1969

The University of Northern Iowa Herbarium

Lawrence J. Eilers
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The herbarium of the University of Northern Iowa has moved into new quarters in the recently-constructed Science Building. The facility contains enough cabinet space for over 50,000 plant specimens, a herbarium office, and ample storage space for the botanical portion of the Martin L. Grant library, given the university recently by Mrs. Janet Grant. The herbarium office houses Dr. Grant's bibliography of Iowa plants, called the "Records of Iowa Plants". This cross-indexed file contains thousands of references on 3" x 5" cards to publications on the taxonomy and distribution of Iowa plant species. These are available for use by interested investigators.

The UNI herbarium is officially designated "ISTC" in "Index Herbariorum" (Lanjouw and Stafleu, 1964). This designation will not be changed, though the name of the institution has, of course.

The herbarium is arranged in Englerian sequence, and contains about 15,000 mounted specimens, a great many of which were collected by Dr. Grant. Most of his collections are from Iowa, but they also include many important specimens from various other regions of the U.S.; South America; and SW Asia, mostly Iran. Among these collections are several type specimens of previously-undescribed species from Colombia and Iran. The herbarium also contains smaller collections by other botanists from Iowa and the Midwest, and there are a number of specimens from Honduras, and a few from Europe and West Africa.

An effort is now underway to expand the herbarium to approximately 50,000 specimens. The emphasis is on building up a good, representative collection of Iowa and midwestern plants. There are enough unmounted plants on hand to nearly double the size of the existing herbarium, but any gifts would be welcomed, and there are many good duplicate specimens for exchange with other herbaria.

An invitation is hereby extended to interested investigators to make use of the herbarium and the Grant Library. The mounted specimens are available for loan also. Address any correspondence to:

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LITERATURE CITED