

22nd July 1963

Miss Elizabeth Ann Bartholomew
West Virginia University
Morgantown, West Virginia
U.S.A.

Dear Miss. Bartholomew:

Enclosed with the December 1962 issue of *Castanea* is your notice about Distribution of Plants. I wonder if these are live growing samples or dry herbarium specimens.

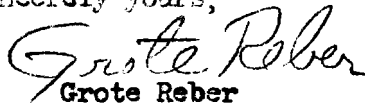
During 1959 when I was at Green Bank, we had some correspondence about *Dioscorea villosa*. I harvested some of these large triangular seed pods and brought them with me. Unfortunately none of the seed germinated. I am wondering if you can locate someone who will harvest a quantity of full size mature ripe seed in a few months for spring planting here. If so, please determine the number and weight of pods before removing the seed. Then count and weigh the seeds. These may be folded into paper for dispatch by ~~letter~~ air mail to here.

I have read the description on page 262 of "Cultivated Plants" by Bailey but cannot determine if the plant propagates by seed as an annual or by roots as a perennial. The roots would be more difficult to secure and handle, so I'd like to try the seeds again.

Some time ago I heard about another wild twining plant which inhabits the Ohio Valley. It is called Hog Peanut and has seed pods like a small pea. I cannot find out anything about it here. Please try to find which way it twines and any other details. I'd like to secure some seed of this also.

Your comments, suggestions and assistance will be much appreciated by me.

Sincerely yours,


Grote Reber

P.S. I can count and weigh the seeds; but I would like to know the number and weight of pods. They must be dry.