BIBLIOGRAPHY

There are literally hundreds of articles, books and floras that contain information about the useful plants of Central America. The following is an abbreviated list of the more useful publications with a bit of commentary on each one.

Special note should be made to the Flora of Guatemala since the nomenclature used in this account of the useful plants of Central America follows that of the flora when possible.

Allen, Paul H. The rain forests of Golfo Dulce. University of Florida Press, pp. 417, illus. 1956.

One of the keenest observers of the plants of tropical America. Allen was trained as a horticulturist at the Missouri Botanical Garden in the 1930s. He soon went to Panama, was in the Andean countries during World War II, spent a few years in Honduras, collected propagating material of bananas in the Old World tropics for the United Fruit Company, then to the Golfo Dulce region of Costa Rica. Most of the plants collected around the Golfo Dulce were studied by Paul Standley and myself but we did not know that he was preparing a study of the rainforest until copies of the work were presented to us.

Bailey, L. H. Manual of cultivated plants. MacMillan Company, New York. Revised edition, 1116 pages, illus. Thirteenth printing, 1973.

This work which went through many printings from 1924 to 1973, and much revision, covers the cultivated plants of the United States and Canada but is useful over a much greater area. Dr. Bailey was the grand old man and authority on the kinds and systematics of cultivated plants.

Hill, Albert F. Economic Botany. McGraw-Hill Book Co. Inc. New York. i-xii, 1-560, illus. ed. 2. 1952.

A useful, systematic account of the economic plants of the world. Dr. Hill was a careful and thorough worker, long a student of the useful plants.

Lawrence, George H. M. Taxonomy of vascular plants. The MacMillan Company, New York, 823 pp., illus. 1951 and 1960.

A very usable work on the families of vascular plants. If only one book on families is to be available this is recommended.

Merrill, Elmer D. The botany of Cook's voyages. Chron. Bot. 14: 159-383, illus. 1954.

Merrill was the outstanding systematist on the Asian flora in this century and wrote much on cultivated plants and their geography and hence valuable to those who would know about our plants. Merrill often was merciless to those theorizers on the distribution of useful plants, and of early man if he thought that they had not done their "home work" or were careless in their thinking. Dr. Merrill spent several winters at Escuela Agrícola Panamericana in Honduras.

Molina R., Antonio. Author of many papers on the systematics of Central American plants, friend and associate in field and herbarium for more than thirty years, outstanding Central American systematist. Without his help this work would have been more difficult.

Munsell, Hazel E., Louis O. Williams and others. Composition of the food plants of Central America. Food Technology, vols. 14 and 15. 1949-1950.

A series of eight papers, in two volumes of Food Technology, where there is to be found detailed biochemical analyses of about nine hundred samples of plant foods collected in the five Central American countries. It is the most detailed study of the nutritional values of our food plants yet undertaken. The study was carried out under a grant from the United Fruit Company at Escuela Agrícola Panamericana and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Pittier, H. (enri). Ensayo sobre las plantas usuales de Costa Rica. H. L. & J. B. McQueen, Inc. Washington. 176 pp., illus. 1908. Segunda edición revisada, Editorial Universitaria, San José, Costa Rica. 1957.

Pittier was a meteorologist, an ethnologist, geographer and maker of the finest maps of any Central American country, finally and primarily a botanist who came to Costa Rica in the late 1880s and lived and worked there until 1903. His 'plantas usuales'' is one of the best studies of Central American useful plants, and especially valuable since it was the first account of useful plants from any part of our region.

Popenoe, (F.) Wilson. Central American fruit culture. Ceiba 1: 269-367. 1952.

Popenoe, (F.) Wilson. Fruticultura centroamericana. Ceiba 3: 225-338. 1953.

These two works are essentially the same, a few corrections and additions were made in the Spanish edition. Dr. Popenoe contributed importantly to our knowledge of fruit culture in tropical America but his greatest contribution was as director of the Escuela Agrícola Panamericana where he inculcated habits of honesty, love of plants, pride of working skillfully with hands and mind in a generation of young Latin American men.

Record, Samuel J. and Robert W. Hess. Timbers of the New World. Yale University Press. 640 pp., illus. 1943.

Especially valuable for information on the economic trees of tropical America, their distribution, uses, common names and descriptions of the woods.

Schery, Robert W. Plants and man. Prentice-Hall. viii – 564 pp., illus. 1952.

One of the good texts on economic botany.

Standley, Paul C. Flora of the Lancetilla Valley, Honduras. Field Mus. Nat. Hist., Botany 10: 1-418, illus. 1931.

Valuable for notes on and common names of useful plants of a small valley on the north coast of Honduras.

Standley, Paul C. Flora of Costa Rica. Field Mus. Nat. Hist. Botany 17: 1-1616. 1937-38.

Contains a wealth of information on the useful plants of Costa Rica.

Standley, Paul C. and Salvador Calderón. Lista preliminar de las plantas de El Salvador. 302 pp. illus. Feb. 14, 1925. A "second edition" with the names of the authors reversed exists.

The useful plants and their common names along with uses are given. Dr. Calderón doubtless increased Standley's interest in the useful plants and the common names of all plants. Standley's command of Spanish is due, in part, to Dr. Calderón who was a scholar and an erudite man.

Standley, Paul C. and Samuel J. Record. The forests and flora of British Honduras. Field Mus. Nat. Hist., Botany 12: 1-432. 1936.

The useful plants of Belize are recorded, as are the common names in this essentially English speaking Commonwealth nation. Especially valuable for the account of the trees.

Standley, Paul C. and Julian A. Steyermark. Flora of Guatemala. Fieldiana, Botany 24: pts. 1-6. 2731 pp., illus. 1946-1958.

The parts (volumes) were not published in sequence. Part 2 contains the grasses and was written by Jason Swallen. Contains abundant notes (by Standley) on the uses of plants, especially of the native ones, and common names when known of all of the plants in the flora.

Standley, Paul C., Louis O. Williams, Dorothy Nash and several others. Flora of Guatemala. Fieldiana, Botany 24, pts. 7-12, 2959 pages, illus. 1961-1976. A continuation of the above under the direction of this writer. Drs. McVaugh, Lundell, Smith & Schubert and Gentry contributed much manuscript. Dorothy Nash (Gibson) took an active part in preparation of manuscript toward the end of the flora. Accounts of useful plants was continued and expanded based on my experience in all of the Central American countries.

Williams, Terua P. A comprehensive index to the Flora of Guatemala. Fieldiana, Botany 24, pt. 13: 1-266. 1977.

Exceedingly useful since it is an index to the common names mentioned in the body of the flora and to the many synonyms in that flora. Perhaps more than 90 percent of the names in this work on useful plants will be found in the index with reference to volume and page where found in the flora.

INDEX

We anticipate that an index, which will make this work more easily consulted, can be prepared and published as the last number of this volume of Ceiba.