

Wm. A. Chase

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY.

TAXONOMIC AND RANGE INVESTIGATIONS.

Washington, D. C., April 22, 1913.

Mr. Walter Deane,
29 Brewster St.,
Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Dear Sir:--

Your letter and the specimen referred to have been received. The loose panicle of long slender branches, and the long callus hairs indicate *C. canadensis* with which the specimen agrees perfectly except in having spikelets scarcely 2.5 mm. long. I do not find any specimens with spikelets quite so small as this but there are a number with spikelets less than 3 mm. These are from Saskatchewan, Montana, Wisconsin, District of Columbia, showing no geographical limitation. You will find a piece of rootstock at the base of your specimen. I am returning the specimen by mail. It reached here safely and I trust will return as safely.

I have corrected my *Rhodora* by transferring *P. umbrosum* to *P. Ashei*. We do not know what *P. umbrosum* of Retzius is. It has been referred to *P. prostratum* Lam. (~~=~~ *P. reptans* L.) but the description does not well apply to that nor does *P. reptans* in this country grow in shady woods. That provision of the

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Vienna Code is a bad one, I think, and must lead to instability in many cases.

I note under *P. calliphyllum* that the Galt, Ontario, station is overlooked. I think we sent a specimen of it to Gray Herbarium from a few sent us by Mr. Herriott. Boston makes a good showing in grasses. By the way, is not *P. huachucae* (1898) var. *fasciculatum* Torr. (1824) an anachronism? Does not the form first described become the species (Dr. Robinson used to hold to that), in which case var. *silvicola* would be *P. fasciculatum* Torr. (but for that of Swartz) and *P. huachucae*, var. *huachucae*. I think that provision the more bewildering the more it is followed. *Panicum strictum* R. Br. has been referred to *P. marginatum* R. Br., but from study of our Australian material recently, I think an apparently very rare species is the real *P. strictum* which is not *P. marginatum*. Brown's descriptions show keen observation and I should be inclined to trust him. Besides the two are published on the same page, "5. *P. strictum*" in "II" first, "~~11~~, *P. marginatum*" under "III" near the bottom. Regardless of codes I should think *P. depauperatum* Muhl. for our species the more likely to prove stable.

I enjoyed your previous letter. On the evenings of our little Botanical Seminar Dr. Greene, Mr. Bartlett and one or two others take dinner with me and I enjoy it very much.

Dr. Trelease arrived here today. I am rejoicing over the announcement in Science that he is going to the University of

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Illinois. I gave my herbarium to the University five years ago and was greatly disappointed when Dr. Gleason left there. Now I hope my herbarium will be of use.

Yours respectfully,

Agnes Chase

Scientific Assistant in Systematic Agrostology.



Chase, Agnes. 1913. "Chase, Agnes (née Merrill) Apr. 22, 1913." *Walter Deane correspondence*

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