

In sending specimens of plants for investigation it is desirable to have the leaves, flowers, and fruit; and, in the case of bulbous plants, the bulbs, also. When they are sent from a distance it is best to prepare the specimens by drying them under pressure between folds of absorbent paper, otherwise the parts shrink and break so as to be hardly recognizable. When the dried plants are sent they should be protected from breakage in the mail by being inclosed between pieces of stiff pasteboard. Packages weighing less than four pounds can be sent by mail at the rate of one cent per ounce. Write the name of the sender on the outside. In the letter accompanying the specimens state where collected, the date, and any other particulars of the plant, whether reputed poisonous, pestiferous, medicinal, or useful.

U. S. Department of Agriculture,

DIVISION OF BOTANY,

Washington, D. C., June 10 1889.

Prof. Sereno Watson

My dear Sir,

Your letter of the 8th is at hand.

Paspalum Digitaria gave me much trouble. As you say *P. Michauxianum* ^{Kth and} *Digitaria paspaloides* Poi, are evidently based on *Digitaria paspaloides* Michx. which I think is *Paspalum distichum* for the following reasons - 1st The description fits to that, "*spicis binis, subuncialis*", 2^d We have specimens from Herb. Gay, ticketed *Digitaria paspaloides* Michx, which are *P. distichum*. This shows how Michaux' plant was regarded in Europe; 3^d In the Meissner Collection, Herb. Columbia Coll., are specimens ticketed - *Paspalum Michauxianum* Kth
Digitaria paspaloides Michx
In civitate Missouri
leg. b. Frank. 1837

These specimens are *Paspalum distichum*.

Mr Elliott's *Millium paspalodes* judging from the description and the very poor figure may be *P. Digitaria* of Chapman, although he refers to Michaux's *D. paspaloides* as synonymous.

Doell in his *Gramineae* for the Brazilian Flora quotes



Vasey, George. 1889. "Vasey, George June 10, 1889 [to S. Watson]." *George Vasey letters to Asa Gray*

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