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✓ 1. *Opuntia lata* Small, sp. nov.

Plant prostrate, often radially branched, sometimes forming mats nearly a meter in width, the tip of the branches sometimes assurgent, with elongate cord-like roots: joints elliptic to narrowly obovate, often narrowly so, thick, 0.4–1.5 dm. long, deep-green, sometimes glaucous, especially when young: leaves subulate, 6–11 mm. long, green or purple-tinged: areolae scattered, often conspicuous, sometimes very prominent and densely bristly, the marginal ones, at least, armed: spines slender, solitary or 2 together, pink, turning red or red-banded, at maturity gray or nearly white, nearly terete, slightly spirally twisted: flowers usually several on a joint, conspicuous: sepals subulate to lanceolate, acute: corolla yellow, 7–9 cm. wide; petals numerous, the inner ones broadly obovate to flabellate, erose at the broad minutely mucronate apex: berries clavate, 5–6.5 cm. long, red or red-purple, many-seeded: seeds about 5 mm. in diameter.

Pinelands, northern peninsular Florida.—Type specimens collected twelve miles west of Gainesville, Florida, December, 1917, J. K. Small, in the herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden. Living specimens of the same collection are in the garden at Buena Vista and in the conservatories of the New York Botanical Garden.

The discovery of this plant was recorded by me about a year ago.¹ Since that time the specimens I transplanted from Gainesville to Buena Vista have grown and assumed the habit of the plants in their native habitat. In addition they have flowered freely and fruited. The specimens I brought to the New York Botanical Garden also flowered; but naturally they did not grow to any extent under the necessarily artificial conditions under glass.

Information received from the region where *Opuntia lata* grows naturally, in addition to the personal observations of the writer, indicates that the plants always grow prostrate, just as the writer found them in the winter of 1917. The early joints may either give rise to branches that spread radially and thus form mats, or they may branch more in one direction, thus giving rise to a long string of joints with only a few lateral branches. *Opuntia lata* somewhat resembles *O. Pollardi* in habit; but it differs

¹ Journal of the New York Botanical Garden 19: 74. 1918.

in the usually smaller joints, the long narrow hypanthium, the more numerous petals, and the clavate berries.

2. *OPUNTIA POLLARDI* Britton & Rose, Smithsonian Misc. Coll. 50: 523. 1908

Plant prostrate, forming irregular mats, somewhat tuberous: joints suborbicular or oval, varying to broadly obovate, usually quite thick, 10-15 cm. long, or sometimes smaller, deep-green: areolae rather conspicuous, much scattered, some of the upper ones, at least, usually armed: spines stout, at maturity gray, usually solitary: flowers solitary or few on a joint: sepals deltoid to broadly rhombic or rhombic-cuneate, acute or mucronate: corolla light yellow, 6-7 cm. long; petals cuneate, broadly truncate and decidedly erose at the apex: berries obovoid, 2.5-3 cm. long, purple, rather many-seeded: seeds 5-6 mm. in diameter.

Pinelands and sand-dunes, coastal plain, North Carolina to northern Florida and Mississippi.

At the time of the publication of the second edition of my *Flora*¹ this plant was known only from southern Mississippi, where it was originally collected nearly twenty years earlier. In the spring of 1917, while in search of the long-neglected *Opuntia Drummondii*, the writer found this species widely distributed in the region north of Apalachicola, and last December he collected it on the hills back of Pensacola. As far as we know now, its range in Florida is confined to the northern part of the state, or, in other words, the coastal plain of the Gulf of Mexico. Recent exploration also brought it to light on the Atlantic coast. While searching for long-lost prickly-pears in the vicinity of Charleston,² South Carolina, in the winter of 1916, I found *Opuntia Pollardi* at several localities in that region, while last fall Mr. W. E. McAtee extended its known range still further northward by collecting specimens on Church's Island, in Currituck Sound, North Carolina.

As will be noticed, by comparing the geographic range of this species with that of *Opuntia Drummondii*, that the distribution of the two species coincides very closely. Last year Professor S. M. Tracy sent specimens of *Opuntia Pollardi*, collected at the

¹ *Flora of the Southeastern United States*, Ed. 2. 817. 1913.

² *Journal of the New York Botanical Garden* 18: 237-246. 1917.