

thought can contribute to the production of better persimmons, and this inventory contains species from Mauritius, Bengal, the Caucasus, and Mexico.

The total number of introductions listed, 844, is an average of over 280 a month, or 10 introductions each official day, which is more than 16 per cent above the average for any previous period, notwithstanding the fact that only one explorer has been in the field during this time. This may be taken as an indication of the increase in requests from experimenters for new material and in foreign correspondence which leads to the discovery of valuable foreign plants not heretofore introduced.

Special attention is called to the increasing quantity of technical botanical matter included, particularly the geographic distribution of the rarer species. For this, as well as for the determination of the species, Mr. H. C. Skeels, working under the supervision of Mr. Frederick V. Coville, of the Office of Taxonomic and Range Investigations, is responsible. Miss Mary A. Austin, as heretofore, has had charge of the preparation of the inventory.

DAVID FAIRCHILD,
Agricultural Explorer in Charge.

OFFICE OF FOREIGN SEED AND PLANT INTRODUCTION,
Washington, D. C., December 17, 1910.