

A Loco-weed New to Canada Found at Canopus, Saskatchewan

by JOHN H. HUDSON, Regina

While botanizing in the Rockglen-Killdeer country last summer, I saw a small (about 10 cm. high) silvery loco-weed with a short (3-6 cm.) spike of splendid magenta flowers growing on outcrops of the buff facies of the Ravenscrag formation (mostly yellow silt).

I took a sample (Hudson No. 1825) from a butte south of Canopus in NE $\frac{1}{4}$ 3-3-2 W3rd, on June 18, 1956.

The plant did not fit the description of any species known to occur in Saskatchewan; it was near *Oxytropis lambertii* of the Estevan-Oxbow country, but this latter is a much bigger plant 20-40 cm. high with a long spike (10-20 cm.) of magenta flowers. So it was a question of sending a specimen out for expert determination; but before this, fruiting material had to be located. I therefore revisited the spot at Canopus on August 26 and learned with surprise that the plant in seed was hard to

find, as the pods dropped off promptly on ripening. I managed to get one plant and a few spare pods (Hudson No. 1911).

Flowering specimens and a pod were sent to Rupert C. Barneby, the legume expert. He named it *Oxytropis besseyi* (Rydb.) Blank, and said that this was the first record for Canada. The nearest known station was in Dawson County, Montana some 140 miles southeast. The deciduous legume was, he added, nearly characteristic of *O. besseyi*.

One more point may be noted; the loco was strictly confined to outcrops of the buff facies of the Ravenscrag formation, and none was seen outside of the driftless area described by Widkenden as extending between Rockglen and Killdeer. Dawson County, Montana, (around Glendive) lies beyond the uttermost limit of continental glaciation. Is this just coincidence?

Additions to the Flora of Manitoba

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As a hobby during the past five or six years I have collected plants in and around Brandon, Manitoba. Most collections were made within the city limits. Some of these were new to the province at the time of collection and it has been suggested that I publish a list of the names so that a permanent record might be obtained.

Alopecurus myosuroides Huds. 1955.
Cultivated land.

Eragrostis megastachya (Koeler.) Link. 1950. Grassed area, Provincial Exhibition Grounds.

Eremopoa persica (Trin.) Roshev. 1955. Ballast.

Setaria verticillata (L.) Beauv. 1949.
Garden and cultivated soil.

Juncus compressus Jacquin. 1950.
Marshy land west of city.

Vicia villosa Roth. 1953. Grassland.

Lamium album L. 1956. Old perennial border.

Plantago media L. 1953. Grassed area and edge of roadway, Provincial Exhibition Grounds.

X *Bidens stevensonis* Boivin. 1950. Wooded ravine and banks of Assiniboine. *B. cernua* and *B. vulgaris* the putative parents are common in the district.

X *Cypripedium andrewsii* A. M. Fuller. 1954. Growing on low prairie among *C. parviflorum* and *C. calceolus*, the putative parents.

Among the plants sent in for identification recently two appear to be first records for the province

Echium vulgare L. var *pustulatum* (Sibth. & Sm.) Coincy. 1950.
Growing in ballast at Alexander

Plantago indica L. 1955. Found in garden somewhere in Manitoba. Unfortunately there is no record of the location or the collector's name.