

9422. AVENA SATIVA.**Oat.**

From Moscow, Russia. Received through Mr. E. A. Bessey, from Immer & Sons (No. 104, July 22, 1902), February 10, 1903.

Swedish Select. "This excellent variety has proven exceptionally good for the dry Steppe region. This is a selection made in Sweden of the Ligowo oat and bred up by Immer & Sons. It originally came from Ladoga, near St. Petersburg. This year's crop." (*Bessey.*)

9423 to 9425. PANICUM MILIACEUM.**Proso.**

From Moscow, Russia. Received through Mr. E. A. Bessey, from Immer & Sons. (Nos. 105 to 107, July 22, 1902.)

9423.

Red Orenburg. Crop of 1902. Received February 10, 1903. (No. 105.)

9424.

Red Vorónezsh. Crop of 1902. Received May 22, 1903. (No. 106.)

9425.

Black Vorónezsh. Crop of 1902. Received May 22, 1903. (No. 107.)

9426. PISTACIA LENTISCUS.**Mastic.**

From the rocky cliffs along the seashore, between Leghorn and Castiglioncello, Italy. Collected by Mr. W. T. Swingle (No. 123, January 14, 1903). Received February 17, 1903.

"The lentisk or mastic tree is found chiefly in the immediate vicinity of the sea in the Mediterranean region wherever the winters are not too severe (it is decidedly less hardy than the terebinth). Its northern limit is about the January isotherm of 42.8° to 46.4° F. It is a small evergreen tree (other species of *Pistacia* are deciduous) or more often a shrub, branching profusely from the ground. When growing in tree form it sometimes reaches a height of 20 to 25 feet, and a diameter of 8 inches to one foot. It prefers silicious soils and avoids those decidedly calcareous in nature, being just the opposite of the terebinth, so the two are very rarely seen growing together in a wild state. The leaves are rich in tannin (11.5 per cent), and are collected and sold in Tunis as a substitute for sumac for tanning. The seeds are much liked by pigs, goats, and wild boars in Tunis, and are an important source of food in dry years when the fruit is apt to be unusually abundant, while other forage is scarce. In Chios a grafted variety yields *mastic*, a soft resin much prized in the Orient for chewing gum and for flavoring liquors. This is a promising stock on which to graft the pistache, especially on silicious or slightly acid soils near the sea. It is said not to be so long lived as the terebinth, and the pistache, when grafted on the lentisk, is said to live only forty years, whereas it lives one or two centuries on the terebinth. It is probably a dwarf stock and pistaches grafted on it should be set out at smaller distances apart than on other stocks. On sandy soil with moderate bottom heat, there should be no difficulty in starting the cuttings." (*Swingle.*)

9427 to 9436.

From Nice, France. Presented by Mr. A. Robertson-Proschowsky. Received January 12, 1903.

A collection of seeds as follows:

9427. ARISTOLOCHIA ELEGANS.**9433.** PHLOMIS FRUTICOSA.**9428.** CESTRUM ELEGANS.**9434.** SUTHERLANDIA FRUTESCENS.**9429.** CISTUS ALBIDUS.**9435.** PITTOSPORUM UNDULATUM.**9430.** CLEOME ARBOREA (?)**9436.** TACSONIA MANICATA.**9431.** DOLICHOS LABLAB.**9432.** ECHINOCACTUS SCHUMANNIANUS.