

TORREYA

Vol. 33

July-August, 1933

No. 4

Some local names of plants V*

W. L. McATEE

Feeling strongly the importance of the subject and the neglect which is its ordinary lot, the writer desires to contribute again toward a glossary of plants. The future ideal compilation will tell where the names are used, will explain their origin so far as possible, and in fine record all matters of interest in connection with them. The study of vernacular names is a fascinating one that brings to light details of intense and peculiar interest not only with respect to the development of our language but also of our people.

As in preceding contributions, an index is given for convenience in correlating the list with other glossaries. In a brief bibliography are included references to sources of plant names additional to those presented in my 1926 paper.

CHARACEAE

1. *Chara* sp.—Musk grass, Currituck Sound, N. C.; lime weed, stonewort; I record these bare names in addition to those I have previously published with localities, because the ordinary plant glossaries pay no attention to algae.

PINACEAE

2. *Taxodium distichum* L.—River cypress, Okefinokee Swamp, Ga. (C. C. Sperry).

POTAMOGETONACEAE

3. *Potamogeton natans* L.—Brown-leaf pondplant, floating brown leaf (trade names).
4. *Potamogeton pectinatus* L.—Sago pondplant (trade name).
5. *Ruppia maritima* L.—Peter grass, Currituck Sound, N. C.; in allusion to the Peter, Blue Peter, or coot (*Fulica americana*).

NAIADACEAE

6. *Najas flexilis* Willd.—Bushy pondweed (trade name).

* No. 1 of this series was published in *Torrey*, 13: 225–236, 1913; No. 2 in *Torrey*, 16: 235–242, 1916; No. 3 in *Torrey*, 20: 17–27, 1920; and No. 4 in *Torrey*, 26: 1–10, 1926.

ALISMACEAE

7. *Sagittaria latifolia* Willd.—Wapato duck-potato (trade name).
8. *Sagittaria subulata* L.—Sweet grass, Ossabaw Id., Ga.
9. *Sagittaria* sp.—Bull-tongue, Cameron Parish, La. (A. C. Martin).

POACEAE

10. *Paspalum boscianum* Fluegge.—Bull grass, water grass, Southern Georgia, northwestern Florida (H. L. Stoddard).
11. *Panicum adspersum* Trin.—Brown-top millet (trade name); red-top millet, Leon County, Fla. (C. O. Handley).
12. *Panicum miliaceum* L.—Hog millet, proso (trade names); hershey, Washington County, Colo. (E. R. Kalmbach); the last name undoubtedly a corruption of the German, *hirse*.
13. *Panicum virgatum* L.—Feathergrass, Marsh Id., La. (C. C. Sperry).
14. *Echinochloa crus-galli* L.—Duck-millet, Mississippi Delta, La. (C. C. Sperry); blue duck millet, wild duck millet, billion dollar grass, Japanese barnyard grass or millet, barnyard grass (trade names).
15. *Chaetochloa magna* Griseb.—Jungle millet, southwestern Louisiana (C. C. Sperry).
16. *Zizania aquatica* L.—Duck oats (trade name); blackbird oats, Essex County, Conn. (F. M. Uhler).
17. *Holcus sorghum drummondi* Nees.—Chick grain, Leon County, Fla. (C. O. Handley).
18. *Spartina cynosuroides* L.—Corn sedge, Poplar Branch, N. C.
19. *Spartina glabra* Muhl.—Hog cane, southwestern Louisiana (C. C. Sperry).
20. *Spartina patens* Ait.—Couch grass, southwestern Louisiana (C. C. Sperry).
21. *Spartina* sp.—Quill cane, Cameron Parish, La. (A. C. Martin).
22. *Scolochloa festucacea* Willd.—Whitetop, Homestead, Montana (C. C. Sperry).

