

44689 and 44690. Poaceæ.**Grasses.**

From Oran, Salta, Argentina. Presented by Mr. S. W. Damon. Received April 20, 1917.

"Large, reedlike, tufted perennial grasses which grow to a height of 8 or 9 feet, forming immense clumps, in the more barren sandy portions of the region where the provinces of Tucuman, Catamarca, and Salta join. They grow in almost pure sand, more or less alkaline, in districts where no rain falls for months at a time, and are readily eaten by cattle and horses. They might prove to be good ornamentals and useful forage crops for the semiarid portions of the southwestern United States."

44689. CORTADERIA RUDIUSCULA Stapf.

44690. SPOROBOLUS sp.

44691 to 44698.

From Kew, England. Presented by Sir David Prain, director, Royal Botanic Gardens. Received April 26, 1917.

Introduced for the work of the Office of Forage-Crop Investigations.

44691 to 44695. LATHYRUS spp. Fabaceæ.

44691. LATHYRUS sp.

These seeds were received under the name of *L. undulatus*, but they do not agree with the seeds of that species in the office seed collection.

44692. LATHYRUS CIRRHOSUS Seringe.

A glabrous, climbing annual, 4 to 10 dm. (16 to 40 inches) long, with a woody, straight-winged stem; leaves composed of two to three pairs of nearly oblong leaflets, terminated by branching tendrils; purple or pinkish flowers in three to eight flowered loose racemes; and smooth, tawny pods about 2½ inches long, native to the barren slopes of the Pyrenees. (Adapted from X. Philippe, *Flore des Pyrénées*, p. 261.)

44693. LATHYRUS LAXIFLORUS (Desf.) Kuntze.

An erect herbaceous plant, native of the island of Crete, with a simple, slender, angled, hairy stem about a foot tall; alternate hairy leaves composed of two oval pointed leaflets, without tendrils; lax racemes of three to five bluish violet flowers; and hairy pods about an inch long. It is said to have a twisted root 1 foot long and 4 inches thick, with white flesh and long fibers. (Adapted from M. Desfontaines, in *Annales du Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle*, vol. 12, p. 57, 1908, as *Orobis laxiflorus*.)

Index Kewensis refers this to *Lathyrus hirsutus* L., but Ascherson and Graebner consider it a distinct species.

44694. LATHYRUS PISIFORMIS L.

A stout clambering perennial, up to 3½ feet in length, with narrow or broad-winged stem; compound leaves with three to five pairs of nearly ovate leaflets, terminated by rather slender tendrils; dense racemes of small violet flowers; and dark-brown pods about 2 inches long. It is native to central Europe and central and southern Asia. (Adapted from Ascherson and Graebner, *Synopsis der Mitteleuropäischen Flora*, vol. 6, p. 1034.)