

**1480. URTICA DIOICA.****Stinging nettle.**

From France. Received through Mr. W. T. Swingle, December, 1898. (4 packages.)

“Ortie dioïque.” “Grande ortie.”

“Perennial, of long duration; gives several cuts of early green forage, of good quality, especially when half-wilted. It is preferred by cows, and much used for mules. The seed, which is oleaginous, is preferred by the fowls and used by horse dealers for the feed of horses. It grows in arid, sandy, and stony land, on dust piles, along the roadside, on the outskirts of the woods, and, finally, also in very dry or very cold places where few other plants would succeed as well. To be sown with but a slight cover over the seed, either in spring or at the end of the summer and in autumn. It frequently does not sprout until the following spring. Stalk textile.” (*Vilmorin.*)

In spite of its various uses the nettle is hardly to be recommended for cultivation. The seed weighs about 15½ pounds per bushel; 9 pounds is required per acre.

**1481. ISATIS TINCTORIA.****Dyer's woad.**

From France. Received through Mr. W. T. Swingle, December, 1898. (6 packages.)

“Pastel.” “Vouède.” “Guède.”

“Biennial; forage green, very hardy; will bear frosts and is very early; good winter and spring pasture for sheep, on dry and calcareous lands. It accommodates itself to mediocre, sandy, gravelly, or even calcareous soils. When cultivated for the coloring matter it demands a richer soil than for forage, and must not be acid. The seed, it is said, may be used as feed for cattle.

“This plant, which may render very important services on account of its extreme earliness and the quality of its forage, merits a far more frequent employment on very poor lands. Sown from March to July, sometimes in autumn, in very fertile soils.” (*Vilmorin.*)

The seed weighs about 7¾ pounds per bushel; 9 to 11 pounds is sown per acre.

**1482. SANGUISORBA SANGUISORBA.****Common field burnet.**

From France. Received through W. T. Swingle, December, 1898. (13 packages.)

“Pimpernelle ordinaire.”

“Perennial; excellent pasture even in winter, especially for sheep and rabbits; soils of the poorest, dry, sandy, or calcareous; it resists the extremes of heat and cold. In some localities the seed is ground to feed cattle. To be sown from March to September, either alone or with esparcet, with white or violet clover, wild chicory, rye grass,” etc. (*Vilmorin.*)

The seed weighs about 23 pounds per bushel; 27 pounds is sown per acre.

**1483. VICIA MONANTHA.****One-flowered lentil.**

From France. Received through Mr. W. T. Swingle, December, 1898. (42 packages.)

“Jarosse d'Auvergne,” “Lentille à une fleur.”

“Forage annual of good quality; seeds used like the lentils; excellent for very poor, sandy, siliceous, or schistose soils. To be sown in autumn with a little rye or oats to support it.” (*Vilmorin.*)

The seed weighs 58 to 62 pounds per bushel; 71 to 90 pounds is sown per acre.

**1484. RAPHANUS SATIVUS.****Radish.**

From France. Received through Mr. W. T. Swingle, February, 1899. (8 packages.)

“The Ardèche field radish, which is grown in the south of France more for feeding cattle than for table use. It is a very long-rooted and rather late radish, and yields a heavier crop of leaves than of roots. It is a plant of no account for kitchen-garden culture, and even for cattle-feeding purposes neither it nor the corkscrew radish is very extensively grown. Experience has shown, however, that they are not without merit in this respect, and we think that in many cases it would be found advantageous to cultivate some of the larger varieties of radishes for cattle-feeding purposes, as is done in the case of beet roots, carrots, and turnips.”

The seed represents a recently improved strain of this variety, and may prove of interest as a fodder crop.