

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 28, 1921.

Mr. Oakes Ames,  
North Easton, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Ames:

Your letter of June 20 is certainly very pleasing to me, for I had feared that you would not be willing to undertake the task of writing up the Central American orchids. Your interest in this matter is very deeply appreciated, for I know that your treatment of the family will add most materially to the usefulness of the flora. We shall certainly assist in every way that we can by sending on material or by any other means that may be feasible. We shall be glad to forward the specimens at whatever time is most satisfactory to you, and in such quantity as may seem most suitable to you. There are likely to be a good many specimens of interest among the large amount of unnamed material which has been gradually accumulating.

Inclosed is a carbon copy (which need not be returned) of my treatment of the genus Scleria and also a general memorandum with regard to the style of the flora. In writing up the orchids you should, of course, aside from the adoption of the general form of the rest of the work, follow whatever plan may seem most satisfactory to you, for whatever you may do in the matter will be quite agreeable to me.

I shall certainly get an extra set of such orchids as I may find in Salvador. I doubt if the number of species occurring there is very large for the mountains do not reach a great altitude and there are none of the wet forests which have yielded most of the orchids reported from Guatemala and Costa Rica. There must, however, be a much larger number of species than has been reported from Salvador up to the present time.

Sincerely yours,

*Paul C. Standley*

Paul C. Standley  
Assistant Curator,  
Division of Plants.

(Inclosures)



## MEMORANDUM

Area covered is the region between Mexico and Colombia.

Synonyms.--All names based upon Central American material to be listed; also, so far as practicable, names under which the species have been reported from Central America, especially in the Biologia Centrali-Americana. It is desirable also to list synonyms based upon Mexican material.

Distribution.--Range to be indicated by states, in the following order: Guatemala; El Salvador; British Honduras; Honduras; Nicaragua; Costa Rica; Panama. Specific localities to be listed when desirable, and altitudinal range when practicable. Extra-limital distribution to be given in separate sentence. Original locality to be cited, unless it is vague and meaningless, as "Central America," "tropical America," "West Indies," etc.

Length of descriptions to suit the wishes of the individual contributor. Vernacular names to be listed at the end of description, with name of region in which they are used. Any notes with regard to nomenclature or any other subject, to be added, as may seem desirable. The more of these, the better. Economic data, especially, to be treated as fully as possible.





Standley, Paul Carpenter. 1921. "Standley, Paul Carpenter June 28, 1921 [to O. Ames]." *Oakes Ames Orchid Herbarium correspondence files*

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