CYPERACEAE

23. *Cyperus esculentus* L.—Ground nut.
24. *Scirpus americanus* Pers.—Three-cornered grass, southwestern Louisiana (C. C. Sperry).
25. *Scirpus campestris* Britton.—Nut grass, Carson Sink, Nev. (C. C. Sperry).
26. *Scirpus olneyi* Gray.—Three-cornered grass, southwestern Louisiana (C. C. Sperry).
27. *Scirpus robustus* Pursh.—Button grass, Cambridge, Md. (Curtis Insley).
28. *Cladium effusum* Torr.—Cuttin' sedge, Poplar Branch, N. C.

ARACEAE

29. *Orontium aquaticum* L.—Bull-tongue, Okefinokee Swamp, Ga. (C. C. Sperry).
30. *Peltandra virginica* L.—Duck corn (trade name).

MAYACACEAE

31. *Mayaca aubleti* Michx.—Flowering moss, Miccosukee, Fla. (C. C. Sperry).

PONTEDERIACEAE

32. *Pontederia cordata* L.—Pickerel plant (trade name).

JUNCACEAE

33. *Juncus effusus* L.—Bulrush, Poplar Branch, N. C.
 34. *Juncus gerardi* Lois.—Nut grass, Cambridge, Md. (Curtis Insley).
 35. *Juncus roemerianus* Scheele.—Wildcat grass, southwestern Louisiana (C. C. Sperry).

LILIACEAE

36. *Calochortus nuttalli* T. & G.—Prairie lily, Forsyth, Mont. (C. C. Sperry).

ULMACEAE

37. *Planera aquatica* Walt.—Charmille, Louisiana.

POLYGONACEAE

38. *Rumex acetosella* L.—Horse sorrel, Garret Co., Md. (F. Warnick).
 39. *Fagopyrum fagopyrum* L.—Duck wheat, goose buckwheat (trade names).

CHENOPODIACEAE

40. *Atriplex hastata* L.—Duck lettuce, Bear River, Utah (A. Wetmore).

AMARANTHACEAE

41. *Alternanthera philoxeroides* Mart.—Alligator grass, Mississippi Delta, La (C. C. Sperry). Unfortunately in my 1926 contribution this name by some error was attributed to *Monniera*. I trust this correction will prevent the previous mistake from becoming fixed in the literature. Alligator grass as at present recorded is an introduced species that has shown considerable tendencies toward "taking the place" much in the manner of water hyacinth.

NYMPHAEACEAE

42. *Nelumbo lutea* Willd.—Water chinkapin.
 43. *Castalia mexicana* Zucc.—Banana, Florida, or yellow waterlily.
 44. *Nymphaea advena* Soland.—Toad lily, yellow waterlily.

MAGNOLIACEAE

45. *Magnolia virginiana* L.—Red bay, Okefinokee Swamp, Ga. (C. C. Sperry).

BRASSICACEAE

46. *Roripa nasturtium* L.—Pepper grass (trade name).

CAPPARIDACEAE

47. *Cleome serrulata* Pursh.—Stinking clover, Mackelwain Lake, Mont. (C. C. Sperry).

ROSACEAE

48. *Rubus chamaemorus* L.—Outberry (Box, E. G., Garden, 83, 36–37, Jan. 1919); salmon berry, St. Paul Id., Alaska (Alvin G. Whitney).

MIMOSACEAE

49. *Acuan illinoensis* Michx.—Ball pod, Mississippi Delta, La. (C. C. Sperry).

FABACEAE

50. *Sophora secundiflora* Cav.—Mountain laurel, Austin, Tex. (C. C. Sperry).
 51. *Meibomia purpurea* Mill.—Florida beggarweed (trade name).

ZYGOPHYLLACEAE

52. *Covillea glutinosa* Engelm.—Greasewood, Graham Mts., Ariz. (E. G. Holt).

ANACARDIACEAE

53. *Rhus trilobata* Nutt.—Skunk-berry, Valentine, Nebr. (C. C. Sperry).

CYRILLACEAE

54. *Cyrilla racemiflora* L.—Honeysuckle, Okefinokee Swamp, Ga. (C. C. Sperry).

