

48162. DIOSPYROS sp. Diospyraceæ. Persimmon.

From Puerto Bertoni, Paraguay. Presented by Dr. M. Bertoni. Numbered October, 1919.

"*Kaki silvestre*. A species of *Diospyros*, indigenous to the forests of eastern Paraguay and commonly found in rocky places in the open woods on the banks of the Rio Parana. It is a small tree, 20 to 26 feet high, and quite leafy; it produces a great abundance of almost spherical fruits, about an inch in diameter, which mature in autumn. *Kaki silvestre* apparently does not suffer from the effects of temperatures above -3° C. [27° F.]. It could possibly be used advantageously as a stock with *Diospyros kaki*." (Bertoni.)

48163. PISTACIA ATLANTICA Desf. Anacardiaceæ.

From Tripoli, Libya, Africa. Presented by Dr. O. Fenzi, director, Stabilimento Orticolo Libico. Received October 15, 1919.

A tree, native to northwestern Algeria, 35 to 49 feet in height, with many woody branches in a dense head. The blue drupe is somewhat fleshy and about the size of a pea. The tree is frequently found in sandy uncultivated fields not far from the city of Gafsa and seems to have been cultivated at one time by the inhabitants. A resinous gum flows from the bark of the trunk and branches at various times of the year, especially in summer, and hardens to a pale yellow color. It has a pleasant aromatic odor and taste, scarcely distinguishable from the oriental mastic gum, and called by the same name, *huelc*, by the Moors. It thickens in plates covering the branches, or in irregular balls differing in thickness and shape, often the size of a finger. Some of these become detached from the tree and are scattered on the ground. The Arabs collect this substance in autumn and winter and chew it to whiten the teeth and sweeten the breath (Adapted from *Desfontaines, Flora Atlantica, vol. 2, p. 364.*)

It is one of the species used for stocks for the true pistache.

48164 to 48170.

From Auckland, New Zealand. Presented by Mr. H. R. Wright. Received October 14, 1919. Quoted notes by Mr. Wright.

48164. ALECTRYON EXCELSUM Gaertn. Sapindaceæ.

"A handsome evergreen tree, commonly called the New Zealand oak."

A tree 30 to 60 feet high, with black bark; the young branches, the under surfaces of the compound leaves, the paniced inflorescences, and the capsules are clothed with a silky, ferruginous pubescence. The globose, shining, jet-black seeds, from which the Maoris formerly extracted an oil, are half embedded in a scarlet, fleshy, cup-shaped aril. The tree yields a tough, elastic timber valuable for ax handles, bullock yokes, etc. (Adapted from *Cheeseman, Manual of the New Zealand Flora, p. 103.*)

48165. ENTELEA ARBORESCENS R. Br. Tiliaceæ.

One of the handsomest of small trees, which used to be common along the north coast of the North Island. In some places this tree is called the *New Zealand mulberry*, on account of the shape of the large heart-shaped leaves, which are beautifully veined, soft, and wilt quickly when gathered. The pure-white flowers with crumpled petals are produced in large drooping clusters, each single blossom being about an inch in diameter. The fruit is dark brown and rough, with inch-long bristles. The wood is remarkably light and was used by the Maoris for floats