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*RECENT RANGE EXTENSIONS FOR PLANTS**

By HERBERT GROH

IN THE COURSE of botanical survey as well as in routine office services in the Division of Botany plants of more than usual interest inevitably come to our attention from time to time. Among records still unpublished the following seem worthy of note. In each case specimens have been deposited in the herbarium of Science Service, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Halenia deflexa (Sm.) Griseb.—On the occasion of the 1937 summer meeting of the Botanical Society of America held in Nova Scotia an excursion on August 20, to Hall's Harbour on the Bay of Fundy brought me to my first field acquaintance with the spurred gentian. While separated from the party but following the route taken by all through the upper part of the town to, or rather only on the return from, the basaltic cliffs, overlooking the water, the scattered plants of a colony were found in bloom by the roadside. Later enquiry elicited the information that these specimens are probably the first from the Nova Scotian mainland. Nichols (*Vegetation of Northern Cape Breton*, page 324, 1918) reports it as one of the plants of bleak exposed headlands in the north of the island. On August 13, 1929, it was also collected (Perry, *Rhodora* 33, page 124, 1931) on a hillside at Martin Power's Cove, St Paul Island, off the northern tip of Cape Breton A specimen from northern Cape Breton collected by C. B. Robinson in 1906 is in the National Herbarium. The plant occurs from Newfoundland westward over much of Canada. A striking observation based on nearly 50 specimens seen in herbaria is that coastal plants are nearly all of dwarfer habit than those from inland points.

Berteroa incana (L.) DC.—Hoary cress was recognized by several members of the same party on the above trip along a roadside near Aylesford, Kings County, N. S., where it had every appearance of having had time to become well established. Our records show its presence in the new England states and at a few places on the lower St. Lawrence, as well as in Ontario, but not in Nova Scotia. One record in Manitoba, 1936, and one in British Columbia, 1930, represent isolated stations farther west.

Erucastrum gallicum (Willd.) O. E. Schultz—This weed, known as dog mustard has now been found in New Brunswick, the last province with the exception of British Columbia in which it remained to be detected since its occurrence in Canada was made known (Groh, *Scientific Agriculture* XIII: 11, 1933). On August 25, 1937, it was collected from a railway crossing at Jacquet River, Restigouche County, N. B. Railway sidings are the most usual sites, but roadsides are frequently infested, and the weed can become abundant in fields.

Asclepias syriaca L.—The common milkweed of eastern America has curiously very little foothold in Nova Scotia and, so far as known, none in Prince Edward Island. Its observation from the train window, July 8, 1930, between Avonport and Hantsport, Kings County, was confirmed by collection of specimens two years later. The small colony growing on the bare railway embankment had grown to several square rods extent in the interval. Through the kindness of Prof. A. E. Roland, Agricultural College, Truro, N. S., I have learned that another colony is also established on a sandy roadside at Auburn, Kings County. This weed is fairly common as far east as Fredericton, N. B., but reaches its peak of abundance in Ontario and the adjoining parts of Quebec.

Cotula coronopifolia L.—Mud disk, a South African Composite which was early well established on the Pacific coast from Vancouver Island

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to California, has been known on the Atlantic coast for even longer but at few stations. In 1879 it was collected by Herbert A. Young in salt marshes at Chelsea, Mass.; and in 1901 J. R. Churchill, whose interesting account may be read in *Rhodora* for February, 1902, found it "growing in deep soft mud by the edge of the marsh" in Summerside, P. E. I. No other reports could be located when, on August 22, 1937, I found it growing profusely and choking a sluggish drainage outlet to Courtenay Bay at East St. John, N B. It is still also at Summerside as shown by a specimen received recently.

Lepidium latifolium L.—As reported in the Progress Report of the Dominion Botanist for the years 1931-1934 inclusive, "A new introduced plant, *Lepidium latifolium* L. a native of Europe, was found in Quebec City, and is well established." The specimens were received from Bro. Marie-Anselm in July, 1934, from the C. N. railway yards. The species has been known from saline soil along the New England coast and in Mexico. Unlike most of our *Lepidiums* it is a perennial.

Salvia lanceifolia Poir.—The lance-leaved salvia, a western American species which seems to be moving eastward as a weed and has appeared in various parts of Europe as well, was submitted in September, 1938, for identification. It had been growing in cultivated corn ground at Jasper, Grenville County, Ont. It has been recorded in Indiana, Ohio and Michigan, but we know of no previous Ontario, or indeed Canadian, records. It is an annual which had matured seeds when seen.

Polygonella articulata (L.) Meisn —Since publication of a note in *The Canadian Field-Naturalist* January, 1926, page 19, in which an Ottawa district (Constance Bay) record was contributed for coast jointweed, this "plant of the sea-coast ranging from Maine to Florida which has also a very local extension of range inland along the Great Lakes system," a number of additional records have accumulated. In 1936 a specimen was received from Miss F. Evelyn Jones which had been collected at Port Alexander, Ont., 33 miles up the Ottawa River from Pembroke and about 20 miles beyond any previously known stations along the Ottawa. A specimen collected by Bro. Marie-Anselm on August 16, 1938, on sand near ballast of the Canadian National railway at Pont Rouge, Portneuf County, Que. extends the known range in another direction. Other specimens collected by myself a few weeks later in station yards of the same railway at Amos, La Ferme and Taschereau, Que., several hundred miles to the west, appear to be the first in Canada away from the St. Lawrence, Ottawa and Great Lakes system. From Amos to Taschereau is a distance by rail of 28 miles. These, and probably the Pont Rouge plants, occur as railway weeds, as if introduced by means of railway traffic, and not so very recently. The distinctly rosy tint of the bloom along the otherwise nearly bare gravel was most striking. It would be interesting to know whether railway yards where traffic originates in other *Polygonella* regions are similarly infested, but published evidence seems to be lacking.

It is of interest to note that the original Constance Bay colony growing at some distance from the shore and never located again, is no longer unsupported evidence of its occurrence at this point on the Ottawa river. During 1938 it was found in abundance by members of the Division staff along the sandy beach. Search for the plant on similar sandy stretches across the river was unavailing but a specimen seen by Dr. H. A. Senn in the Gray Herbarium (Marie-Victorin, Rollard-Germain, and Meilleur, 44942) from Waltham, Que., about opposite Pembroke, proves its occurrence on both sides of the Ottawa River.

*ON THE PARASITES OF THE SMALL INTESTINE OF THE EUROPEAN STARLING (Sturnus vulgaris) IN QUEBEC**

By D. G. CANNON

THE EUROPEAN STARLING, *Sturnus vulgaris* Linn., is a foreign bird to this country. Earliest records tell of its introduction to America by the Acclimatization Society of Cincinnati, Ohio, in the winter of 1872-73. Subsequent liberations of birds were made in 1877 and later in 1890-91 in Central Park New York, and in 1889 and 1892 in Portland, Oregon, thirty-five pairs were liberated. Since this time different numbers of the birds have been liberated until the Starling has spread far westwards and north into Canada.

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