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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.

ADDRESS REPLY TO
THE FORESTER
AND REFER TO



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE



WASHINGTON

Aug
July 14, 1928

Dear Doctor Ball;

Attached correspondence was sent to me for reply. However, since the matter is primarily one of determination of a sterile willow spray, and since the letter is addressed to the Department, it seems to me fitting to forward it to you for reply.

Since Mr. Burworth died there has been no attempt to do taxonomic dendrology work in the Forest Service. I would be glad, personally, if all such correspondence were directed to Dr. Coville but, as a matter of convenience, I do det. work for members of the Service though that is not, of course, my official duty.

I must apologize for troubling you with this, but believe you are the one who should handle it. Two F.S. publications on basket willows are enclosed which you may wish to have sent two gentlemen with your reply. Thank you.

Sincerely,

W. A. Dayton,

Plat Ecologist,

Acting in ch., Range Research

(Enclosures)

September 24, 1934.

Dr. Wm. A. Dayton,
Forest Service, U.S. D.Agr.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Dayton:

I am just in receipt of a copy of Tech. Bull. No. 420. Naturally I am greatly distressed that the distribution maps should prove to be so inaccurate as to be very misleading in many cases. They perpetuate all the errors of Rydberg, Sargent, and others who did not know the willows but were interested in having as many species as possible thought to occur in as many areas as possible. Many of these errors were exposed years ago.

I would have been happy, as you know, to have collaborated in determining true distributions, ~~xxxxxxx~~ if that service had been requested. I have but glanced at the bulletin, but give the following instances of what I mean.

Salix nigra is given its old incorrect range into the northern Great Plains area. It does not leave the prairies. See my discussion in 1926 (Canad. Field-Nat.). I have since proved that it occurs in Southern Minn. on the headwaters of the rivers flowing into Iowa, and also along the Miss.

Salix interior is shown occurring across the entire Rocky Mtn. area. It stops at or in the foothills. It also extends nearly to the mouth of the Yukon.

Salix lasiolepis extends without break from New Mex. to the Coast and north into Washington. Specimens of mine from the Columbia River have been available since 1915. As a variety not yet recognized it occurs in Idaho, and the species in Nevada.

So I could go on for many of the species. We expect greater accuracy than that from the Forest Service. And you had the services of a willow specialist available if you cared to use them.

Under separate cover I send a copy of my recent paper on new western species and varieties.

Cordially Yours,

Carleton R. Ball

Refers to Sudworth, G. B.
Poplars, principal tree willows and
walnuts of the Rocky mountain region.
USDA Tech. Bul. 420, 112 p., 58 f. 1934

from W. A. Dayton

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

ADDRESS REPLY TO
THE FORESTER
AND REFER TO



WASHINGTON

October 2, 1934.

R
Publications
(Sudworth, George B.)
"Poplars, Principal Tree
Willows, and Walnuts of
the Rocky Mountain Region"

Dr. Carleton R. Ball,
Bureau of Public Administration,
Berkeley, California.

Dear Doctor Ball:

Your letter of September 24 is received. I have also received a personally inscribed copy of your "New or little" known West American willows" (Univ. Calif. Publ. Bot. 17(14): 399-434. 1934), which I am very glad to possess and for which please accept my sincere thanks.

Your letter is a difficult one for me to answer and, did it not contain personal references and implications, I would pass it on elsewhere, without comment, for reply. May I respectfully make, at the start, three general observations? --

(1) Your position as the outstanding living American salicologist is so undisputed that it goes without saying that any comment by you on any willow publication is entitled to the greatest respect and consideration.

(2) A posthumous publication by anyone, no matter whom, is entitled to a certain amount of leniency that one could not show to the work of a living author. The author is dead; he cannot argue, defend himself, or present a reason for the faith that is in him.

(3) Your questions as to distribution map accuracy and as to Forest Service policy with respect to U. S. Dept. Agr. Techn. Bul. 420 are addressed to the wrong person. I am in Range Research in the Forest Service. You will note (p. 112 of the bulletin referred to) that this is a Silvics publication. In other words, Mr. E. N. Munns and his official superiors in charge of the Branch of Research had the responsibility for getting out this publication.

