

ordinary pansy, and plants of *Rosa moyesi*, a distinct Chinese form, may be of value for the rose breeders. Our unusual collection of bananas has been enriched by twelve varieties from Ceylon, and a new mango of some promise from Brazil has been added to the mango collection.

It may be well to repeat what has been explained in previous inventories, that the appearance of a name and description in this bulletin does not indicate surely that the seeds or plants are available at once for the use of experimenters. The majority of this plant material has to be sent out as soon as possible after it arrives, much of it to experts at the State agricultural experiment stations who are waiting for it, and the rest to our propagating gardens, where it will be taken care of until the young plants are large enough to send out by mail to those particularly interested. An eligible list is kept and applications from private or official experimenters who feel that they are in a position to give any of the introductions a careful trial are welcomed. The more specific the application the more attention it will receive from this office, for the main object of the work is to encourage careful trials with the purpose of building up new plant industries. Whenever an experimenter thinks he sees a definite use for any one of the thousands of plants which are being imported it is the aim of the Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction to put the living seeds or plants desired in his hands. As far as the limited facilities of the office permit, we will therefore agree to hunt up and get plant material of an experimental character, provided it is not listed in the seed or nursery catalogues of this country, and will place it in the hands of experimenters who can satisfy us of their ability to use it intelligently.

As it is of great importance that a historical record be kept of the success or failure of the many introductions, it is especially requested that whenever an experimenter makes a success of the plants sent him, and particularly if he publishes anything about them, he will notify the office and publish the office number, which is invariably sent out with every plant or package of seed, or, if the number is lost, he will at least give the date when the seed was sent him, so that through the accurate records which are kept the source of the seeds can be traced. It should also be remembered that a report of failure, while negative evidence, is often of very considerable value.

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OFFICE OF FOREIGN SEED AND PLANT INTRODUCTION,
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