AQUIFOLIACEAE

55. *Ilex myrtifolia* Walt.—Titi, Wakulla County, Fla. (C. O. Handley).
 56. *Ilex vomitoria* Ait.—Tea tree, Beaufort, N. C. (Roosevelt, R. B., Florida and the Game Water-birds of the Atlantic Coast, etc., 1884, p. 44).

APIACEAE

57. *Coelopleurum gmelini* DC.—Pootchka, St. Paul Id., Alaska (Alvin G. Whitney).

OLEACEAE

58. *Forestiera acuminata* Michx.—Swamp privet.

SCROPHULARIACEAE

59. *Monniera monniera* L.—Water "pusley," Louisiana (C. C. Sperry).

RUBIACEAE

60. *Mitchella repens* L.—Pheasant berry, Fairfax County, Va.
 61. *Richardia scabra* L.—Alabama clover, John's weed, Greene County, Miss. (H. L. Stoddard).
 62. *Galium trifidum* L.—Glue-leaf, Libby, Mont. (C. C. Sperry).

CARDUACEAE

63. *Rudbeckia hirta* L.—Niggerheads, Garrett County, Md. (F. Warnick).
 64. *Brauneria angustifolia* D. C.—Niggerheel, Valentine, Nebr. (C. C. Sperry).
 65. *Artemisia gnaphalodes* Nutt.—Poverty weed, Boise, Idaho (A. K. Fisher).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- ARTHUR, STANLEY C. How Spanish Moss Got its Name. Louisiana Conservation News, 4(3), May-June 1929, pp. 13-14.
 BERGEN, FANNY D. Animal and Plant Lore, Collected from the Oral Tradition of English Speaking Folk, 1899, 180 pp.
 GERARD, W. R. Plant Names of Indian Origin. Garden & Forest, June 24, July 1, July 15, July 22, July 29, 1896.
 MCATEE, W. L. Three Important Wild Duck Foods. U. S. Dept. Agr. Circ. 81, 1911, 19 pp.
 ———. A list of plants collected on St. Vincent Island, Florida. Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., Vol. 26, pp. 39-51, March 1913.
 OLMSTED, FREDERICK L., et al. Standardized Plant Names. A Catalogue of Approved Scientific and Common Names of Plants in American Commerce, 1923, 546 pp.
 PERKINS, ANNE E. Colloquial Names of Maine Plants. Torreyia 29: 149. Nov.-Dec. 1929.

- PREST, W. H. Edible wild plants of Nova Scotia. *Proc. & Trans. N. S. Inst. Sci.* 11, pp. 387-416 (1905) 1908. (Contains numerous local names.)
- PRICE, SADIE F. (Notes on Kentucky Plants.) *The Plant World*, 3, No. 6, June 1900, pp. 94-95.
- SCHULZ, ELLEN D. 500 Wild Flowers of San Antonio (Texas) and Vicinity. 1922. 271 pp. 21 Pl., 1 map. (Contains numerous Mexican and Indian names.)
- SIEVERS, A. F. American Medicinal Plants of Commercial Importance. U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, Misc. Pub. No. 77, 1930, 74 pages.