Dr. Carleton R. Ball

It may be well to make my connection with this publication clear. The mss. was found among the effects of the author at the time of his death. I was one of those asked to review it technically. I performed this (to me, frankly, unwelcome) task to the best of my ability, raising numerous questions, and correcting many statements which clearly were erroneous in the original. The editor used some of these in the form of footnotes, with my initials; some were added directly to the mss.; some it was not thought advisable to adopt. The title was changed at my suggestion. There were no citations in the original mss. and no bibliography worthy of the name. It fell to my lot to supply those omissions. I was asked to supply keys, since keys could not be found and probably were never prepared by the author. This task also was placed on me by my superiors and, frankly, I liked it least of all. It was not merely that I am very busy with other matters and had made no special study of the very difficult genera Populus and Salix, but in particular it was the paradox of making keys to fit a nomenclature already established. It is putting the cart before the horse. Obviously one should make his keys first and test out his nomenclature by it. By it, and its use in laboratory and field, species will stand or fall, whether they be good or worthless will be demonstrated, and also whether or not nomenclatural weights balance, e.g., whether the same character or characters are given binomial weight in one part of the key and trinomial weight in another. It is patently an absurdity, scientifically speaking, first to fix one's nomenclature and then to build the key to fit it. But that is what I had to do, of course, in a posthumous work, where the author's nomenclature had to be followed except in cases where he himself said it was wrong but didn't correct it! ✓ It should be borne in mind also that, in the printed instructions of the Forest Service (Forest Service Manual), the use of the nomenclature of Sudworth's Check List is mandatory in all Forest Service publications and reports.

As to the species distribution maps in Technical Bulletin 420: I had nothing whatever to do with their preparation and never saw a one of them until I received a printed copy of the bulletin. May I say this, however? -- The bulletin represents Mr. Sudworth's conceptions of species and where they occur.

↙ See my comment, later, on Salix lasiolepis.

2-5-34
from W. A. Dayton

Dr. Carleton R. Ball

They are not your conceptions or my conceptions. He is dead; he couldn't be argued with. The Forest Service was faced squarely with the question as to whether to suppress his last mss. or to publish it. It had published the others of the series, which are certainly no more accurate than this one; should it take advantage of the man's death to administer the coup de grace to the last words from his pen?

Now you have raised the question as to why you were not consulted about this publication. I cannot answer that question, as it is not my affair. But may I offer a suggestion? -- Sudworth was the dendrologist of the Forest Service for years; the only dendrologist it ever had or perhaps ever will have. He died seven years ago and has left no successor. All his works represent his own viewpoints, - not Sargent's, not Rehder's, not Vasey's, nor any other dendrologist's but Sudworth's. As stated, Sudworth's nomenclature and ideas had to be followed in this posthumous publication. Frankly, I think some of Mr. Sudworth's species are "phony"; I know some of his names are untenable under either botanical Code. But it is not what I think, or even know, it was what Sudworth thought, so far as his own publications are concerned.

So far as I am personally involved in this matter possibly it will clarify the matter further to state that, as regards my own publications, as regards Range Research of the Forest Service, and as regards our Forest Service range plant herbaria, the willow nomenclature is à la Carleton R. Ball, unless there should, perchance, be some tree willow whose Check List name might not accord with Dr. Ball's usage. If there is such a case as that we would be obliged, in a publication, to use the Check List name. In other words, the brief notes on willows on pp.15-16 of my browse bulletin (U.S. Dept. Agr. Misc. Pub. 101) are based on your own identifications, and the distribution notes for the species are based on your own notes in the manuals, supplemented by authenticated specimens of record in the range plant herbarium of the Forest Service in Washington. See my reference to you on p.4 of the work referred to.

With regard to your comments about Salix nigra: I do not fully understand the question you raise for, although I do not have the 1926 Canadian Field-Naturalist file before me for reference, it would appear that Mr. Sudworth's map also agrees that this species occurs in Minnesota and along the Mississippi River.

In defense of Mr. Sudworth it should be stated that his notes and map for "Salix interior" are actually based on his

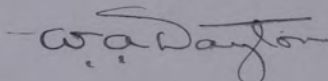
Dr. Carleton R. Ball

conception of "Salix longifolia Muhl.," the name used in his Check List and in his mss. In this case, however, the editor changed (and I think quite properly) the name to "Salix interior," in view of Mr. Sudworth's own (and correct) statement to the effect that S. longifolia Muhl. is a homonym and quite untenable. This seemed to be the only feasible course to take, although true Salix interior doubtless does not cover entirely the plant Mr. Sudworth had in mind by his "Salix longifolia."

