The Collections of Frank H. Lamb in Mexico, 1894-1895

Jeffrey R. Thorson

Following is a list of locales in Mexico where Frank H. Lamb collected plant specimens from December 1894 through February 1895. Lamb was a student at newly established Stanford University and collected specimens for subscribing institutions in order to earn money for tuition. In December he accompanied David Starr Jordan on an expedition to Mazatlán. Whereas Jordan's party was focused on collecting fish offshore at Mazatlán (by dynamite), Lamb's objective was botany. He set out on his own, traveling the stage line south to Tepic and to the port of San Blas, where in February he boarded the northbound Panama steamer back to San Francisco, with three "mule loads" of specimens. On his journey south he stopped to collect at specific locales, indicated on the printed specimen labels. At one locale in the mountains away from the stage road (Zopilote), he employed a guide and mules to reach it.

Lamb used printed labels on his specimens, upon which his name is given as Frank H. Lamb. The following year he collected with W. R. Dudley in Southern California. On those specimens his name appears as F. H. Lamb.

Coordinates for the following locations were determined by use of Gaia GPS and of a contemporary gazetteer (see reference). Coordinate uncertainties are guesstimates, deliberately chosen large. Lamb usually traveled by stage at night (the custom there) and made multi-day stopovers at locales to collect. Nevertheless I chose large uncertainties to provide some overlap on his journey south.

Record numbers 309-382 and 495-496:

• State: Sinaloa

County / municipality: Mazatlán

• Locality: Mazatlán

Coordinates: 23.20030, -106.42178Coordinate uncertainty: 10,000 m

Record numbers 361a – 368a:

• State: Sinaloa

• County / municipality: Mazatlán

Locality: Mazatlán, on Isla de la Piedra
Coordinates: 23.19077, -106.40713
Coordinate uncertainty: 2,000 m

Record numbers 383-449:

• State: Sinaloa

County / municipality: Mazatlán

Locality: Villa Unión

Coordinates: 23.18883, -106.22034Coordinate uncertainty: 10,000 m

Record numbers 450-473:

- State: Sinaloa
- County / municipality: Rosario
- Locality: El Rosario
- Coordinates: 22.99581, -105.85806Coordinate uncertainty: 10,000 m

Record numbers 474-494:

- State: Sinaloa
- County / municipality: Rosario
- Locality: Hacienda Chele
- Coordinates: 23.20395, -105.89194Coordinate uncertainty: 5,000 m

Record numbers 499-514:

- State: Sinaloa
- County / municipality: Escuinapa
- Locality: Escuinapa de Hidalgo
- Coordinates: 22.83509, -105.77745
- Coordinate uncertainty: 10,000 m

Record numbers 516-542:

- State: Nayarit
- County / municipality: Acaponeta
- Locality: Acaponeta
- Coordinates: 22.49002, -105.36038
- Coordinate uncertainty: 10,000 m
- Note: Tepic Territory became Nayarit State in 1917.

Record numbers 545-554 and 581-588:

- State: Nayarit
- County / municipality: Santiago Ixcuintla
- Locality: Santiago Ixcuintla
- Coordinates: 21.80826, -105.20565
- Coordinate uncertainty: 10,000 m
- Note: Tepic Territory became Nayarit State in 1917. Before this, Santiago Ixcuintla was simply known as Santiago.

Record numbers 555-580:

- State: Nayarit
- County / municipality: Ruíz
- Locality: El Zopilote
- Coordinates: 21.96011, -104.93479
- Coordinate uncertainty: 5,000 m
- Verbatim elevation: 2000 3000 Ft.
- Note: Tepic Territory became Nayarit State in 1917. Prior to this, Zopilote was in Santiago Municipality.

Record numbers 590-604:

• State: Nayarit

County / municipality: Tepic

• Locality: Tepic

Coordinates: 21.51234, -104.89159Coordinate uncertainty: 10,000 m

Note: Tepic Territory became Nayarit State in 1917.

Record numbers 609-619:

• State: Nayarit

• County / municipality: San Blas

• Locality: San Blas

Coordinates: 21.54166, -105.28634Coordinate uncertainty: 10,000 m

• Note: Tepic Territory became Nayarit State in 1917.

There are several irregularities in the record numbering. One in particular may be an error: duplicate specimens for record #448 were collected, some in Santiago Ixcuintla and some in Villa Unión. The error may be due to the wrong printed label (that for Santiago) being applied to the specimen when it was originally prepared.

References

Antonio García Cubas: Diccionario Geográfico, Histórico y Biográfico de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos; 1888-1891. https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/010416157. Also accessible via Google Books.

Merritt Lyndon Fernald: Undescribed plants from western Mexico. Collected principally by Frank H. Lamb in the winter of 1894-5. <u>Bot. gaz. v. 20, p. 532-537, 1895.</u> Note: Fernald had access to site information not given on the specimen labels. If Lamb's field notes still exist, they would likely be with family members in Hoquiam, Washington.

Fifty years in Hoquiam; memoirs of Frank H. Lamb. Hoquiam, WA, 1948 (typewritten manuscript at the University of Washington Library Special Collections). See <u>WorldCat</u> entry.

City Population site for state and municipality divisons, maps & charts: https://www.citypopulation.de/en/mexico.

