

September 14, 1926.

Dr. Geo. W. Carver,
Tuskegee, Alabama.

Dear Dr. Carver:-

In your letter of September 8th you asked this question:

"Is it possible for the sex characters in trees to become facultative, or in other words have the power of changing from one sex to another?"

And, then, you mention the interesting fact about the red cedar.

Let me cite to you a rather interesting fact in connection with the Buffalo Grass. These experiments were reported among the Station bulletins of the Kansas Agricultural College. They took a pistillate or staminate flower, I do not know which, and planted it. It later produced pistillate or staminate flowers opposite from which it started out. The plant you know is said to be dioecious.

I do not have the time to look up data. However, I do think, under certain conditions it may be possible to produce the very thing you mention. For instance, the Willow is described also as dioecious. Two perfect flowers have been found on the dioecious.

The case you mention, therefore, is rather interesting and remarkable. I will have Dr. Castetter look up the matter for you.

Yours truly,

LHP.VV