

34493. CUDRANIA TRICUSPIDATA (Carr.) Bureau.**Che.***(Maclura tricuspidata Carr.)*

From Augusta, Ga. Secured by Mr. Peter Bisset, of the Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction, from P. J. Berckman's Co. Received November 11, 1912.

"These fruits are from one of Mr. Wilson's introductions; an edible fruit, allied to the *Maclura (Toxylon pomiferum)*, or Osage orange." (*Bisset.*)

"Apparently this fruit will thrive down South, and it is, as you say, both interesting and beautiful. In China it occurs throughout the Yangtze Valley, from river level to 3,000 feet altitude. It varies from a small, much-branched, thorny bush to a tree 40 to 50 feet high. The fruits are eaten by the Chinese, but are not much esteemed. In Szechwan the leaves are used for feeding young silkworms, it being claimed that worms thus fed produce a superior kind of silk to those fed upon mulberry leaves alone. The plant is exceedingly common and by no means new, but I believe with you that there is a future for it in this country as a hedge plant or ornamental tree, if nothing else." (*E. H. Wilson.*)

Distribution.—The provinces of Shantung, Kiangsu, Chekiang, Kiangsi, Hupeh, and Kwangtung; and in the islands of the Korean Archipelago.

34494 to 34496.

From Singapore, Straits Settlements. Presented by Mr. Wilson Popenoe, Altadena, Cal. Received November 8, 1912.

Quoted notes by Mr. Popenoe, except as indicated:

34494. NEPHELIUM LAPPACEUM L.**Rambutan.**

"The rambutan is one of the commonest and at the same time most palatable fruits of the Malay Peninsula. Trees are to be seen in almost every garden in both Singapore and Penang, and in its season the fruit is hawked everywhere in the streets. The tree grows to a height of about 40 feet, and when in fruit is a handsome sight, the terminal clusters of bright crimson fruits being produced on every branch. The compound leaves are made up of oblong-ovate leaflets, about 4 inches in length and 1½ inches in width. In habit of growth the tree appears to be normally rather round topped and spreading, but as it is frequently planted among numerous other trees it is forced to grow tall and slender, branching only at a considerable height above the ground.

"According to Mr. J. D'Almeida Pereira, of Singapore, there are eight or ten varieties of the rambutan, the difference being in form and coloring. The natives, however, do not distinguish between any of these varieties. He considers the '*Atjense*' variety, which he has propagated by grafting, to be the finest, as it is the sweetest in flavor and the pulp does not adhere to the seed as closely as in most varieties. From his description of this form it would appear that it is nothing less than the species *Nephelium mutabile*, which, although of distinctive appearance from the rambutan, seems to be considered by all the natives as merely a variety of the latter. Among the varieties of the true rambutan the differences do not seem to be very well marked or of great importance. In appearance a cluster of rambutans, when highly colored, is exceptionally attractive. The best forms attain, when fully ripe, a rich crimson color, while the poorer ones are greenish or yellowish, sometimes a combination of these two and lacking any tinge of crimson. The individual fruits are slightly smaller than a hen's egg, but more elongated in form; they are covered with soft spines about a half inch in length, and are borne in clusters of varying size, but rarely containing more than 10 or 12 fruits. The pericarp