

# Rhodora

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### A NEW FORM OF RED CEDAR FROM INDIANA

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*JUNIPERUS VIRGINIANA* L., forma **Bremerae**, f. nov., arbuscula 2–4 m. alta, coma anguste pyramidali; ramis ramulisque erectis; foliis viridibus patentibus acicularibus plerumque 4–5 mm. longis haud squamaeformibus sed foliis ad apicem ramulorum superiorum aliquid imbricatis, demum ubique liberis.—INDIANA: sand dunes, “Stockyards” Addition, near Port Chester, Porter County, Nov. 4, 1928, *Mary Bremer* (TYPE, Field Museum).

In spite of the great number of variations of the well-known Red Cedar that have received formal taxonomic designation, we have found none that agrees, from description, with the characters of this interesting little tree, native to the sand dunes of Lake Michigan in northern Indiana. In habit it conforms with the typical, i. e. columnar or narrow-pyramidal, forms of the species, none of which, apparently, have entirely green, acicular leaves. The foliage at once suggests that of *J. communis* L.

It is a pleasure to name this indigenous variant of Red Cedar for Miss Mary Bremer of Crown Point, Indiana, who discovered several trees, essentially uniform in character, growing in the vicinity of typical *Juniperus virginiana*. In associating Miss Bremer's name with a form of this tree, of such great horticultural merit, we would express our appreciation of her work in establishing the unusual Conservation Gardens of Dune Forest near Port Chester. In these gardens she has established hundreds of species of the plants of the Indiana Sand Dunes, arranging them, for the most part, according to their ecological affinities. Included among them is a grouping of typical Red Cedar, to which she hopes to add forma *Bremerae* before the threatened de-



struction of the type trees, now growing on property which has been subdivided.

FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY.

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## AIRA SPICATA L.

KENNETH K. MACKENZIE

A very curious performance by Linnaeus was when in 1753 in his *Species Plantarum*, he gave the name *Aira spicata* to two widely different species. His first use of this name is found on page 63 where the name was given to an Indian plant (*Aira* No. 1) and his second use of the name is found on the immediately following page (64) where the name was primarily applied to a plant (*Aira* No. 7) from the mountains of Lapland studied by himself.

Linnaeus soon noticed his error and emphatically corrected it by giving new names to both species. The first plant he renamed *Aira indica* and the second he renamed *Aira subspicata* (*Syst. Nat.* ed. 10 873 1759). He was not, however, careful in his work, for we next find him writing *Aira indica* and *Aira spicata* (*Sp. Pl.* ed. 2, 94-5 1762; ed. 3 94-5 1764). Then we soon find him writing *Aira indica* and *Aira subspicata* (*Syst. Nat.* ed. 12 91 1767).

The first referred-to species was next transferred by him to the genus *Panicum* as *Panicum indicum* (*Mant. Pl.* 2: 184 1771) and there it has since remained. It must, however, be noted that the first *Aira spicata* of Linnaeus is the first binomial name which was applied to this species. It is an entirely valid name, although it is quite possible that the specific name "*spicatum*" could not now be used under *Panicum*.

The second referred-to species became universally known under the new name given to it by Linnaeus of *Aira subspicata* (*Willd. Sp. Pl.* 1: 377 1797) or by the name *Trisetum subspicatum* (L.) Beauv. (*Beauv. Agrost.* 88, 180 1812; *Kunth Enum. Pl.* 1: 295 1833; *Gray Man. ed.* 6 653 1885).

This course continued until 1890 when Richter (*Pl. Europ.* 1: 59) formed the combination *Trisetum spicatum* (L.) Richter. The name so formed has been taken up both in Britton & Brown *Ill. Fl.* (ed. 2) 1: 217 1913 and in Gray *Manual* ed. 7 139 1908. The fact that this latter name is invalid because based on a name invalid



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