UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY.

TAXONOMIC AND RANGE INVESTIGATIONS.

Washington, D. C., December 20, 1910.

Mr. Walter Deane,

29 Brewster St.,

Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of Dec. 15 received. Prof. Hitchcock suggests that I mention that the knowledge of Panicum has undergone many and great changes since the days of Dr. Vasey and even of Prof. Scribner and that identifications made so long ago should not be given too much weight.

I am sorry the last package sent you was injured in the mails, thank you for mentioning it.

We are interested in your statement that the revision of Panicum contains twenty-one species and varieties occurring within the manual region which are not in the manual. We knew there were several but did not know that there were so many. Those New Jersey extensions for a few species were shown by specimens from Philadelphia Academy long after Gray's Manual was out. Species represented within the Manual range by one or two ballast plants only were not included in the Manual. This is the case of P. adspersum. I think it would be interesting to readers of Rhodora if you gave a list of

these additions with localities within manual region, and the changes, like P. virgatum cubense instead of P. virgatum ob - tusum; also that the name P. amarum belongs on the species (no. 10) described as P. amaroides being an earlier name of same species while no. 9 is P. amarulum; and that "P. ovale" of Manual is P. pseudopubescens (this is noted in Graves, Bissell, etc. in Connecticut Plants) that "P. auburne" includes P. albemarlense; that "P. tenue" is P. albomarginatum. These and probably others I do not recall would reduce the number the real additions such as P. rhizomatum, P. wrightianum, P. cryptantheum, P. calliphyllum (the latter a species dubia at the time the Manual was published).

Yours respectfully,

Agnes Chase

Assistant in Systematic Agrostology.



Chase, Agnes. 1910. "Chase, Agnes (née Merrill) Dec. 20, 1910." *Walter Deane correspondence*

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