I am forwarding your letter and a copy of this reply (though I am afraid he is too busy to wade through the length of the latter!!) to Mr. E. N. Munns, chief of Silvics. It is possible that Mr. Munns may care to reply further to your letter.

With personal appreciation of the invaluable work you have kindly done in the past in identification of Forest Service range plant willow material, I am

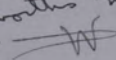
Very sincerely yours,



W. A. DAYTON

In ch., Range Forage Investigations

P.S.

It may appear from this letter that I am not in sympathy with the position you have taken in your letter. I am very much so, personally. But I hope this letter (too long, I fear and tedious) will throw a little light on the practical difficulties. The F.S. is under. I think this is the last of the late Mr. Sudworth's manuscripts; I hope so at any rate. 

December 29, 1934

Mr. W. A. Dayton
United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dayton:

Your exceedingly interesting letter of October 2 deserved a much earlier acknowledgment. I read it more than once after receipt.

Please let me say that I understand the difficulties of your own position in the matter of the posthumous publication of Dr. Sudworth's material. Let me say further that I had no personal feeling in the matter, but merely regretted that a publication involving so much labor by its author and so much expense by the publishing agency could not have been brought up to date for the use of the public service, a labor in which, as has been noted in my previous letter, I would have been only too glad to have shared.

I regret also that I should have bothered you with a letter which really should have belonged to another branch of the service. I should have recognized the difference in the divisions involved, but I was writing to the man with whom I had most contacts in this and similar matters.

I shall expect to be back on the East position within the next few weeks and renew our pleasant personal acquaintance. In the meantime, may I wish you many happy returns of the holiday season. With kind personal regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

CRB:MK

Carleton R. Ball

Address:

Extension Service, U. S. Dept. Agric.

September 13, 1938

Dr. R. S. Campbell,
Range Research, Forest Service.

Dear Dr. Campbell:

I am submitting several sheets of *Salix petiolaris* Smith, collected near Wytheville, Va. in the mountains.

This is a species of the glaciated areas of the Lake States and northward and has been found but once before in the southern Appalachians.

There was a patch about 30 feet long on the very margin of the creek. All the plants showed the effects of what appeared to be browsing by cattle or possibly injury by ice. As the plants were from 2-4 ft. high, were perfectly erect, and were injured only toward the top, it seems to be browse injury.

There were no other shrubby willows in the meadow-pasture, so comparison could not be made. There were no cattle in the pasture at the time of my visit but obviously had been earlier in the season.

Because most eastern willows are not grazed, and because this species was so far out of its normal range, I am much interested to be sure if this is browsing injury.

If the Forest Service wishes a specimen of this collection, I will be most happy to furnish it.

Cordially Yours,

Carleton R. Ball
Executive Secretary

Pen 5011

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE



ADDRESS REPLY TO
THE FORESTER
AND REFER TO

WASHINGTON

September 15, 1938

RR, R-8
Plant Identification
(Salix petiolaris)

Dr. Carleton R. Ball,
Executive Secretary, Coordinating Committee,
U.S.D.A.-T.V.A.-V.S.Agr.Colleges,
U. S. Dept. of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Doctor Ball:

Dr. R. S. Campbell has forwarded to me for reply your letter to him of September 13. Your courtesy in bringing this interesting willow item to our attention is appreciated.

The injuries to the willow material you forward seem to me to be clearly those of domestic livestock or, possibly, deer. I am taking the liberty of forwarding copies of your letter and of this reply to the Regional Forester at Washington and to the Director of our Appalachian Forest Experiment Station for their information. Your statement that "most eastern willows are not grazed" is a surprise to me, as it contradicts impressions gained from my own (I will admit none too extensive) observations in the East; at any rate, I hope to get some reactions on this point from our local field officers.

