PLANT TAXONOMY

Chairman: MARION HALL, Butler University

SCOTT MCCOY, Arsenal Technical Schools, Indianapolis, was elected chairman for 1959

ABSTRACTS

Cynanchum nigrum **(L.) Pers., a New Record for Indiana.** SCOTT MCCOY, Arsenal Technical Schools, Indianapolis.—In the summer of 1957, the species was found growing in several yards near 3543 N. Kenwood. The neighbor said that this kind of plant had been a troublesome weed for years. Specimens were given to several herbaria.

A Red Oak-Black Oak Hybrid. SCOTT MCCOY, Arsenal Technical Schools, Indianapolis.—A comparison has been made of certain characters of the Red and Black Oak group. An oak tree the author knows has distinctive acorns of the Red Oak, but the buds are very wooly. Another tree has the leaves and acorns of the Black Oak but the buds are like those of the Red Oak.

Preliminary Studies of Desmodium Populations in Southern Indiana. JACK E. HUMBLES, Indiana University.—During the falls of 1957 and 1958, two large, mixed populations of *Desmodium* have been studied. One population from Lilly Forest, near Nashville, includes eight species: *D. nudiflorum* (L.) DC., *D. rotundifolium* DC., *D. ciliare* (Muhl.) DC., *D. marilandicum* (L.) DC., *D. cuspidatum* (Muhl.) Loud., *D. Nuttallii* (Schindl.) Schub., *D. paniculatum* (L.) DC., and *D. laevigatum* (Nutt.) DC. In Bradford Woods, near Martinsville, are found: *D. nudiflorum* (L.) DC., *D. marilandicum* (L.) DC., *D. paniculatum* (L.) DC., and *D. sessilifolium* (Torr.), T. & G. Although the evidence is not yet conclusive, it appears that interspecific hybridization may account for some of the variation encountered in this genus even though the species are largely self-pollinating.

New Hybrids from Indiana. CHARLES B. HEISER, JR., Indiana University.—New hybrids in *Verbena*, *Aster*, and *Solidago* are described. The previous work on *Helianthus* hybrids now known from Indiana, ten in all, is summarized. The great frequency of hybrids in Indiana is not unexpected in view of the fact that practically all habitats are disturbed in various degrees. The nomenclature of hybrids is discussed, and it is concluded that it is best to designate hybrids by formulae rather than by distinct names.