

flowers. These vary from deep blue to pink. I have seen the pink phase in the garden of Mrs. J. N. Henry, Gladwyne, Pennsylvania. These plants came originally from near Wilmington, North Carolina." From this phrase one might, with good reason, infer that its author knew "plants" with pink corollas. Consequently, yielding to Dr. Clausen's persuasion, I referred in RHODORA, xliv. 151 (1942), to "The discovery by Mrs. J. Norman Henry near Wilmington, North Carolina, as reported by Dr. R. T. Clausen in Bull. Torr. Bot. Cl. lxxviii. 662 (1941), of pink-flowered plants growing with the typical azure-flowered plant."

Mrs. Henry, however, writing on May 21, 1942, corrects a misunderstanding.

"The fact is as follows:

In 1938 I ran across a large area that was dotted liberally with *Gentiana porphyrio*—the common blue type. As is my custom on finding a large group of any plant, I began to search for an albino. I had no luck with the pure white but I did find the pink . . . . A long and careful search [any one knowing Mrs. Henry can be sure that the search was a thorough one] revealed that this was the only one of its color. There were no intermediate shades.

The plant was a young one with but one slender flower-stalk. I think its age could not have been more than three years. It has been growing in a pot in a cold frame ever since. This spring [1942] it had nine stems capable of flowering, so I ventured to divide it in two. I am glad to say that both plants are now thriving, one in a pot and one outside."

It is evident that I was in error in referring to Mrs. Henry's having found "plants" with pink flowers.—M. L. FERNALD.

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## MISINTERPRETATION OF ATLANTIC COASTAL PLAIN SPECIES

M. L. FERNALD

THE Atlantic Coastal Plain of the United States, with its western extension, the Gulf Coastal Plain and its Mississippi Embayment, forms one of the most natural biogeographic areas of the country. Its position and extent are clearly shown in many of my own papers, as, for instance, in RHODORA, xxxiii. 26 (1931). Pennell on some of his published maps clearly outlines it; and it is recognized by W. T. McLaughlin in Ecological Monographs, ii. 339, fig. 1 (1932). It is, of course, definitely



Fernald, Merritt Lyndon. 1942. "Misinterpretation of Atlantic Coastal Plain species." *Rhodora* 44, 238–46.

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