I have interpreted your letter (I hope not erroneously) as indicating I might keep one of the sprays sent by you for our Forest Service range plant herbarium in Washington; this I have done. If I am in error, and you so request, it will be returned to you. All the rest of your material is returned herewith. If our Regional Forester at Washington or the Experiment Station Director at Asheville should, one or both, also desire material of this willow, may they communicate with you direct concerning the matter?

Your discovery of the occurrence of Salix petiolaris J. E. Smith in southwestern Virginia is of much interest. May I inquire if you have considered putting a note on this in Claytonia or Rhodora?

Very sincerely yours,

W. A. DAYTON
Sr. Forest Ecologist, in ch.,
Range Forage Investig., Div. of Range Resch.

(See over)

(Enclosures)

(See over)

ASIA STUCLOTA AOWLS

RECEIVED

Address: Extension Service, U. S. Dept. Agric.,
September 23, 1938

R. Wm. A. Dayton,
Division of Range Research,
Forest Service, Department.

Dear Mr. Dayton:

Your letter of Sept. 15 is here and I thank you for the information regarding the browsing of *S. petiolaris* by cattle or deer.

At the moment I cannot find copy of my letter to Dr. Campbell (or to Chapline) and therefore cannot be sure just what I said about the nonbrowsing of Eastern willows.

The most common species in the Eastern, and especially the middle Eastern States is the black willow, *S. nigra*. In all my tramping about I have seen little evidence of its being grazed. The same holds true for *S. sericea*, the satin willow, which is common in the eastern half of the country and dominant in the southern Appalachians. *Salix cordata*, common in the NE fourth of the country, is browsed somewhat more, and *S. petiolaris*, so common in the meadows of the Lake States, is browsed but little there, perhaps because grass is so abundant.

Of the less common species I have fewer observations. These are my impressions merely as a collector. I have not studied the problem directly.

I will be very glad to have your records and impressions of our eastern and southeastern species.

I certainly intended you to have a specimen of the browsed *petiolaris* from SW Va. if you wanted it. I only hope that you took enough for a good specimen.

I am glad that you brought it to the attention of the Eastern Region and the Appalachian For. Exp. Station. I have heard from the Eastern Region, asking for a specimen. I will wait a few days on the chance of hearing from Asheville, and then send the one or both to you for distribution to them.

By the way, the elevation was omitted from the label. It is approximately 2000 ft., perhaps a little more.

Cordially yours,

Carleton R. Ball
Executive Secretary

As to a note in botanical journal on discovery of *S. petiolaris* in SW Va., I am developing a cooperative *Salix* survey of the SE States and hope to publish distributions later. Specimens are going out to several States.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOREST SERVICE

EASTERN REGION

ADDRESS REPLY TO
REGIONAL FORESTER
AND REFER TO

RR-R7

PLANT IDENTIFICATION
(*Salix petiolaris*)



WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 21, 1938

Dr. Carleton R. Ball,
Executive Secretary, Coordinating Committee,
U.S.D.A.-T.V.A.-V.S. Agri. Colleges,
U. S. Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Ball:

Reference is made to your letter of September 13 to
Dr. Campbell, and Mr. Dayton's reply of September 15.

The Region would appreciate a specimen of *Salix petiolaris*
for the Regional Forest Service herbarium.

Very sincerely yours,

R. M. EVANS,
Regional Forester.

By

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. M. Evans".

Acting.

Address:

Extension Service, U. S. Dept. Agric.

September 23, 1938

Mr. R. M. Evans, Regional Forester,
Eastern Region, Forest Service, Dept.

Dear Mr. Evans:

Your letter of Sept. 21, by R. W. Shields, Actg. Regional Forester, is before me.

I will be delighted to provide one of the browsed specimens of *S. petiolaris* from SW Virginia for the regional herbarium.

With your permission, I will delay a few days in the expectation of a similar request from the Appalachian Forest Experiment Station and then send both specimens to Mr. Dayton for distribution.

Cordially Yours,

Carleton R. Ball
Executive Secretary

P. S. A carbon copy of your letter, marked for the Chief's Office, was attached, and I am returning it herewith.

(With Enclosures)
BY MAIL DELIVERED
12-33
NOV 1938
REGIONAL FORESTER
WASHINGTON, D. C.



FOREST SERVICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

September 27, 1938

WASHINGTON, D. C.

