

44569 to 44579—Continued.

44573. ELEOCHARIS TUBEROSA (Roxb.) Schult. Cyperaceæ. **Beechi.**

These beechi tubers are mostly eaten raw, but are also sliced and shredded in soups and in meat and fish dishes. Foreigners in China grate them and serve them boiled as a winter vegetable, in which state they very much resemble sweet corn in looks and taste. The plants need a hot summer to mature and are grown on a muck or clayey soil with several inches of standing water on top, in very much the same manner as wet-land rice. (See S. P. I. No. 41680.)

For illustrations of beechi tubers and growing plants, see Plates I and II.

44574 and 44575. ERIOBOTRYA JAPONICA (Thunb.) Lindl. Malaceæ.

Loquat.

44574. *Motogi-biwa.* (Trees.) **44575.** *Haragami-biwa.* (Trees.)

44576. FICUS PYRIFOLIA Burm. Moraceæ.

Fig.

The name *Ficus pyrifolia* is of doubtful application. These plants may be *F. benjamina*, *F. erecta*, *F. fontanesii*, or *F. rubra*. (See Bailey, *Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture*, vol. 3, p. 1233.)

44577. MALUS SYLVESTRIS Miller. Malaceæ.

Apple.

(*Pyrus malus* L.)

Nakanaruko. Trees of "a variety of apple known in Japan as the *Iwai* or *Nakanaruko*. This variety is supposed to have come from this country, but it has also been said that it is of German origin. It has become a leading fall variety in Japan." (*J. K. Shaw, pomologist, Massachusetts Agricultural College.*)

44578. PYRUS sp. (?) Malaceæ.

Pear.

44579. ZINZIBER MIOGA Roscoe. Zinziberaceæ.

Roots of a perennial Japanese herb about 3 feet high, both wild and cultivated, with nearly linear, smooth, membranaceous leaves up to 15 inches long; white flowers in spikes 2 to 3½ inches long; and ovoid capsules. In summer and autumn the flowers, with the bracts, are eaten either raw or boiled; they have a slight acid taste and an aromatic odor. (Adapted from *Useful Plants of Japan, Agricultural Society of Japan, Tokyo, p. 30*, and from Bailey, *Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture*, vol. 6, p. 3544.)

44580. SOLANUM TUBEROSUM L. Solanaceæ.

Potato.

From Bogota, Colombia. Tubers presented by Mr. Jorge Ancizar. Received April 19, 1917.

Papa criolla. Tubers shaped like the common potato, but only about an inch in shortest diameter. "The Creole potatoes come out in three months and are delicious fried with their skins." (*Ancizar.*)

44581 to 44587. RIBES spp. Grossulariaceæ.

Currant.

From Ottawa, Canada. Plants presented by Mr. W. T. Macoun, Dominion Horticulturist, Central Experimental Farm. Received April 20, 1917.

44581. RIBES VULGARE Lam.

Garden currant.

Cumberland. A strong, moderately spreading grower and one of the most productive currants. The bright scarlet fruits are acid, medium sized, of fairly good quality, and occur in bunches of average length, usually only about half filled. The season is medium. (Adapted from *Macoun, Bulletin 56, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, Canada, p. 11.*)