

BRIEFER ARTICLES

A CASE OF PHYLLODY IN *YUCCA ELATA*

(WITH TWO FIGURES)

Yucca elata Engelm., an evergreen of the family Liliaceae, occurs abundantly over the grasslands of southern New Mexico. In the late spring, after favorable precipitation, the plant produces a long flower stalk, surmounted by a great cluster of white or cream colored flowers, as shown in fig. 1. In observations made on the Jornada Range Reserve, a grazing experiment station in southern New Mexico conducted by the United States Forest Service, practically every plant of *Yucca elata* flowered during May or June of 1926. Later in that summer, several flower stalks were found with leaf clusters instead of flowers. In the summer of 1928 the excellent specimen of phyllody shown in fig. 2 was found on the Reserve. All the cases of phyllody have been found from one to two months after the regular flowering season for this plant. Observations to date have shown that such unusual flower stalks, as well as the ordinary ones, do not persist in a green condition longer than a year after production.—R. S. CAMPBELL, *Jornada Range Reserve, U. S. Forest Service, Las Cruces, New Mexico.*



FIG. 1.—*Yucca elata* in full bloom

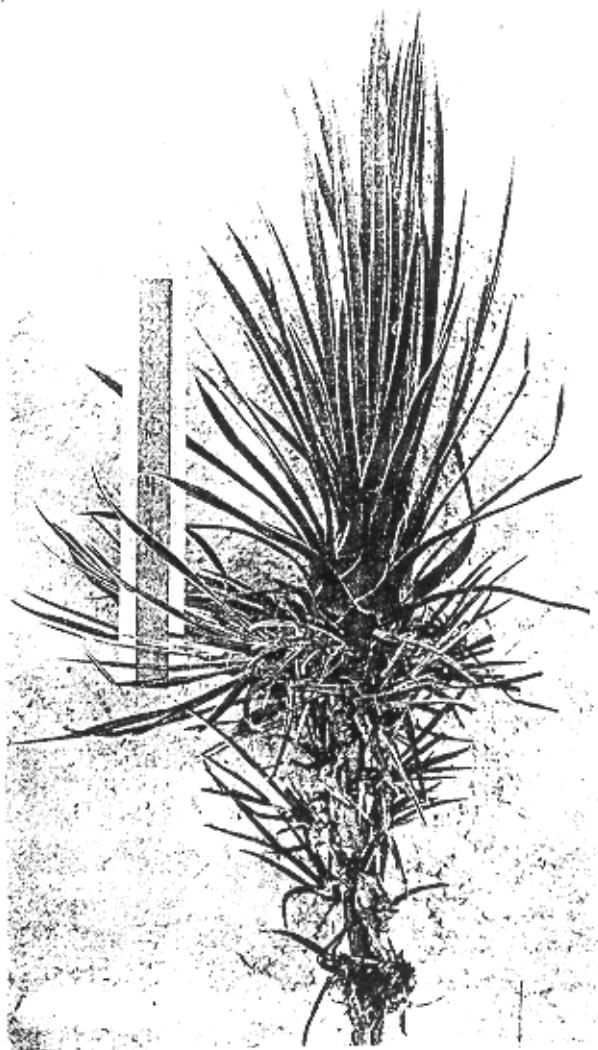


FIG. 2.—Phyllody in *Yucca elata*