

Carnegie Institution of Washington
Station for Experimental Evolution

Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, N. Y.

Pier' Andrea Saccardo,
Padova.

Dear Sir:-

Some years ago I discovered some peculiar ash trees (*Fraxinus Americana*) growing near this Station. These trees have the terminal leaflets of most of the leaves modified to an ascidium or "pitcher". So far as I am aware this variation has not been reported elsewhere in any species of *Fraxinus*, and here it occurs only on one very small area not exceeding a Hektar in extent. Thousands of trees outside of this area have been examined but not one had the above mentioned abnormality. I have made crosses among these trees, and have demonstrated that the ascidium is here a dominant Mendelian character.

My pedigreed trees are now three years old, and of proper size for transplanting. As they have considerable educational interest, I would like to send them to such Botanical Gardens as will agree to take care of them and keep them permanently labeled with my pedigree number, and such data as will insure that their identity will not be lost. As the trees grow to maturity it is very probable that I or some one else interested in the inheritance of this interesting characteristic will want to visit all the trees, and to reconnect them with the full notes I have made on the young trees. It is for this reason that I desire the assurance that these trees will be properly cared for and permanently labeled.

I would be very much pleased to send you a good specimen of these ascidiate *Fraxinus*, for planting in your Botanical Garden.

P. A. Saccardo. 2.

In order to secure one of these trees it will be necessary to write to me immediately, expressing a wish to that effect, as otherwise the season will have become too far advanced for their shipment. The trees will be sent gratis.

Hoping to hear from you at once, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Geo. H. Shull

GHS / MC