

Oh, yeah. See, the Plains Indians were all commonly associated and they knew their medicines and their herbs and this and that.

(What was the Arapaho name for that plant?)

nihwónwúxú' -xú' is the "root." "Root medicine."

(How did you say just "root"?)

wúxú' --well, the word, "root," in Arapaho is híθéíci but that's just a branch root. But this -wúxú', it has medicinal value.

(Interruption)

SWEETGRASS: USE OF AS PERFUME, ETC.

(I think you were explaining the difference in the words for root?)

Yes, Where a root is used as a medicine, that herb, we call it wúxú'. That's the name of the herb that has medicinal value--

wúxú' --That's the same as "grass." Same as this ordinary

prairie grass. wúxú'. But in distinguishing medicinal herb

and grass they say wúxùu. wúxùu is a medicine--medicinal

value. wúxùu--that's a herb of medicinal value. And wúxú'

is "grass." There's another one that I haven't been able to find

out definitely, and that's this sweetgrass that grows along the

rivers in Wyoming and Montana, Utah, and Idaho and those places.

We call it "sweet grass," but it has a very pleasing odor.

Indians used it for perfume. Sometimes the girls soak it and

wet their hair with it--comb it. And sometimes men braid it and

use it for their quivir (bandolier)--like these Mexican beans

that I showed you. They braid it and it stays green. And of

course they have to splice it to make it all even, you know.

Plait it in fours, about the size of those beans. You don't see

that anymore. Last time I was it was a Kiowa--part-Arapaho--