow
or, when dry, subulate, and of
about the same length as
the simple (or bifid) pro-
longation of the rachis. (This
"prolongation" is very likely, as
you suggest, a rudimentary
spikelet). These two lowest glumes
and the "prolongation" appear at

first glance all alike and to spring from the same point. I am confident ^{himself} classed them all together as a ^{single} lower glume in P. scabra. You will see by my sketches the characters of each part. - Pentantherus may still be held distinct from Bouteloua, I think. I would characterize it briefly, thus: Spikelets single or in pairs with a simple or 2-3-parted awn-like rudiment of an additional spikelet, 2-flowered; first flower ♀, second ♂; flowering glumes 3-5-cleft, 3-awned; rachilla prolonged naked and bristle-like. Intermediate between Bouteloua and Melanocenchris and forming with this genus and Cathestecum and (?) Agropogon a special group characterized by the inflorescence.

I am more than pleased to think that the grass of which I only sent you 2 spikes, is Jourea straminea Forst. I wrote to Dr. Vasey and suggested to him that the grass was Jourea but he ~~did~~ said it was not. That you verify my determination pleases me much. I had none of Forster's writings to consult & the characters given in your work were insufficient for a positive determination. I fear it is too late to make the change desired in the translation. However I now have both the male and female plants!

and shall publish an illustrated paper
on this grass in the Proc. Phila. Acad.
I send you my rough sketches that
you may see what it is like. I would
have been very glad if I could have
got these into my translation of your
work. I think *Juncura* belongs to the
Festuceae near *Monanthochloa*. The
general inflorescence of the ♀ plant is
the same, ^{as in *Monanthochloa*} so are the leaf-sheaths, etc.
The culms are solid and more or less
deeply sulcate along the internodes as
in *Zea*. I wish I could send you speci-
mens so that you could help me deter-
mine the true position of this grass.
Maybe you can do so from the sketches.

Pringle has sent me a bundle of
grasses for you. I am adding some
from my duplicate stock & will
forward the package in a day or
two.

Yours very sincerely

F. Lamson-Scribner.