
A NEW CASE OF MUTATION.*

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The origin of two varieties of *Commelina nudiflora* L. by mutation has been observed by the writer. The new varieties differ from the parent plant in the color of the sepals and stamens. The flowers of one variety are white, of the other, purple, while the color of the parent plant is blue. Minor differences have also been observed. The change was sudden and persisted through subsequent generations without a single exception. The group of individuals from which the mutated forms originated comprises about half a million plants and can be traced back for 12 generations. The white and purple varieties occur in European gardens, but their origin from the blue variety had not been observed heretofore. *Commelina nudiflora* produces a great number of other forms differing from the systematic species in many ways, such as size of plant, form of leaf, number of petals, etc. No effort has as yet been made to decide whether these divergent forms remain constant. Prof. Hugo de Vries in a letter to the writer recommended a careful study of this valuable material.

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