

41688. PERSEA AMERICANA Mill. Lauraceæ. Avocado.
(*Persea gratissima* Gaertn. f.)

From Guatemala, Guatemala. Presented by Mr. William Owen, American vice consul in charge. Received January 13, 1916.

"Seeds of a very large aguacate, which I consider the finest product of Guatemala in that line. They are high grown, which will enable the tree to thrive better in a northern climate." (*Owen*.)

41689. CHAYOTA EDULIS Jacq. Cucurbitaceæ. Chayote.
(*Sechium edule* Swartz.)

From New Orleans, La. Presented by the J. Steckler Seed Company. Received January 24, 1916.

"Green, spiny."

41690. CUPRESSUS GLABRA Sudw. Pinaceæ. Smooth cypress.

From Sedona, Ariz. Purchased from Mr. J. F. Derrick. Received January 25, 1916.

"Collected in Oak Creek Canyon."

In general appearance the foliage of smooth cypress resembles that of Arizona cypress (*Cupressus arizonica* Greene), though the former species can be distinguished from the latter by the compact, narrowly oval, or somewhat pyramidal crown. The branches of the smooth cypress, particularly of younger trees, are strongly upright. Old trees grown in the open develop long lower branches, which from their great weight are less upright than those of trees of the same age in a close stand. In height the trees range from 25 to 30 feet and in diameter from 10 to 14 inches, though much larger trees probably exist. The trunk is slightly tapering, while the upper portion is sometimes divided into several branches, differing in this respect from the usual undivided stem of Arizona cypress. Only about one-fourth to one-third of the trunk is clear of branches. The most distinctive characteristic of this tree is its thin, smooth, dark purple-red bark. The foliage is a bright blue-green (glaucous). The small spherical cones, composed of six to eight scales and armed with large incurved, somewhat flat-pointed bosses, are borne on short stout stems and mature at the end of the second season. The large size of the seeds at once distinguishes them from those of Arizona cypress, though in color and form the two are similar. Thoroughly seasoned wood is moderately durable in contact with the soil, fence posts lasting about 20 years and corral poles 30 to 35 years. Cabins built of the logs 40 years ago are still in a good state of preservation. The small size of the trees and the limited supply have confined the use of the wood mainly to local needs. The extreme age attained by this species has not yet been determined, but it is probably as long lived as Arizona cypress. The largest trees found so far are at least 200 or 250 years old. (Adapted from *Bulletin No. 207, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, The Cypress and Juniper Trees of the Rocky Mountain Region, p. 9.*)

41691 to 41702. DIOSPYROS KAKI L. f. Diospyraceæ. Kaki.

From Okitsu, Japan. Cuttings presented by Prof. Ishiwara, Government Horticultural Experiment Station. Received January 8, 1916. Notes by Mr. T. Kiyono, Semmes, Ala.

41691. "No. 1. *Anzai*. Sweet. Kiyoto Province."

41692. "No. 2. *Kubo*. Sweet. Kiyoto Province."