Comments on the Distribution of Some Oklahoma Plants

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The following taxa are considered noteworthy from the standpoint of distribution. Specimens collected by the authors represent the second collection from the state for three of them. Although the other two are well known, perhaps our comments will add to the knowledge of their range. Specimens are deposited at the Bebb Herbarium, Norman. Nomenclature follows Waterfall, 1966.

Oplismenus setaceus (Lam.) R. & S. This species of grass was first reported (Goodman, 1963) for the state from McCurtain Co. It is a species of the southeastern United States and tropical America (Hitchcock, 1950). Our Nos. 3395 and 3443 are from along the Red River floodplain in southeastern Bryan Co.

Habenaria clavellata (Michx.) Spreng. occurs over most of eastern North America and north to Canada (Fernald, 1950). It was first reported in Oklahoma by Hill (1965) from northeast Choctaw County. Our No. 3421 was collected from a hillside seep in Bryan County, 4.5 miles E. of Bennington 24 June 1966. This collection seems to be the second from the state and from the western edge of its range in this area.

Forestiera pubescens Nutt. We think that few who have seen the striking yellow flowers of F. pubescens would miss it the next time it was encountered. They are produced very early in spring before the leaves have expanded and before most other plants that grow with it have expanded leaves. In full leaf F. pubescens is rather nondescript and might easily be missed. Waterfall (1966) lists this species from the Caddo Canyon, Arbuckle, and Wichita Mountain areas. Bebb Herbarium specimens, however, are from many locations over the western half of the state. Johnston (1957) lists it from Caddo, Choctaw, and Kiowa counties of Oklahoma. Forestiera pubescens Nutt. is based on material collected from along the Red River in Oklahoma (Johnston, 1957). Accounts of Nuttall's botanical exploration in southeastern Oklahoma (McReynolds and Morris, 1963) indicate that he reached the Red River in what is now Choctaw County. We have this species from Choctaw Co. as No. 3351 from 4.5 miles west of Ft. Towson, and from McCurtain Co. as No. 3352 from 1.5 miles south of Vallant. An eastern species, Forestiera autumnalis Buckley which resembles F. pubescens approaches this area from the south and east, but it can easily be distinguished by its late summer to fall flowering (Shinners, 1956). Another species of Forestiera, F. neomexicana Gray, which also resembles F. pubescens has been reported for Oklahoma. All of the Oklahoma Forestiera material except F. acuminata in the Bebb Herbarium seems to belong to one species, F. pubescens. Waterfall (1952) states that the Oklahoma reports of F. neomexicana are probably F. pubescens var. glabrifoilia Shinners. Johnston's synopsis (1957) indicates that F. neomexicana is well out of range for Oklahoma.
Nama hispidum Gray. The rough Nama is a plant of the southwest, extending from California eastward to Texas and Oklahoma (Kearney and Peebles, 1951). Harrington (1954) states that it has been reported for Colorado, but that he saw no specimens. In south central Texas N. hispidum extends eastward to Leon County (Shinners, 1958). Bebb Herbarium specimens are mainly from the southwestern part of our state and the Arbuckle Mountains. Our specimens No. 284 from Brushy Creek area, 7 miles SW of the town of Mill Creek in Johnston Co., and No. 3557 from the sand dunes of the Red River south of Albany, Bryan Co., may be from near the eastern edge of its range in this area.

Erigeron canus Gray. Although this species was listed for our state flora many years ago (Stemen and Myers, 1937), it was apparently incorrectly based on another species. Goodman (1952) reported E. canus for Oklahoma from Cimarron Co. This report was based on Goodman and Waterfall No. 4888 collected in 1948. Our specimens No. 2128 from 3 miles N. of Kenton collected 29 May 1964 and No. 2697 from 4.6 miles N. of Kenton collected 23 May 1965, in the Black Mesa area of Cimarron Co., are apparently the 2nd and 3rd collections from Oklahoma. It was common at both collecting sites, indicating that the population is maintaining itself.

LITERATURE CITED