INDEX

Alabama clover.....	61	Duck oats.....	16
Alligator grass.....	41	Duck-potato, Wapato.....	7
Ballpod.....	49	Duck wheat.....	39
Banana waterlily.....	43	Feather grass.....	13
Barnyard grass.....	14	Floating brownleaf.....	3
Bay, Red.....	45	Florida beggarweed.....	51
Beggarweed, Florida.....	51	Florida waterlily.....	43
Berry, Out.....	48	Flowering moss.....	31
Berry, Pheasant.....	60	Glue-leaf.....	62
Berry, Salmon.....	48	Goose buckwheat.....	39
Berry, Skunk.....	53	Grain, Chick.....	17
Billion dollar grass.....	14	Grass, Alligator.....	41
Blackbird oats.....	16	Grass, Barnyard.....	14
Blue duck millet.....	14	Grass, Billion dollar.....	14
Brownleaf pond plant.....	3	Grass, Bull.....	10
Brown-top millet.....	11	Grass, Button.....	27
Buckwheat, Goose.....	39	Grass, Couch.....	20
Bull grass.....	10	Grass, Feather.....	13
Bull-tongue.....	9, 29	Grass, Japanese barnyard.....	14
Bulrush.....	33	Grass, Musk.....	1
Bushy pondweed.....	6	Grass, Nut.....	25, 34
Button grass.....	27	Grass, Pepper.....	46
Cane, Hog.....	19	Grass, Peter.....	5
Cane, Quill.....	21	Grass, Sweet.....	8
Charmille.....	37	Grass, Three-cornered.....	24, 26
Chick grain.....	17	Grass, Water.....	10
Chinkapin, Water.....	42	Grass, Wildcat.....	35
Clover, Alabama.....	61	Greasewood.....	52
Clover, Stinking.....	47	Ground nut.....	23
Corn, Duck.....	30	Hershey.....	12
Corn sedge.....	18	Hirse.....	12
Couch grass.....	20	Hog cane.....	19
Cuttin' sedge.....	28	Hog millet.....	12
Cypress, River.....	2	Honeysuckle.....	54
Duck corn.....	30	Horse sorrel.....	38
Duck lettuce.....	40	Japanese barnyard grass.....	14
Duck millet.....	14	Japanese barnyard millet.....	14

John's weed.....	61	"Pusley," Water.....	59
Jungle millet.....	15	Quill cane.....	21
Laurel, Mountain.....	50	Red bay.....	45
Lettuce, Duck.....	40	Red-top millet.....	11
Lily, Prairie.....	36	River cypress.....	2
Lily, Toad.....	44	Sago pond plant.....	4
Lime weed.....	1	Salmon berry.....	48
Millet, Blue duck.....	14	Sedge, Corn.....	18
Millet, Brown-top.....	11	Sedge, Cuttin'.....	28
Millet, Duck.....	14	Skunk berry.....	53
Millet, Hog.....	12	Sorrel, Horse.....	38
Millet, Japanese barnyard.....	14	Stinking clover.....	47
Millet, Jungle.....	15	Stonewort.....	1
Millet, Red-top.....	11	Swamp privet.....	58
Millet, Wild duck.....	14	Sweet grass.....	8
Moss, Flowering.....	31	Tea tree.....	56
Mountain laurel.....	50	Three-cornered grass.....	24, 26
Musk grass.....	1	Titi.....	55
Niggerheads.....	63	Toad lily.....	44
Niggerheel.....	64	Tree, Tea.....	56
Nut grass.....	25, 34	Wapato duck-potato.....	7
Nut, Ground.....	23	Water chinkapin.....	42
Oats, Blackbird.....	16	Water grass.....	10
Oats, Duck.....	16	Waterlily, Banana.....	43
Outberry.....	48	Waterlily, Florida.....	43
Pepper grass.....	46	Waterlily, Yellow.....	43, 44
Peter grass.....	5	Water "pusley".....	59
Pheasant berry.....	60	Weed, John's.....	61
Pickrel plant.....	32	Weed, Lime.....	1
Plant, Pickrel.....	32	Weed, Poverty.....	65
Pond plant, Brownleaf.....	3	Wheat, Duck.....	39
Pond plant, Sago.....	4	Whitetop.....	22
Pondweed, Bushy.....	6	Wildcat grass.....	35
Pootchka.....	57	Wild duck millet.....	14
Poverty weed.....	65	Wood, Grease.....	52
Prairie lily.....	36	Wort, Stone.....	1
Privet, Swamp.....	58	Yellow waterlily.....	43, 44
Proso.....	12		

WASHINGTON, D.C.



McAtee, W. L. 1933. "Some local names of plants V." *Torrey* 33(4), 81–86.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/100222>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/349048>

Holding Institution

New York Botanical Garden, LuEsther T. Mertz Library

Sponsored by

The LuEsther T Mertz Library, the New York Botanical Garden

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

Rights: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions/>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.