

# SEEDS AND PLANTS IMPORTED DURING THE PERIOD FROM JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 1911: INVENTORY NO. 28; NOS. 31371 TO 31938.

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## INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT.

This twenty-eighth inventory of seeds and plants imported contains 20 per cent more material than the inventory covering the same period of last year and includes 668 introductions.

It contains some interesting plants collected by Mr. Frank N. Meyer in Chinese Turkestan during the winter of 1910 and the spring of 1911. These months were spent by Mr. Meyer in exploring the oases of Chinese Turkestan south of the Tien Shan Range and in crossing over this range to Chugutchak, Mongolia. Of the dangers of travel in this country Mr. Meyer himself will probably be given an opportunity to tell in a later publication. Certainly they were great enough to make the material secured of very unusual value.

Part of the collections made by Mr. C. V. Piper during his study of the forage-crop situation in the Philippines is also included. His collections from the Dutch East Indies and British India, where he traveled as an agricultural explorer, will be described in future inventories.

Experimenters living in the Northern States will probably be interested in the collection of winter wheats which Mr. Meyer secured in Chinese Turkestan (Nos. 31780 to 31791); in four varieties of hull-less barley from which the natives of Chinese Turkestan make bread (Nos. 31793 to 31796); in alfalfa varieties from Khotan, Kashgar, and Khanaka, one of which has the ability to grow in cool weather when other sorts have stopped growing (Nos. 31811 to 31815); in a variety of alfalfa from Chugutchak, Mongolia, which is said by the growers there to be much hardier than the Turkestan alfalfa, though giving only two cuttings, whereas the Turkestan gives three, but while one-third of the plants of the Turkestan alfalfa were winterkilled none of the Mongolian variety was injured (No. 31687); in a hardy wild apple found by Mr. Meyer at Kulja, Chinese Turkestan, which may prove of value for breeding purposes (No.