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(To be continued)

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GENTIANA PROCERA Holm, forma **laevicalyx**, n. f. calycium carinis, glabris.—Locally in Michigan and Indiana. MICHIGAN: shore of Lake Superior, *Whitney*; low wet grounds, Detroit, September 26, 1901, *Farwell*, no. 1447 c. INDIANA: frequent in one place in the sedge border of the north side of Bruce Lake, Fulton County, September 21, 1928, *Deam*, no. 46,341 (TYPE in Gray Herb.).

*G. procera* Holm, Ott. Nat. xv. 111, 179, t. xii. figs. 3–5 (1901), ordinarily has the keels of the calyx scabrous at least at base. Forma *laevicalyx* appears to be inseparable from it in any character except the quite glabrous calyx; but on account of this character it is likely to be mistaken for the much smaller *G. Victorinii* Fernald, RHODORA, xxv. 87, t. 139 (1923) of the estuary of the St. Lawrence. *G. Victorinii*, however, besides by its much smaller flowers, is distinguished from *G. procera*, forma *laevicalyx* by its shorter and more erect branches and peduncles, much less fringed corolla-lobes and stipitate (instead of essentially sessile) capsule.—M. L. FERNALD, Gray Herbarium.

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THE IDENTITY OF *ALOPECURUS AEQUALIS*.—Following the lead of Schinz & Thellung,<sup>1</sup> progressive botanists have taken up the name *Alopecurus aequalis* Sobol. Fl. Petrop. 16 (1799) in place of the later *A. aristulatus* Michx. Fl. Bor.-Am. i. 43 (1803) or *A. fulvus* Sm. Engl. Bot. xxi. t. 1467 (1805). A discussion of the question was published by me in RHODORA, xxvii. 196 (1925). More recently, however, Jansen & Wachter, in a detailed study of the genus, *Floristische Aanteekeningen XXIV (Alopecurus)*, attempt to show<sup>2</sup> that the iden-

<sup>1</sup> Schinz & Thellung, Bull. Herb. Boiss. 2me sér. vii. 396 (1907); Viertelj. Naturf. Gesells. Zürich, lxvi. 291 (1921).

<sup>2</sup> Jansen & Wachter, Nederlandsch Kruidkundig Archief, Jaarg. 1929, Afl. i. 69 (1929).



tity of *A. aequalis* is open to question. Their chief point is that, since species no. 44, *Alopecurus geniculatus*, of Sobolewski was really not an *Alopecurus* at all but *Agrostis stolonifera*, with "corollis muticis," we are not fully justified in inferring that Sobolewski's species no. 45, "ALOPECURUS AEQUALIS. *Aristis gluma aequalibus* (Sob.)" has been correctly identified. Although Jansen & Wachter feel that the identity of *A. aequalis* is uncertain, they admit that the brief diagnosis given of it, "*Aristis gluma aequalibus*" is a characteristic mark of the species ("Dit is inderdaad een karakteristiek kenmerk der soort"). Sobolewski misidentified plate 564 in *Flora Danica* as *Alopecurus geniculatus*, whereas it really represents *Agrostis stolonifera* with a tightly contracted panicle. Surely any one else looking casually at the plate, without noting the details, might readily pass it as *Alopecurus*. Its habitual resemblance to plate 861, representing *Alopecurus geniculatus*, is striking enough. Consequently, when Sobolewski described a new species as *Alopecurus aequalis*, which differed from his conception (*Fl. Dan. t. 564*) of *A. geniculatus* by having "*Aristis gluma aequalibus*" and which "In lacubus natans est," he was giving a rather vivid account of the plant subsequently described as *A. aristulatus* Michx. (1803) and as *A. fulvus* Sm. (1805). Unless some more convincing objection is brought forward we shall be justified in continuing the use of the name *A. aequalis* in this sense. —M. L. FERNALD, Gray Herbarium.

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Fernald, Merritt Lyndon. 1930. "The identity of *Alopecurus aequalis*." *Rhodora* 32, 221–222.

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