



RARE AND UNUSUAL PLANTS IN OKLAHOMA

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In my wanderings over the state during the past eight years I have had the pleasure of collecting several species which have not been previously reported, so far as I am informed. These discoveries fall into two classes: those extremely rare, and those very unusual, yet quite common in their restricted range.

Among the rare and unusual species, which I consider the acme of my discoveries, is *Cypripedium pubescens* Willd., the discovery of which was made by Mrs. Clark, at the base of Rich Mountain near Fogel Spur, on one of our collecting trips on August 12, 1931. The spot was marked and on May 23, 1931, I collected it in the flower. Of this collection one specimen was placed in the Herbarium of the University of Oklahoma, one in my own private Herbarium, and one each sent to the Herbariums in Geneva, Switzerland, and Berlin Germany. During my collecting in this region in the seasons of 1930, 1931, and 1932, I have seen only six specimens of this species, all of which grew in dense woods, in the rocky beds of small water courses. I fear this, perhaps, rarest of our flowers will soon be exterminated from its wild haunts in our range, since the transplanting to gardens is usually the fate of discovered plants.

On a collecting trip in the southern part of McCurtain county on September 13, 1927, I made the discovery of *Sabal Glabra* (Mill.) Sarg. It was first observed a few miles south of Tom, growing in the low wet wooded areas. The plants were quite common in that restricted area. On June 15, 1930, I collected this species in flower and placed a specimen in the Herbarium of the University of Oklahoma, my own Herbarium, and in the two European Herbariums mentioned above. This discovery establishes another order of plants in Oklahoma. The *Arecales* are chiefly tropical and of the one hundred and thirty recognized genera only seven are native in the United States. The majority of the order are arborescent, and their economic value is obvious when one recalls the Date, Cocoa Nut, Brazil Nut, Vegetable Ivory, and the Rattan. Our species is a low shrub seldom reaching the height of a yard, inclusive of the flowering scape, and does not exhibit any of the stateliness and grandeur of those ornamental species found in Florida, Texas and California, but never-the-less one may wander among the Palms in Oklahoma.