

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE COMMANDER ISLANDS.

No. 8.—DESCRIPTION OF *ALOPECURUS STEJNEGERI*, A NEW SPECIES OF GRASS FROM THE COMMANDER ISLANDS.

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Alopecurus Stejnegeri, VASEY.

Culms $\frac{1}{2}$ foot to 1 foot long, decumbent and geniculate below; leaves 2 to 3 inches long, upper sheaths inflated, ligule conspicuous, membranaceous, truncate; spike ovoid oblong, $\frac{7}{8}$ to $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch long, about $\frac{5}{8}$ inch thick, densely flowered; spikelets $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 lines long, 1 line wide; outer glumes very villous, $\frac{1}{3}$ longer than the flower; flowering glume 2 lines long, $\frac{1}{2}$ line wide, sparsely hairy near the apex, awn attached near the base, equaling or $\frac{1}{3}$ longer than the spikelet.

Differs from the arctic forms of *A. alpinus* in the larger size, especially of the spike, in the larger ligule, the much longer and narrower and more densely hairy outer glumes, and the narrower and longer flower.

Collected by Mr. L. Stejneger on the Commander Islands, in Russian territory, but probably also to be found within the American lines.

[The type specimens were collected on Bering Island, at the South Rookery, and on Copper Island, at Karabelnij, and were referred to as *A. alpinus* in the original report on the plants (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., VII, pp. 529, 538).—L. Stejneger.]