Some necessary nomenclatorial changes in the genus Solidago

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The Butler University Botanical Studies journal was published by the Botany Department of Butler University, Indianapolis, Indiana, from 1929 to 1964. The scientific journal featured original papers primarily on plant ecology, taxonomy, and microbiology. The papers contain valuable historical studies, especially floristic surveys that document Indiana's vegetation in past decades. Authors were Butler faculty, current and former master's degree students and undergraduates, and other Indiana botanists. The journal was started by Stanley Cain, noted conservation biologist, and edited through most of its years of production by Ray C. Friesner, Butler's first botanist and founder of the department in 1919. The journal was distributed to learned societies and libraries through exchange.

During the years of the journal's publication, the Butler University Botany Department had an active program of research and student training. 201 bachelor's degrees and 75 master's degrees in Botany were conferred during this period. Thirty-five of these graduates went on to earn doctorates at other institutions.

The Botany Department attracted many notable faculty members and students. Distinguished faculty, in addition to Cain and Friesner, included John E. Potzger, a forest ecologist and palynologist, Willard Nelson Clute, co-founder of the American Fern Society, Marion T. Hall, former director of the Morton Arboretum, C. Mervin Palmer, Rex Webster, and John Pelton. Some of the former undergraduate and master's students who made active contributions to the fields of botany and ecology include Dwight W. Billings, Fay Kenoyer Daily, William A. Daily, Rexford Daubenmire, Francis Hueber, Frank McCormick, Scott McCoy, Robert Petty, Potzger, Helene Starks, and Theodore Sperry. Cain, Daubenmire, Potzger, and Billings served as Presidents of the Ecological Society of America.

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SOME NECESSARY NOMENCLATORIAL CHANGES IN THE GENUS SOLIDAGO

By Ray C. Friesner

While attempting to bring all species and varieties of Solidago in North America into one key the necessity for the following name changes became apparent.

SOLIDAGO BOMBYCINUM (Lunell) comb. nov. Originally described by Lunell (Amer. Midl. Nat. 2:59. 1911) from North Dakota as Oligoneuron. This latter name is worthy of retention as a subgenus name but the only character by which it can be differentiated from all other subgenera of Solidago is the 3-nerved tegules which are often so inconspicuous as to be very uncertain. From the standpoint of a field taxonomist Oligoneuron should be kept subordinate to and not coordinate with Solidago.

SOLIDAGO CANESCENS (Ryd.) comb. nov. Originally described by Rydberg (Bull. Torr. Bot. Cl. 31:652. 1904) as Oligoneuron. Status of this as a subgenus name given in the preceding paragraph.

SOLIDAGO GIGANTEA SALEBROSA (Piper) comb. nov. Originally described by Piper (Fl. Palouse Reg. 185. 1901) as a variety of S. seratina. Fernald (Rhodora 49:457. 1939) having shown that S. seratina should be reduced to a variety of S. gigantea Ait., S. seratina salebrosa Piper should therefore be changed to the above new combination.

SOLIDAGO GRAMIXEA (Wooten & Standley) comb. nov. Originally described by Wooten and Standley (Contr. U. S. Nat'l. Herb. 16:183, 1913) as Petradoria. Maintaining that Petroradia should be kept as a subgeneric name the above recombination becomes necessary.

SOLIDAGO texensis (Greene) nom. nov. Originally described by Greene (Pittonia 5:17. 1902) from southeastern Texas as Euthamia pulverulenta. If Euthamia is to be kept only as a subgeneric rank this would become Solidago pulverulenta (Greene), but this name would be invalid because of its prior use for a valid species, viz. S. pulverulenta Nutt. (Gen. Am. 2:161. 1818). The above name is therefore proposed as a new name for this species.