

44784. CAMPOMANESIA FENZLIANA (Berg.) Glaziou. Myrtaceæ. Guabiroba.

From Lavras, Minas Geraes, Brazil. Presented by Mr. B. H. Hunnicutt, director, Escola Agricola de Lavras. Received May 18, 1917.

"A small Brazilian tree with foliage remarkably similar to that of some of the European oaks. It is usually 20 to 25 feet in height, though occasionally taller. The fruits greatly resemble small guavas, being orange-yellow, oblate in form, and up to an inch in diameter. The skin is thin and incloses a layer of granular, light yellow pulp which has a flavor somewhat stronger than that of the guava. The fruits are used principally for making jams and jellies. The tree should prove suitable for southern California and southern Florida." (Note of *Dorsett, Shamel, and Popenoe*.)

See also S. P. I. Nos. 37834 and 44086 for previous introductions.

44785. PERSEA AMERICANA Mill. Lauraceæ. Avocado.
(*P. gratissima* Gaertn. f.)

From Guatemala. Bud wood collected by Mr. Wilson Popenoe, agricultural explorer. Received June 8, 1917.

"(Nos. 132, 213. Avocado No. 12.) *Pankay*. This variety has been included in the set primarily for its probable hardiness. The parent tree is growing at an altitude of 8,500 feet, which is more than a thousand feet above the zone in which citrus trees are seen in Guatemala. Avocados are rarely found at this altitude. Several other avocado trees in the same town (Totonicapam) had been badly injured by a recent frost at the time *Pankay* was selected, but this variety had escaped practically untouched. How much may be due to situation or other circumstances, however, is not known, and not too much confidence should be placed in the superior hardiness of this variety until it has been thoroughly tested in Florida and California. Since, in addition to its probable hardiness, it is a fruit of very good quality, it can be strongly recommended for trial in the United States.

"The parent tree is growing in the patio of Jesusa v. de Camey, corner of Calle Cabanas and 10a Avenida Norte, Totonicapam. The altitude of this town is approximately 8,500 feet, perhaps a little higher. The situation is somewhat sheltered, since the tree stands in the patio of a house close to the north wall. Since the top of the tree, however, extends 10 feet or more above the roof of the house, the protection can not be of great importance, except from one point of view: The tree may have been effectively protected when young, being thus enabled to develop uninjured during the first few years of its growth, after which it was better able to withstand severe frosts. The age of the tree is said to be about 25 years; it stands 40 feet high, with a broadly oval, dense crown, the top of which has been cut out to avoid danger of its breaking in high wind and falling upon the tile roof of the house. The trunk is about 20 inches thick at the base, dividing 8 feet from the ground to form two main branches, which give off secondary branches at 20 feet from the ground. While the tree appears to be vigorous and hardy, it may be found somewhat difficult to propagate, as it does not make the best type of bud wood. The eyes are not plump, but somewhat slender, with the outer bud scales falling early, and the bud itself shows a tendency to fall at an early stage. The wood seems to be rather brittle.

"The flowering season is late April and May. The tree is quite productive, bearing its fruits often in clusters. It produced a good crop from the 1915 blooms and another good one from the 1916 blooms. Owing to the great eleva-