

*Distribution.*—Southeastern Russia and Turkey, and eastward through Armenia, and Persia to Turkestan.

**33271. MYRTUS ARAYAN H. B. K.**

**Arayan.**

From Rio Verde, San Luis Potosi, Mexico. Presented by Mr. F. Foex, Director, Agricultural Experiment Station of Rio Verde, through Mr. William A. Taylor, Assistant Chief, Bureau of Plant Industry. Received March 8, 1912.

“These seeds are from a fruit tree of the State of Jalisco. This fruit is well appreciated by young boys, and, above all, by young girls, but not by older people, because they are acid. But they are delicious—First, cooked with sugar; second, dried in sugar powder; third, in sauces for puddings, etc.; fourth, in sirups. These fruits are very small, but when the young trees are 18 months old they can be budded with larger and better varieties.” (Foex.)

See No. 30499 for previous introduction.

**33272 to 33277.**

From Valencia, Spain. Presented by Mr. R. Frazer, jr., American consul, at the request of Mr. Harry B. Chase, Riverside, Cal. Received March 29, 1912.

Seeds of the following; quoted notes by Mr. Frazer:

**33272 to 33274. CITRULLUS VULGARIS (L.) Schrad. Watermelon.**

“The watermelon of this district, and indeed of all Spain, appears to be a fixed species that has undergone very little modification for centuries. The varying degrees of color and different percentages of sugar that distinguish the pulp of fruit grown in different localities in Spain appear to depend almost entirely on soil conditions rather than varieties, and the Valencia watermelon still differs little from similar fruit grown in northern Africa. It does not attain very great size, but has a remarkably thin rind and highly colored meat, and is of superior quality.

“The principal pests from which melons of all kinds suffer here are mildew, scale, and snails. The scale, which is said to belong to the family of the rose scale, is the most difficult to combat successfully, especially when dull, foggy, warm weather conditions favor its rapid propagation. The dry, parching winds that blow at irregular intervals during the summer from the semiarid interior of the country effectively arrest the progress of this scale and if continued two or three days will exterminate it altogether. Snails are dealt with in a very practical and economic way by turning flocks of ducklings into the melon plantations affected.”

**33275 to 33277. CUCUMIS MELO L. Muskmelon.**

**33275.** “*Bronceado.* This melon is oval or slightly conical in shape, with very thick meat and small seed cavity.”

**33276.** “*Negro.* This melon is of a very dark unchanging-green color, of an elongated oval or cylindrical shape and unusually large, weighing 9 to 16 pounds.”

**33277.** “*Bronceado and Negro seed mixed.*”

“These are the genuine winter melons of this zone, they are by far the best varieties and receive the greatest care in selection and cultivation. Both at their best are wonderfully fine, and probably nothing superior of their kind can be produced in any part of the world.

“The fame of the fine winter melons grown in this district, of which 12,000 to 15,000 tons are exported annually, has extended over the