

The development of Australia is bringing to the front many valuable new plants. This inventory chronicles the arrival of the elephant grass (*Pennisetum purpureum*, No. 46890), which yields there 30 tons of hay per acre; a hardier species of the river oak or Australian pine (*Casuarina cunninghamiana*, No. 46881) than the one which has been planted by the hundreds of thousands in southern Florida; a drooping-branched species of the she-oak (No. 46882), which is said to be most beautiful; and the edible canna (*Canna edulis*, No. 46821), which is grown in Australia for the production of arrowroot and which has already shown remarkable adaptability to cultivation on the Everglades of Florida, a single plant having produced 80 pounds of tubers.

The problem of having green leafy vegetables throughout the summer in tropical regions is a difficult one, and the introduction from Yucatan of the chaya (*Jatropha urens*, No. 46862), a rapid-growing bush or small tree with succulent leaves which are cooked and eaten with eggs, like spinach, is worthy of particular mention. The idea of a dooryard tree from which a mess of greens can be picked strikes us as strange, because we have always gotten our tender leaves from low-growing plants; but there is no reason for discrimination against the tree.

The guarana (*Paullinia cupana*, No. 46863) is a tropical species of Paullinia from Para, where the seeds, which contain 5 per cent of them, are used to make a beverage. The searchers for this alkaloid may find this species a valuable source.

In the tropical vegetable garden of the future the yam (*Dioscorea alata*, No. 46768) will not be omitted, and those varieties which rival the best potato in flavor and texture will come into favor. Already, discriminating growers in Florida are beginning to grow several of the introduced varieties.

Mrs. Nuttall, whose acquaintance with the Indian food plants of Mexico is exceptional, recommends from her own personal experience the huauhtzontli (*Chenopodium nuttalliae*, Nos. 46632 and 46633) as a delicious dish when prepared in Mexican fashion. As the species seems to be very easily grown in the Southwest, the gardeners of that region may find in it a desirable new vegetable.

There is something fascinating to a child and to many grown-up people in a gourd. The most brilliantly colored one which I have seen is the *Trichosanthes quinqueangulata* (No. 46642) from the Philippines. It is about the size of those baubles which are hung on Christmas trees, and being beautiful carmine-red in color and lasting for months it is most attractive and should be grown in the South and shipped north at Christmas time.

Citrus growers in California and Florida will await impatiently the fruiting of the Vermilion orange or Chu kaa (*Citrus nobilis*, No.