
SIX NUTATING PLANTS.

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The diurnal nutation of certain herbaceous plants during their period of development has aroused interest for a long time. Allusion is made to it by a number of poets and some of the older reading books had quite accurate accounts of the nutation of the Common Sunflower. The observation of such phenomena should aid considerably in arousing the student's interest in plant life and the subject offers an inviting field suitable for nature study.

A number of nutating plants have been studied by the writer in the past and during the present year observations were continued on various species which it was thought might show the peculiarity. The following six species show a movement of the stem tip and terminal leaves when conditions are favorable.

Chenopodium album L.
Polygonum lapathifolium L.
Polygonum pennsylvanicum L.
Euphorbia hexagona Nutt.
Euphorbia dentata Mx.
Iva ciliata Willd.

The two Euphorbias have a very decided nutation, the curvature of the stem often being as great as in the Sunflower.