RR-R-7
Plant Identification
(Salix Petiolaris)

September 23, 1938

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. DAYTON

Reference is made to your letter of September 15 to
Dr. Carleton R. Ball.

This office is inclined to agree with Dr. Ball as to
the palatability of eastern willows for domestic livestock,
The Region has not prepared standard palatability lists for
domestic stock because grazing in the Region does not warrant
it. However, willows would rate poor (5% to 15%) for cattle
and horses and fair (20% to 35%) for sheep and goats.

M. A. MATCOON,
Assistant Regional Forester
Div. of Timber, Range and Wildlife Mgt.

By *L.C. Simmons* Acting.

* Dr. Ball's statement was: "Most eastern willows
are not grazed" -- in other words, their palat. is
zero. Barry Parks (per Simmons, per Mattoon)
statement is that they are poor for C. & H., and fair
for S. & G. The two statements are not
identical. *W* 9/26/38

Address:

Extension Service, U. S. Dept. Agri.

September 28, 1938.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. W. A. DAYTON
Division of Range Research,
Forest Service

Dear Mr. Dayton:

I have Mr. Mattoon's memorandum of September 23 and your comment thereon concerning our palatability of eastern willows to livestock.

Would it necessarily be true that the palatability of willows is zero if they are not grazed? It seems to me that these matters are relative. If stock like grass and other tender herbage other than willows and they have plenty of it available, they will not graze the willows, but the palatability is not necessarily zero. They would graze the willows if grass lacked.

A small boy had a birthday party at my table recently. When it came to the layer cake made and decorated in his honor, he was unable to eat. Palatability was 100 - consumption was zero. This apparently was due to too many drumsticks preceding the cake.

In response to your telephoned inquiry, I have checked my lists of willows collected in Washington State, which I have determined in the last several years. I find four collections of *Salix lutea* platyphylla, Ball, made in Eastern Washington from 1932 to 1936. They are as follows:

Okanogan County, North end of Omak Lake, C. B. Fiker, in 1936.
Okanogan County, Ross Canyon, West of Omak, C. B. Fiker 515,
in 1932.

Okanogan County, North end of Omak Lake, Fiker 541-542, in 1932.
Chelan County along Entiat River, J. W. Thompson 11479 a, in 1935.

Cordially yours,

Carleton R. Ball,
Executive Secretary.

CRB:vlb

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE



WASHINGTON

ADVISE REPLY BY
THIS FORESTER
AND REFER TO

RR
Plant Identification
(Salix)

September 30, 1936.

Dr. Carleton R. Ball,
Extension Service,
U. S. Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Doctor Ball:

Your informative and friendly memorandum of September 28th is received. Thank you for it. Evidently Salix lutea platyphylla Ball is not the novelty to Washington State that I suspected!

I was much interested in your discussion of palatability. Einstein is doubtless right, as you intimate, and everything is "relative". I really do not think that, fundamentally, we are in disagreement. You use the standard, dictionary meaning of "palatability", while I use the restricted "palatability" of Forest Service range parlance. This definition will be found on p. 4 of "Important Western Browse Plants" and near the bottom of p. iii of the introduction to the Range Plant Handbook. You cite the case of the small boy unable to partake of his birthday cake because of overindulgence in the courses preceding it. Here the "palatability" (in sensu Ministerii Silvarum) of that birthday cake would not be zero; that cake was not subjected to "normal use" by the young man concerned and, in view of the entire available "pasturage", the preceding courses were not "properly grazed." The time element (of a complete grazing season) was lacking, and the relations of the palatability of the cake could not be properly determined on the basis of one incident alone. If, say, in an eastern pasture consisting mainly of grass, with willows along a creek forming part of its boundary, the grass is properly used by the cattle during a summer's grazing season and the willows are untouched, then the palatability of those willows could properly be considered zero. Our Region 7's figures on willow palatability presuppose proper use of the areas grazed during the grazing season and, hence, when such figures range, say, from about 5 to 20 percent, the supposition is that there is still palatable grass available and that the cattle take some of the willows for the sake of dietetic variety, just as the British will sow yarrow (a relatively unpalatable plant) in their pastures, because their experience has demonstrated that cattle and sheep want some of these other things along with their grass. To say that these things have fair, poor, or even low palatability is not the same as to say that they are not grazed.

