

41718 to 41721—Continued.

41719. CITRUS NOBILIS DELICIOSA (Ten.) Swingle. Rutaceæ.

Mandarin orange.

"*Chü tzü*. Has no pith and is of very good flavor. The skin is dried and boiled and the infusion drunk as a medicine."

41720. FIGUS LACOR Buch.-Ham. Moraceæ.

"*Huang ko shu*. A tree 150 feet high, 12 feet in circumference, grows best among rocks in a subtropical climate. It takes about 15 to 20 years to mature in good soil; flowers white. It is used principally for shading purposes on the highroad and in the temples. It is of no commercial value. Seeds yellow, inclosed in a pod."

41721. MOMORDICA CHARANTIA L. Cucurbitaceæ.

Balsam pear.

"*K'u kua*. A creeping plant 10 feet or more, grows best in a climate of 70° to 90° F. It takes about two months to mature; bears white and yellow fruits in autumn. The fruit is about 1 foot long and 3 or 4 inches in circumference. It is used in soups and as a vegetable and is prepared by boiling. It sells in the market for about 20 cash each. Seeds yellow."

41722. PARMENTIERA CEREIFERA Seem. Bignoniaceæ. Candle tree.

From Mayaguez, Porto Rico. Presented by Mr. C. F. Kinman, horticulturist, Agricultural Experiment Station. Received January 4, 1916.

A tropical American tree, with simple or trifoliate leaves, white flowers, and fleshy, cylindrical, yellow fruits, often 4 feet long, resembling wax candles and having a peculiar applelike odor. Cattle are sometimes fattened on these fruits. (Adapted from *Lindley, Treasury of Botany, vol. 2, p. 848*.)

See S. P. I. Nos. 26206 and 28674 for previous introductions.

41723. DIOSPYROS EBENASTER Retz. Diospyraceæ. Black sapote.

From Honolulu, Hawaii. Presented by Mr. Gerrit P. Wilder. Received January 4, 1916.

"The *zapote prieto* or *zapote negro* (black sapote) of Mexico, an interesting fruit belonging to the persimmon family. The tree grows in compact, shapely form and is of very ornamental appearance with its oblong-oval glossy leaves about 4 inches long. In appearance the fruit greatly resembles some varieties of the kaki or Japanese persimmon; instead of being bright orange, however, they are light green when ripe, and measure 2½ to 3 or even 4 inches in diameter. In shape they are oblate or distinctly flattened, and the persistent light-green calyx is quite prominent. The interior of the fruit, when ripe, is anything but attractive in appearance, the flesh being dark brown or almost black in color and of a greasy consistency. The flavor is sweet, but rather lacking in character; for this reason the Mexicans frequently serve the fruit cut up, or mashed up, with orange juice; it is a first-rate dish. The seeds look like those of the persimmon and are not very numerous." (*Wilson Popenoe*.)

See S. P. I. Nos. 39719, 40338, and 41568 for previous introductions.

41724. ABELMOSCHUS ESCULENTUS (L.) Moench. Malvaceæ. Okra.
(*Hibiscus esculentus* L.)

From Athens, Greece. Presented by the director of the Royal Agricultural Society. Received January 11, 1916.

"A half-hardy plant introduced into the United States and West Indies from Africa and cultivated for its fruit pods, which are used in soups, stews, catsups,