



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

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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.

Urbana, Illinois
December 13, 1915

Dr. Johanna Westerdijk,
Director Assoc. Inter. des Bot.,
Amsterdam, Holland.

Dear Dr. Westerdijk:

I received your letter last summer and have been keeping my eyes open for Alternaria Dianthi Stev. About two weeks ago I received some excellent specimens from Oklahoma. I have had Mr. Elliot, who you know is working on the genus Macrosporium and Alternaria, look this fungus over and he has pronounced it a distinct species. He has also been able to inoculate it very effectively on carnation plants, so that it appears to be truly parasitic.

I am also enclosing, in the same package, a culture of Sclerotium Rolfsii Sacc. which I found, for the first time in Illinois, this summer. It was able to attack a number of perennials, but was especially severe on Campanula.

Rhizoctonia is now in proof, and I hope to have it out within a couple of months. You may be interested to know that I found the Corticium stage abundantly this summer and have cultures from single spores. However, I see no difference between these cultures and the one from the *Rhizoctonia* mycelium.

I have also seen specimens of the true violet root felt fungus (now R. Crocorum Duggar B.M. - Annals Mo. Bot. Gard. 2, 405, 1915) from Nebraska, Virginia, and Iowa on alfalfa, and from Washington and Oregon on potatoes. In a letter from Mr. Diehl of Iowa, he claims to have grown this violet fungus in culture.

Professor Stevens and his family of young pathologists are all busy on their various problems.

I trust that the material will reach you in good condition.

Very truly yours,

Associate in Floricultural Pathology