Thanking you again for your continuous help to the Service with its willow problems, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

W. A. DAYTON

In ch., Range Forage Investigations.

Enclosure

Address :
Extension Service, U. S. Dept. Agric.

October 26, 1938

Dr. Wm. A. Dayton,
Range Plant Determinations,
Forest Service, Department.

Dear Dr. Dayton:

On about September 23, just as I was leaving Washington, I wrote you that I would be glad to supply a specimen of the browsed *Salix petiolaris* from Virginia to the herbarium of the Eastern Region, but that I would delay sending it pending a similar request from Asheville.

Returning to Washington recently, I find that no request has come from Asheville and therefore I am forwarding the specimen for Eastern Region herewith. If you will see that it get to them I will appreciate the courtesy.

Cordially Yours,

Carleton R. Ball
Executive Secretary

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Sept. 10, 1942

Dear Dr. Bell:

This will acknowledge,
informally, your very
kind letter memo. of Sept.
9, which will be communi-
cated to the Regional Forester
at Missoula and to Mr.
Wilfred W. White.

Our (sole) reliable
stenographer is on leave
for 2 weeks so we
are a bit handicapped
right now in correspondence.

Sincerely yours,
W. A. Dayton
Room 4224, Bldg.

1/24/45

Dr. Ball

I'm a-pesterin' you again!

Dayton W. F.

Would you be so kind, please, as to tell me
whether you are now using Salix discolor (subsp.) eriantha
or S. discolor (var.) latifolia? Thank.

Digitized by Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

2/6/45

Dr. Bell:

* 9 m re. That recent informal inquiry of mine:

I have just rec'd from Dr. Jost galleyproof of
a paper by Doc Little entitled "Miscel. notes on
nomenclature of U.S. Trees" (to be published in
Amer. Midland Nat.). From this paper I quote
the ~~the~~ ^{the} shown on attached sheet.

Do you approve this treatment, may I ask?

W. G. Dayton (5016)
Digitized by Humboldt Institute for Botanical Documentation

* P.S.

It has just dawned on me that this is a
different nomencl. problem from the one I
ofore told you about, which was S.
discolor var. ericaeforme vs. S. d. var.
lobata!

W

Dr. Ball:

12/26/45

Your friend Dr. Merrill ^{writes me} sends me
this request to give you ^{to} tell you
that he is publishing a paper in Jan.
in Fla. Acad. Sci. (Journ.?)
"proving" that Ball is wrong about
Salix asplenifolia. At my age I
have to consider my arteries &
prefer to stand on the sidelines
when the dornicks start flying!
However, I have a feeling that Bro.
Merrill's specific concepts are not
exactly on the conservative side.

Brian O'Leary, of Cleveland, again
asks about "Salix Wentworthii". I
told him it isn't in Kaw Index & that
you told me you never heard of it. He
says Kuhnke wants it as a good
cover.

species. I wish I could
send you any botanical
material of it he might
have, but doubt if he has
any (he's a wood collector).

Sorry to bother you during
the holidays, - especially
about this Murvell man,
at a season when we
should have peas on earth
& not be calling names on
Salix synonymy!
Dayton (Ext. 5743)

April 29, 1946

Memorandum for Dr. Ball:

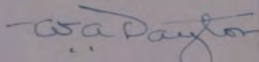
After you visited me last Friday afternoon I went out to "r. Clark Griffiths" stadium to see his hirelings (whose brutal treatment by Mr. Griffiths has now been brought to the attention of the NLRB by the kind-hearted Mr. Murphy) even more brutally treated by the so-called New York Yankees. Whether due to this depressing experience on my beautifully sympathetic nature, or whether infected by a guest of my wife's (who had a terrible cold) I came down with some kind of virus and have only returned to work to-day.

However, I have not forgotten your request as to WHY Salix lasiandra var. macrophylla (Anderss.) Little ⁽¹⁹⁴⁸⁾ vs. S. lasiandra var. lancifolia (Anderss.) Bebb (1879) AND S. humilis var. microphylla (Anderss.) Fern. (1946) vs. S. humilis var. tristis (Ait.) Griggs (1905).

