

PLANT TAXONOMY

Chairman: MRS. HELENE STARCS, Health and Hospital Corporation
of Marion County

GRADY WEBSTER, Purdue University, was elected chairman for 1962

ABSTRACT

Natural Vegetation Types of Costa Rica, Central America. ALTON A. LINDSEY, Purdue University.—The vegetation of Costa Rica was surveyed during July and August, 1961, according to the classification proposed for the Central American Tropics by Holdridge. The types found are illustrated by Kodachrome slides. They range in elevation from sea level to 11,500 ft., and in mesophily from "dry" tropical forest to paramo and "wet" rain forest.

***Cabomba caroliniana* Back in Indiana.** HELENE STARCS, Health and Hosp. Corp. of Marion County.—The fanwort *Cabomba caroliniana* Gray was found in Knob Lake (Sawmill Hollow Lake), located in Jackson County State Forest, Sec. 19, Twp. 5N, Rge. 5E, September 7, 1958. It formed several flowering colonies on the mucky western border of the small lake (8 acres). It was still there September 11, 1960. The species was reported by Ridgway in 1872 and by Schneck in 1876 in the ponds of the Lower Wabash Valley. Later it could not be found there. Charles C. Deam (Flora of Indiana, 1940:452) assumed the fanwort extinct in Indiana, killed by drought periods. Lindsey and co-workers recently rechecked the Foote's Pond, mentioned by the previous authors, and found no *Cabomba* for the Lower Wabash Valley. Now it is back again in southern Indiana. Herbarium specimens are deposited at Butler University and at Indiana University.

A Re-evaluation of the Ecologic Status of *Tsuga canadensis* in Indiana. ROBERT PETTY, RONALD LAUGHLIN and JAMES MEWHINNEY, Wabash College, Ohio State University and University of New Mexico.—The paper presents a new evaluation of site-habit of eastern hemlock in Indiana. Data are presented which contradict findings of earlier workers regarding moisture regimes in Indiana hemlock stands. These earlier published papers describe hemlock as occurring on "rigorous sites" and situated ecologically between Oak-Hickory and Beech-Maple on a soil-moisture spectrum. Current soil-moisture data and phytosociological analyses show maximum hemlock expression to occur on sites significantly cooler and moister than those of mesic climax beech and maple, giving a contemporary site index that more closely agrees with its earlier interpreted position as a relict, postclimax species. Phytosociological data are presented from six stands distributed throughout the state range of the species. Total state distribution is presented with current stand vigor compared to that described by Charles C. Deam several decades ago.