

PLANTAGINACEAE

Plantago elongata Pursh was reported by Graves, C. B. (Bull. Torrey Bot. Club, xxiii. 59, 1896).

RUBIACEAE

Mitchella repens L., 2920.

COMPOSITAE

Ambrosia artemisiifolia L. var. *elatio*r (L.) Descourtils, 20073.

Aster paniculatus Lam. var. *simplex* (Willd.) Burgess, 20047.

A. pilosus Willd., 20083.

Bidens connata Muhl. var. *petiolata* (Nutt.) Farw., 20098.

Erechtites megalocarpa Fern., 20053. This is a range extension, westwards from Buzzards Bay, Mass.

Helianthus annuus L., 20044, introduced.

Lactuca canadensis L. var. *latifolia* Kuntze, 2956.

Xanthium italicum Mor., 20050, introduced.

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THE PUBESCENT FORM OF *CEANOTHUS OVATUS*

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WHILE determining and mapping the distributions of some plants in my Southwestern Ontario collections of 1940, I came upon a set of plants which were clearly the pubescent extreme of *Ceanothus ovatus* Desf., first described by Torrey and Gray.¹ This has been passing in most Floras and Manuals as var. *pubescens* Torr. and Gray, but a study of the nomenclature shows that the correct varietal epithet is var. *pubescens* Watson. The facts disclosed by the investigation are here briefly summarized.

Unfortunately when Torrey and Gray described the pubescent phase of *Ceanothus ovalis* Bigel.² they did not give it a name, thus rendering the publication incomplete. In 1862 Engelmann took up the Torrey and Gray plant as distinct, for in his *Plants of the Upper Missouri* there is listed a *Ceanothus ovalis*, var. *pubescens*.³ Although no reference is given to the Torrey and

¹ Fl. N. Amer. 1: 265 (1838)—“ β .? leaves (especially on the veins), young branches, and peduncles pubescent.”

² Fl. Bost. ed. 2, 92 (1824). This name was later replaced by the earlier *C. ovatus* Desf. Arb. 2: 381 (1809).

³ Trans. Amer. Phil. Soc. n. s. 12: 187 (1862).

Gray description, there is little doubt that the plant in question was the same and that Engelmann was aware of the description. As far as I have been able to determine, the first writer to bring together both the description and the name is Sereno Watson.⁴ He cited the Torrey and Gray reference and also the Engelmann reference, and in addition placed the variety under the correct binomial *C. ovatus* Desf. For this reason the correct name of the pubescent extreme of *Ceanothus ovatus*, when given varietal rank, should be var. *pubescens* Watson.

Distribution-maps of both *C. ovatus* and the pubescent extreme were made from the representative material in the Gray Herbarium. These showed that the pubescent phase, which has generally been considered as having a more western distribution, occurs within the range of the species even as far east as the Great Lakes and northeastern Massachusetts. Since this pubescent extreme does not have definite claim to rank as a geographic variety, I am considering it as merely a pubescent form. The essential bibliography is as follows:

CEANOTHUS OVATUS Desf., forma **pubescens** (Wats.), stat. nov. *C. ovalis* Bigel., β .? Torrey and Gray, Fl. N. Amer. 1: 265 (1838). *C. ovalis*, var. *pubescens* Engelmann in Pl. Upp. Miss. 187 (1862), nomen nudum. *C. ovatus*, var. *pubescens* Watson, Bibl. Ind. 166 (1878); Trelease in Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci. 2nd. ser. 1: 108 (1889); and later authors, wrongly ascribed to Torr. & Gray. *C. pubescens* ("T. & G.") Rydberg in Small, Fl. Se. U. S. 751, 1334 (1903); not Ruiz & Pavon, Fl. Peruv. 3: 6, pl. 228 (1802).

GRAY HERBARIUM.

SPARGANIUM GLOMERATUM IN MINNESOTA.—A colony of *Sparganium glomeratum* Laest. occurs in Duluth, Minnesota. It is located on Minnesota Point in Sec. 19, in a shallow bog formerly connected with Superior Bay. Cushioned in *Sphagna* in a *Calla-Acorus* association the plants grow in water from a few to several inches deep, depending on the fluctuating bay level.

The Duluth colony occasioned much interest to the author whose collections Nos. 1627 and 1703 were distributed as *S. fluctuans*. Dr. John B. Moyle's annotation of the sheets in the University of Minnesota Herbarium as *S. fluitans* Fries, the

⁴ Bibl. Ind. 166 (1878).



Soper, James H. 1941. "The pubescent form of *Ceanothus ovatus*." *Rhodora* 43, 82–83.

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