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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.

Agricultural Division  
January 29, 1937

Dr. Walter S. Phillips,  
Dept. of Botany, Miami Univ.,  
Coral Gables, Florida.

Dear Dr. Phillips:

For many years I have specialized in the taxonomy and uses of the willows. A recent study of manuals shows that the distribution of the species in the South, as in other sections, is not well known. I would like to help carry forward a survey which will determine the occurrence and definite distribution of all species entering the States south of the Potomac and Ohio Rivers and west to and including Oklahoma and Texas. To this end I venture to make the following suggestions:

1. I will be glad to receive, identify, and return promptly, all willows in the herbarium of your institution which have been collected within the area described. For all specimens collected within your own State, please add the name of the county, if possible, as I wish to map distribution. The approximate elevation of mountain localities will be very helpful.

2. If you or your associates are willing and able to make additional collections in your own or other southern States, I will gladly determine them for you at any time. Each collection made should be given a number, if convenient, to facilitate accurate reference in future publications

3. While complete specimens, showing flowers, fruit, and mature foliage, are very desirable, practically all species and varieties can be determined from fragmentary material, as young shoots with flowers or opening leaves, flowering or fruiting stage alone, or from mature foliage alone. Because of these facts, specimens collected at practically any season of the year, except winter, can be identified.

4. My own *Salix* herbarium contains nearly 12,000 sheets and forms the basis of the service I am able to render to botanists, foresters, nurserymen, browse specialists, park naturalists, and erosion controllers, as well as other nature lovers.

5. All specimens sent will be returned to the sender, unless directed otherwise. Where duplicates are collected, I will be glad to receive a set for my own herbarium. For these I will be glad to pay cash or exchange other willows. I am equally glad to determine specimens when all the material is to be returned, as it permits me to obtain locality records.

It is becoming apparent that there are more species, more widely distributed in the South than has been known. Last summer I found *S. petiolaris*, a species of norther glaciated areas, in the mountains of Rabun Co., Ga. It apparently was native. It has been found in Oklahoma also. Collectors are almost certain to make other finds equally surprising.

If you can give me the names of others who might be willing to help in this survey, I will be appreciative of the assistance.

Cordially Yours,

Carleton R. Ball  
(Address) U.S. Dept. of Agriculture,  
Washington, D.C.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

INCORPORATED

CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

February 1, 1937

Dr. Carleton R. Ball  
U. S. Dept. of Agriculture  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Carlton:

Your letter regarding our collection of willows came this morning and we shall be more than glad to send them to you. We will send the few sheets we have in our herbarium which you can return to us. In addition I should like to collect for you a few of the variations as we have found them here. They are in flower now, or were a week ago and I will try and get as many as possible to send along to you. We will mark them with a serial number and you can keep the specimens that are not on herbarium sheets and refer to them by number so we can properly label our duplicates.

We have been calling all our willow here in the Maimi region *Salix amphibia* Small, although there is considerable variation.

I have not been spending a lot of time on our herbarium here. We have however a Mr. Walter M. Buswell, who was formerly botanist for Thomas Edison and is now with us as curator of the herbarium here. I suggest that you write him for any future information because I will have to get my information from him. He knows the plants here better than anyone, including Small who gets much of his heterogenous mass of information from Mr. Buswell. Address him care of the University here. I have turned over your letter to him and he is very willing to cooperate.

For some time I have been going to make a collection of *Salix* to send to Dr. David Costello who has done some work on the *Salix* group. He was at Chicago with me and expressed an interest in them. I have heard him mention your name frequently.

If we can be of any further help be sure to feel free to call on us. I'll get the specimens off as soon as possible although it may be a month or so before I get around to it.

Sincerely yours,

*Walter S. Phillips*  
Walter S. Phillips

February 13, 1937

Professor Walter S. Phillips,  
The University of Miami,  
Coral Gables, Florida.  
Dear Professor Phillips:

Your kind letter of Feb'y. 1 has been forwarded to me here and I am greatly pleased at your interest in the willow problem.

I am in and out of Washington but my permanent address is there. The willows, both the mounted specimens, and any you may collect, may be sent to me there at any time. My office is in a fire-proof building and they will be quite safe while there.

