

**42201. PLATANUS ORIENTALIS L. Platanaceæ. Oriental plane tree.**

Presented by Mr. G. S. Miller, of the National Museum, through Mr. Frederick V. Coville, of the Bureau of Plant Industry. Received March 23, 1916.

"Seeds received from Dr. W. L. Abbott, of Philadelphia. Dr. Abbott states that they are from Kashmir, that the tree is a valuable shade tree of very rapid growth, handsome form, and enormous size, and that the seeds should be planted immediately. The Kashmir name is *chenar*. Dr. Abbott also states that the tree is not a native of Kashmir, but was brought from Persia." (Coville.)

See S. P. I. No. 42179 for previous introduction.

**42202 to 42204.**

Collected by Dr. David Griffiths, of the Bureau of Plant Industry. Received January 19, 1916. Notes by Dr. Griffiths.

**42202. CHILOPSIS LINEARIS (Cav.) Sweet. Bignoniaceæ.**  
(*Chilopsis saligna* D. Don.)

"From the Santa Rita Mountains, Ariz. (No. 1099 DG., October 12, 1915.) This is a small willowlike tree inhabiting desert washes from Texas to California. It is very showy when in blossom, the flowers being purplish tinged and resembling those of a miniature catalpa. In nature its habit is quite open and lax, but it stands pruning and can easily be shaped as desired. The seed can probably be planted in the open in a situation where there is good drainage and where moisture conditions can be controlled when the hot, dry season arrives."

**42203. DASYLIRION WHEELERI S. Wats. Liliaceæ. Sotol.**

"The sotol is on the whole a rather stiff, formal plant of the yucca family. It has a short, thick trunk and long, narrow, flat, spiny-edged, gracefully drooping leaves, very different in this respect from the stiff, rigid century plants, which are not distant relatives. It does not sucker like the century plants, neither does the plant die when it has thrown up a flower stalk, thus leaving an ugly break in the planting. Its flower stalks are immense. They often reach a height of 8 or 10 feet, the myriads of small flowers occupying a solid spindle-shaped space 4 feet in length. The plant itself, with its glabrous graceful leaves, is handsome, but it is strikingly attractive from early blossoming until late winter after the mass of seed has fallen. The sotols are most attractive as specimen plants. In Mexico the leaves are stripped of their curved teeth by being pulled through a slit cut in a piece of tin and then woven into durable floor coverings, the ones we have seen lasting in good condition for two years under ordinary wear. The usual practice is for the weaver to enter the house with an armful of the leaves suitably stained and beginning in one corner of the room weave a mat to fit the floor, composing the design as he proceeds. The price is usually about 40 cents (Mexican money) per meter. From the stems of the plant, particularly in the State of Chihuahua, is manufactured one of the most violent of intoxicating distillates. In times of excessive drought the plants are cut down and the stems chopped up as feed for live stock. I believe that the seed of this planted where drainage is good and where moisture conditions can be controlled can be brought through in the open."