



A FIELD OF MOLASSES GRASS IN BRAZIL. (MELINIS MINUTIFLORA BEAUV., S. P. I. No. 47162.)

This is the most important native pasture grass in Brazil, where it is known as *Capim melado* and *Capim gordura*; it is also native to parts of Africa. Although it is naturally abundant as a wild plant in Brazil, it is also cultivated extensively and is considered a very valuable forage, especially for fattening stock. The grass grows to a height of 3 to 4 feet and is very leafy; the blades have a strong molasseslike odor and are very sticky. Molasses grass was first introduced into the United States in 1899. It is well adapted to Florida and Gulf Coast conditions and will survive cold well below the freezing point, though the herbage becomes blackened. For the southern half of Florida it has shown considerable value as a pasture grass and at present is being planted rather extensively. Cattle must first acquire a taste for this grass before they will eat it readily. At Chico, Calif., it grew well, but did not withstand the winter. It may prove valuable in southern California. (Photographed by P. H. Dorsett, Lavras, Minas Geraes, Brazil, January 20, 1914; P14658FS.)