

37743. VIGNA SINENSIS (Torner) Savi. Fabaceæ. Cowpea.

From Johannesburg, Transvaal, South Africa. Presented by Mr. J. Burt Davy, Transvaal Maize Breeding Station, Burttholm, Vereeniging, South Africa. Received April 11, 1914.

"*Dinawa* (Sesutu name) grown by the Transvaal Basuto among the maize, for food." (Davy.)

37744. PRUNUS ARMENIACA L. Amygdalaceæ. Apricot.

From the oasis of Dakhleh, Egypt. Presented by Sheik Abu Bakr, of Rashida village, to Prof. S. C. Mason, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, at the time of his visit there. Received April 12, 1914.

"Dakhleh apricot. Seedling apricots growing in the irrigated gardens of the oasis of Dakhleh, western Egypt. The fruits vary greatly in size and quality, but some are of decided excellence. Quantities of them are dried with the pits in them and used stewed as a dessert during the winter months. These fruits are believed to have been grown in the oasis since the Roman occupation, nearly 2,000 years ago, and are interesting to American plant breeders on account of their resistance to desert conditions of heat. The mean annual temperature of the oasis of Dakhleh is above 75° F., some monthly means being close to 90° F." (Mason.)

37745. COCOS ROMANZOFFIANA Cham. Phœnicaceæ. Palm.

From Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Presented by Dr. John C. Willis, botanic garden. Received April 13, 1914.

See S. P. I. No. 34757 for previous introduction.

"Stems 30 to 40 feet high, somewhat fusiform above; leaves about half as long as the caudex, the withered ones deflexed, pendent, the upper ones spreading, often arching; segments conduplicate at the base, ensiform; spadix about 6 feet long, at first inclosed in a stout, pendulous spathe which appears among the lowest leaves. In southern Brazil, near the sea, according to recent characterizations, it comprises a wide variety of forms. Probably the *Cocos flexuosa* planted in this country is not *Cocos flexuosa* of Martius, but of Hort., a hardy form of *romanzoffiana*, which, according to the late Barbosa-Rodrigues, is a polymorphic species including, besides this *flexuosa* type, all our garden forms known as *C. plumosa* Hook., *C. coronata* Hort. (not Mart.), *C. botryophora* Hort., *C. datil* Griseb. and Drude, and *C. australis* Mart." (N. Taylor. In Bailey, *Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture*.)

37746 and 37747. OPUNTIA spp. Cactaceæ. Prickly-pear.

From Barbados, British West Indies. Collected by Messrs. P. H. Dorsett, A. D. Shamel, and Wilson Popenoe, of the Bureau of Plant Industry. Received April 13, 1914. Cuttings of the following; quoted notes by Messrs. Dorsett, Shamel, and Popenoe.

37746. (No. 73.) Cochineal cactus, as it is called by the negroes.

Found growing near a small hut between Bridgetown and Holetown, about 2 miles back from the coast. The plant was treelike in form, about 12 feet in height, and covered with small fruits of a peculiar shade of cochineal red. Pads almost spineless."

37747. (No. 74.) A low-growing, very spiny Opuntia, called by the negroes *fatiron prickles*, found along the roadside between Bridgetown