

SIGNIFICANT COLLECTIONS OF LOUISIANA PLANTS,

VI. WEST CARROLL PARISH

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A survey of the vascular plants of West Carroll Parish, Louisiana was conducted from January, 1977 through December, 1979 (Gough, 1979; Thomas et. al 1980). Specimens of 116 families, 374 genera and 749 species or subspecific taxa were collected, noted in literature or examined in other Louisiana herbaria.

Three species previously unreported from the state were collected:

Arctium minus Schkuhr.

West Carroll Parish: Field, 1.5 miles northwest of Oak Grove on the R. C. Gough farm, Ward 4, Sec. 23, T21N, R10W. R. C. Gough, 314, 8 June 1977, and from the same population on 24 June 1978 (Gough 1234). Although Cronquist (1980) says this European native is now established as a common weed of roadsides and waste places throughout most of the U.S., the only plants known from Louisiana were cultivated ones. These are: Ouachita Parish: weed in flower bed, 403 Stevenson Drive north of Monroe, La. R. Dale Thomas, 28771, 2 May 1972. This plant was planted by Thomas and persisted in Ouachita Parish for two years. The West Carroll population has been there for several years and is spreading.

Lathyrus aphaca L.

West Carroll Parish: woods beside La. 589, 2 miles south of La. 2, Carole Crews, s.n., 8 April 1973, and Just south of Poverty Point Commemorative Area, Sec. 24, T19N, R10E. R. C. Gough, 1027, 5 April 1978.

There are also specimens from Ouachita Parish in the Louisiana State Herbarium in Baton Rouge: 3 sheets from Biedenhorn Farm, 8 miles southwest of Monroe, J. A. Moore, 9 May 1972, and another specimen sent to L.S.U. for identification by the Ouachita Parish County Agent, J. J. Joyce in 1951 with the data "spontaneous in crop in Monroe area." This specimen was mistakenly determined as Pisum sativum and so filed. These early collections were overlooked and not included in the Louisiana legumes by Lasseigne (1973) but this species is naturalized and scattered along roadbanks as is characteristic for Vicia, Medicago, and Lathyrus.

Anemone virginica L.

West Carroll Parish: edge of woods east of La. 17, 2.5 miles north of Oak Grove at a small stream, Sec. 17, T22N, R11E. R. C. Gough, 1260, 29 June 1978. Fruiting specimens were collected at the same site on 20 August 1978 (Thomas 60145 and Gough 1531). Keener (1975) included Arkansas but not Louisiana in the range of this species.

Several other uncommon Louisiana plants were collected during this study including:

Andredera basseloides (H.B.K.) Baill.

Brassica hirta Moench.

Armoracea aquatica (Eat.) Wieg.

Froelichia gracilis (Hook.) Moq.

Vicia grandiflora Scop.

Potentilla recta L.

Crataegus brachyacantha Sarg. & Engelm.

Ranunculus flabellaris Raf.

Cinna arundinacea L.

Solanum pseudocapsicum L.

One of the woods with the most variety of herbaceous vegetation in the parish was cleared for cultivation of soybeans during this study. The only population of Phlox divaricata and Salix tristis known in the parish was destroyed. Luckily, one area of wooded vegetation containing several upland species is preserved by the State of Louisiana at the Poverty Point Commemorative Area near Epps.

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