

TWO UNUSUAL PLANTS IN ESSEX COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS.—In mid-July I found a number of plants of a *Verbascum* which seemed different from any that I had seen before. Some of the plants had yellow petals and some had white ones but otherwise they were similar. An outstanding characteristic was the dark red, almost mahogany-colored, beard on the filaments. These plants appeared in recently seeded ground near a new school house in Lynn not far from the Lynnfield line. The plants did not seem to fit into any of the species described in Gray's Manual. A search in the Herbarium of the New England Botanical Club resulted in the identification of the plants as *Verbascum nigrum* L., a species not included in the Gray's Manual. In the New England Botanical Club Herbarium there are only three specimens of this species, two from Jefferson, Coös County, New Hampshire and one from Milton, Norfolk County, Massachusetts. On the label of the Milton specimen collected in 1919 is the significant note added, "Flowers yellow, sometimes white." In the Gray Herbarium this species is represented by a number of specimens from European stations all the way from Sweden to the Alps.

An unusual *Geranium* appeared in July in the perennial garden of Mr. Charles C. Stockman of Newburyport, Massachusetts. This proves to be *Geranium nepalense* Sweet, var. *Thunbergii* (Siebold & Zucc.) Kudo which was reported for the first time in America by Mr. F. W. Hunnewell from Wellesley in 1945 (RHODORA 47: 219). However in Gray's Manual in the description the petals are given as violet while in this recent specimen the petals are definitely white with violet lines. Reference to the Herbarium specimens for petal-color was unsatisfactory as the dried petals had faded and no notation was given on the labels as to the original color. This is a Japanese variety of an Asiatic species.—RALPH C. BEAN, WAKEFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS.

Volume 55, no. 658, including pages 293-324, was issued 6 November, 1953.



Bean, Ralph C. 1953. "Two unusual plants in Essex County, Mass." *Rhodora* 55, 348–348.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/14526>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/124562>

Holding Institution

Missouri Botanical Garden, Peter H. Raven Library

Sponsored by

Missouri Botanical Garden

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>

Rights: <https://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>.