I shall be very glad to have the variations collected for study. What Small called *S. amphibia* is a renaming of *S. longipes* Shuttleworth, which occurs from the West Indies to Maryland, Indiana, Missouri, and Texas. Most of the Florida material which I have seen represents the species. Much of that further north and west is referable to one or another of the varieties.

It has been but sparingly collected in most of its range and we do not know any too much about its variations and their distribution.

I am glad to know of the presence there of Mr. Walter M. Buswell, and of his interest in, and knowledge of, the plants of that area. When the shipment of specimens is received I will direct my reply to him.

I am trying to construct a key to all the southeastern willows in their vegetative condition so that even amateurs will be able to recognize them when met with. If I succeed, I will forward a copy.

I have named many collections for Dr. Costello and for other collectors throughout the country and greatly appreciate the opportunity, as it gives me range records as well as many specimens I could not otherwise have.

Appreciating your assistance, I remain,

Cordially Yours,

Carleton R. Ball

Extension Service, U.S. Dept. Agriculture,  
Washington, D.C.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

INCORPORATED

CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

April 15, 1937

Dr. Carlton R. Ball  
U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Ball:

Under separate cover I am mailing you a package of dried and pressed willows.

Mr. Buswell and I after looking over our herbarium material decided we didnt have enough to make it worth while sending to you. Since that time we have been collected all the variations in willows as we find them around here and adjacent regions.

The willow in the package are the results. We have carefully noted the county on each sheet. So far we have only two counties represented from this end of the state. Dade County and Collier County.

These willows are duplicates and you may keep them for your own collection if they are of use to you. We have designated them all as *Salix amphibia*. In case you find any significant variations we should be pleased to hear of your findings.

We have not given up yet and if in the future we find further material which we think significant we will see that you get specimens.

Hoping we have been of some service in your work,  
I remain

Sincerely yours,

*Walter S Phillips*  
Walter S. Phillips  
Assistant Professor of Botany

Carlton R. Ball

Cordially Yours,

Dear Professor Miller:  
Your letter of April 15 has reached me here and the packet of willows is at my Washington office. I am going to be on the road for the next three weeks or I would have them sent down here. Will give them immediate attention on my return and greatly appreciate your courtesy in collecting them.

Knox, Tenn., Knoxville, Tenn., April 21, 1937

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS - SCHOOL OF EDUCATION - SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION - SCHOOL OF LAW  
SCHOOL OF MUSIC - ADULT EDUCATION DIVISION - WINTER INSTITUTE - LATIN AMERICAN FORUM - SUMMER SESSION

(See over)

May 1, 1937

Professor Walter S. Phillips,  
Department of Botany,  
The University of Miami,  
Coral Gables, Florida.

Dear Professor Phillips:

I was called back to Washington unexpectedly for a couple of days and have seized the opportunity to glance through the fine collection of willows you sent and I had acknowledged from Knoxville, Tenn.

These collections all appear to be *Salix longipes* Shuttlew., of which *S. amphibia* Small is a synonym. I have not been able to study them critically in this short time. Two varieties of *S. longipes* were recognized by Schneider, *venulosa* and *Wardii*. I doubt if the former is a valid species as it was based mainly on leaf width. either occurs in southern Florida, so far as known but may be found there.

Does each sheet sent represent a different plant? There were no numbers on the sheets, so far as I could discover. It is quite useful to know the amount of variation observed in a single individual plant.

These show a rather wide range in the amount of pubescence on twigs, buds, and leaves. Hairiness, however, is one of the most variable characters in the willows, so that variation is not significant in many species.

One of my friends at the State University of Iowa is working on the parasitism of the dodders (*Cuscuta*), especially in the host range of the *Cuscuta* species and the swelling or gall formation produced. Should you happen to note any willows (or other plants) infested with dodder, two or three specimens of each would be greatly appreciated, especially if they showed twig swellings or galls.

I greatly appreciate the trouble you have taken to collect this material for me and will give it careful study and comparison with other material as soon as I get back for a longer stop.

Cordially Yours,

Carleton R. Ball