

the Rio Grande. At first his school consisted of one room, in which he taught all the pupils, "from abecedarians to students of Latin, Greek, and the higher mathematics." During the year he induced the patrons of the school to build a two-room, stone school building at the corner of Washington and Garrison streets; and this building, later much enlarged, was still in use for school purposes in 1941. Hielscher taught in the schools of Eagle Pass until the turn of the century, when he was nearly 80 years old.

It has been no antiquarian interest that has indited the foregoing account; nor an easy willingness to "rush into print" in correction of errors in the scanty literature on Hielscher. Rather has it been born of a desire to put on record the life of one of the long procession of German scholars and naturalists who, coming out of the chaos of revolutionary Germany, made clear contributions to cultural advances in frontier Texas.

Cenchrus parviceps (Gramineae), a New Species from Southern Texas

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CENCHRUS parviceps Shinnery, sp. nov. Perennis anno primo florens, *C. incerto* valde affinis, partibus omnibus minoribus. Caules subdecumbentes vel erecti 6–35 cm. longi. Foliorum supremorum laminae 2–5(–6) cm. longae, foliorum maximorum usque 9 cm. longae. Ligula ca. 1 mm. longa. Spicae brevis internodi mediocres 1.5–4.0 mm. longi. Involucra 3–10 pilosula, diametro maximo 6–10 mm. (spinis inclusis.) HOLOTYPE: 7 miles west of Three Rivers, Live Oak Co., Texas, *Shinnery 16990*, 5 November 1953 (SMU). "Silty clay fencerow. Abundant." Represented in the S.M.U. Herbarium by the following additional specimens, all of the same collector.

ATASCOSA Co.: 9 miles northeast of Pleasanton, sandy loam, *16696*, 10 April 1955; 8.2 miles south of Jourdanton, silty clay loam, *16687*, 10 April 1955. DUVAL Co.: Freer, silt loam, *16647*, 10 April 1955. HIDALGO Co.: 10 miles north of Edinburg, sand, *17905*, 4 February 1954. JIM WELLS Co.: 5.5 miles west of Alice, black silty loam, *24105*, 27 June 1956. LA SALE Co.: Cotulla, red-brown sandy silt, *17276*, 8 November 1953; same place and date, *17277*. LIVE OAK Co.: 5 miles south of George West, gray silty clay, *17011*, 5 November 1953; 1.5 miles south of George West, *19542*, 9 April 1955. MAVERICK Co.: 9.3 miles north of Eagle Pass, silt and limestone gravel, *17327*, 8 November 1953. McMULLEN Co.: 1.7 miles north of Tilden, black clay, *16960*

5 November 1953. STARR Co.: 2.3 miles north of Roma, silt and limestone gravel, 17199, 7 November 1953; 3 miles north of Roma, sandy silt and limestone gravel, 17723, 31 January 1954. TERRELL Co.: 4 miles west of Terrell, silt, 17382, 9 November 1953. VAL VERDE Co.: 0.6 mile west of Langtry, silt and limestone gravel, 17374, 9 November 1953. WILLACY Co.: 4 miles north of Raymondville, sandy silt, 17794, 2 February 1954; 3 miles south of Raymondville, black silty clay, 17109, 6 November 1953. WILSON Co.: 1.4 miles north of Stockdale, sandy road shoulder, 19525, 9 April 1955. ZAPATA Co.: 13 miles north of San Ygnacio, 17662, 31 January 1954.

After collecting some scores of sheets of *Cenchrus incertus* M. A. Curtis, *C. longispinus* (Hackel) Fernald, and *C. pauciflorus* Bentham, I was struck by the consistently small size of the plants in the Rio Grande Plain when I first collected them. At the time that my remarks on the three well known species were written (see *Rhodora* 56: 35, 1954), I had seen only one specimen of the taxon here described. It was not then distinguished from *C. incertus*, which extends into the eastern and northern parts of the Rio Grande Plain, but is very uncommon there. *C. parviceps* is the most abundant member of the genus throughout the area. Principal differences between these two may be summarized as follows:

Stems 6-35 cm. long, rather stiffly subdecumbent to erect; blades of uppermost leaves 2-5 (rarely 6) cm. long, of largest leaves up to 9 cm. long; spike with 3-10 burs 6-10 mm. in diameter (including spines).....	<i>C. parviceps</i>
Stems 15-100 cm. long, usually partly decumbent or loosely trailing and ascending; blades of uppermost leaves 4-14 cm. long, of largest leaves up to 21 cm.; spike with 5-18 burs 7-12 mm. in diameter including spines).....	<i>C. incertus</i>

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