I have not yet had a chance to discuss this with Little. However, on thumbing thru International Rules again, it seems to me that Subsection 5 ("Names of groups below the rank of species (ternary names)" of Sec. 4 seems not to cover this particular problem. And the only defense of Little and Fernald's action I can locate seems to be footnote (1), paragraph 3, of Art. 16, which reads: "In species and groups of lower rank, the valid name is the binary or ternary combination containing the earliest epithet published with the same rank, provided that this combination is in conformity with the Rules of Nomenclature." In other words, it would be justified on the priority and type principles, though a ~~binomial~~ trinomial name could not take precedence over a binomial one, and, apparently, in the case of a variety, a binomial ^{name} could not take precedence over a trinomial one.

I feel, however, I would like to have the opinion of an experienced member of the rules committees and have written Prof. Rehder further for his opinion. When I hear from him I will let you know.

Very sincerely yours,


W. A. DAYTON

Apr. 29, 1946

Salix lasiandra var. macrophylla (Anderss.) Little, comb. nov.

Salix lucida macrophylla Anderss., Svenska Vetensk. Akad. Handl. 6:32. 1867.

Salix lucida ~~macrophylla~~ Anderss. in DC. Prodr. 16(2):205. 1868.

Salix lasiandra var. lyallii Sarg., Gard. and Forest 8: 463. 1895.

Salix lyallii (Sarg.) Heller. Torrey Bot. Club Bul. 25:580. 1898.

Salix lasiandra var. lyallii Sarg. was published as a new name based upon Salix lancifolia Anderss., Svenska Vetensk. Akad. Handl. 6:34, pl. 2, fig. 23. 1867. and Salix lucida ~~macrophylla~~ DC. Sargent's explanation for the new name was that this specific and varietal name had been previously used. Both these names were cited as synonyms also, when the following earlier combination was made: Salix lasiandra var. lancifolia (Anderss.) Bebb in S. Wats., Bot. Calif. 2:84. 1879.

Sargent cited no specimen but referred to "a large-leaved form of Salix lasiandra discovered by Dr. David Lyall in 1859 on the lower Fraser River." Salix lucida ~~macrophylla~~ Anderss. was based upon "'lower Fraser-river' 49° lat. bor. (Dr. Lyall, 1859) et in ripis as Rio River (Bourgeau, 1859)."

In making the new varietal name, Sargent was following an American Code rule which prohibited using the same epithet more than once in a genus, whether for a species or a variety. Article 29 of the International Rules permits use of the same epithet for subdivisions of different species within a genus. Thus, Sargent's varietal name is invalid as a synonym.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE



ADDRESS REPLY TO
CHIEF, FOREST SERVICE
AND REPLY TO

WASHINGTON

July 1, 1946

Dear Dr. Ball:

"Count that day lost whose low descending sun
Sees from thy hand no name of plant undone"

With that as a text I shall proceed with my ^{semonette}. You may recall early last May coming into my office and asking about Little and Fernald's combinations Salix lasiandra var. macrophylla (Anderss.) Little and S. humilis var. microphylla (Anderss.) Fern., respectively. You remarked, as I recall, that there was a small army of similar changes that should be made in willow nomenclature if the above changes are legal.

You will remember, of course, that the old American Rules at first followed priority 100% and accepted an older trinomial name for a species' name of later date, so that we adopted, for example, Cornus occidentalis (Torr. & Gray) Coville (1893) over the earlier C. pubescens Nutt. (1849) because the former was based on the still older C. sericea occidentalis Torr. & Gray (1840). Later, as I understand it, this rule was changed, so that we now use C. pubescens Nutt., on the theory that there is a standard list of binomials (Index Kewensis) but no corresponding list of trinomials.

As Prof. Rehder is on the international committee I wrote him about this matter and he now writes me that he mislaid my letter and is only now answering it. He says Little and Fernald are right and cites Art. 16. Unfortunately I had hitherto overlooked the footnote to this rule which indicates that, in trinomials, priority also governs in the trinomial status, i.e., an older binomial name cannot replace the oldest trinomial. As there is no list of trinomial names this gives you monographers a fine chance to juggle the nomenclature. If you will pardon the expression I now anticipate that the nomenclature of willows ^{you will} soon become all Balled up! Every willow variety will now become a mark to shoot at. Wottan opportunity!

Sincerely yours,

W. A. DAYTON