

19994 to 19995.

From Yokohama, Japan. Received through the Yokohama Nursery Company, March 14, 1907.

Plants imported for use in matting-plant experiments.

19994. *CYPERUS TEGETIFORMIS.*

Matting sedge.

19995. *JUNCUS EFFUSUS.*

Matting rush.

19996. COLOCASIA ANTIQUORUM ESCULENTA.

Taro.

From Funchal, Madeira. Received through Mr. David Fairchild, March 19, 1907.

“(No. 017, Feb. 22, 1907.) Sets of the so-called *Igname* of Madeira. Probably, but not certainly, the white, or *Branca*, variety. According to one of the green grocers here, John de Pontes, Rua dos Tanoeiros 40-42, these *Ignames* sell for 3 cents to 4 cents a pound, while sweet potatoes sell for only 2 cents. Crop comes in in February and ends in April. Keep well; yield about one-third that of sweet potatoes; plantations continually watered; planting at all times of the year; side rootstocks or tubers removed and the central stock left to form a perpetual plantation. The growers in the country boil the tubers before bringing them to market. Then they are brought down from the hills in great baskets and sold in this boiled condition for 5 pence (10 cents) a pound. They are very palatable and nqrishing, I believe, and rank here as more of a delicacy than the sweet potato. Only two kinds are known here so far as I have ascertained.” (*Fairchild.*)

19997. COLOCASIA ANTIQUORUM ESCULENTA.

Taro.

From Funchal, Madeira. Received through Mr. David Fairchild, March 19, 1907.

“(No. 018, Feb. 22, 1907.) Sets of the so-called *Vermelho*, or red variety. There seems to be little preference given to either of these sorts (this one and S. P. I. No. 19996). These are just now coming into market as a crop. They are peeled or scraped, then boiled three to four hours in salt water.” (*Fairchild.*)

19998. JUNCUS sp.

Rush.

From Caldas da Rainha, Portugal. Received through Mr. David Fairchild, March 19, 1907.

“(No. 018a, Feb. 28, 1907.) Roots and seeds of a very slender rush growing in very sandy soil near the waterways of this place. It is used for tying vines to their supports all over this part of Portugal and is sold in the market place. I measured some of the stems and found them $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet long. They are unusually tough and slender. Mats are made from them also.” (*Fairchild.*)

19999. JUNCUS sp.

Rush.

From Maorga, near Alcobasso, Portugal. Received through Mr. David Fairchild, March 19, 1907.

“(No. 019, Feb. 28, 1907.) Roots of a species of *Juncus* similar to, if not identical with, No. 018a, S. P. I. No. 19998, but from a field of *Juncus* which is cut over every year. The soil is a light, sandy one, just like that on Cat Island, S. C.; in fact, turpentine pines are growing all over the land. The rush grows in swampy places which are dry during a period of the year. Cutting is done in May. Used for matting and for tying vines.” (*Fairchild.*)

20001 to 20229.

From Manchuria, northern Korea, and eastern Siberia. Received through Mr. Frank N. Meyer, agricultural explorer, February 20, 1907.