

32. Cartago.
Costa Rica.

Dec 8. 1922.

My dear Dr Ames,

I will thank you first for yours of Nov 20th, though I feel assured that a postal packet on which I fulfilled official requirements on Wednesday last, & qualified as "live plants", must be the material you have so kindly sent, if so acknowledgement will be made later, when it reaches Cartago.

In the *Cattleya-Epidendrum* question, of course, I am not equipped to enter, indeed it would be ridiculous for me to do so with my very slight regional knowledge; myself I always think of true *Epidendrons* as those with the column & lip fused & which are by that, very well separated from *Cattleya*, here again in CR we have those two strange aberrant forms. *E. Stampridianum* & *E. laterale*, with radical inflorescence, the latter is I believe only known from this country & seems a scarce plant.

Well, I will defer here to tell you that I called on Olin Jirinec in San José & tried to wean him from the R & Connection, & really cannot give you much hope, as he seems strongly attracted to that, & for two reasons, namely his half German origin (brother n. Lutherer) & Italian pleasant correspondence of some years standing.

(one Valerio)
He has apparently asked a normal school teacher to collect for you, as some of the Washington men are active in your behalf, & has written him on the subject, he himself is in his father's drug store & is kept pretty busy & probably does most of the work & will soon assume full charge, so that his own opportunities will tend to become restricted to very occasional holiday excursions.

Wreckle' is I fear quite hopeless, I called on don Amparo Zeledón who was not at home, & she is quite dependent on outside aid for any specimens, mother enthusiast, Alberto Brenes, ^{also} appears hopeless at present.

Epid. Costariense, this occurs probably only on the Pacific slope. I have seen it south of San José on the southern side of Candelaria & infer it has a somewhat restricted range tho it possibly reaches Nicaragua through Guanacaste, & I am unaware of its southern limit; friend Powell can help there.

It would be of the greatest interest to me to see the volumes of Orchidaceae & the periodical you mention, many thanks.

Apropos of your query re Pleurothallis costariensis in a previous letter, I have just heard from Taylor, the foreman at Kew, that of my plants, P. cochleata, P. papillifera & P. costariensis are in flower, now I can only hope that no label juggling has occurred & that the last is really the plant R. A. R. described, if so a note to Hill will do the trick for you, though in all probability a year's wait will be necessary.

I know Gynopatria will be often tried by red. herms of mine, these so often cross the trail of the "camp followers"; but take Miltonia Schneideriana & compare with Odontoglossum cariniferum, each of our region, is the first justly included in Miltonia & really congenial with M. vexillaria & Endressii?

A plant of Lycaste Skinneri now in flower has two flowers on the one rachis & one of my Catt. Trianae has a di-phyllous bulb, this tho' frequently occurring on small non-flowering bulbs, has not heretofore done so on a full-sized flower-bearing one, with me.

Oersted in 1847 evidently saw Catt. Doniana here, probably he did not however see it in bloom, or he would not have passed it by without remark; & placed it as C. latifolia, hence Schlechter includes this among Cent Amer species, & though I have seen references to other latifolia Cattleyas as occurring in Mexico. Of C. quadricolor. Oaxaca, am inclined to doubt them without adequate modern confirmation.

Catt. fraxinosa from Guatemala - can this be?

I not Catt. Guatemalensis a hybrid between aurantiaca & Skinneri. This I have never seen.

Forgive a personal question & my ignorance, if I ask you your relationship to the Ames of Vanda Amesiana. I had it years ago & lost it, & have just imported another from Stuart Low. V. Kintalliana & V. Quana do very well here, not so V. lutes, V. insignis or coerulea though the last did once give me two splendid sprays.

With kind regards

Faithfully yours.

Ch. Lamberton.

Dec 9. Plant from & material to hand today. very best thanks.



Lankester, Charles H. 1922. "Lankester, Charles H. Dec. 8, 1922 [to O. Ames]."
Oakes Ames Orchid Herbarium correspondence files

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