

# INVENTORY OF SEEDS AND PLANTS IMPORTED BY THE OFFICE OF FOREIGN SEED AND PLANT INTRO- DUCTION DURING THE PERIOD FROM NOVEMBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1919 (NO. 61; NOS. 48427 TO 49123).

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## INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT.

This inventory describes a wealth of new plants. There are more than 25 new fruits included in it, more than 10 striking new timber trees, 4 street or windbreak trees, 8 new forage plants, 5 new cereals, 2 drug plants, 4 new vegetables, and more than 125 new ornamental trees, shrubs, or plants. The expense of propagating these and of finding people who are interested in growing them is one which only those who see the thousands of seedlings coming up can appreciate. The knowledge that the success of a single one of them may in time pay for all the trouble and expense turns the trouble of taking care of them into a romance of real fascination.

The maruka grass (*Echinochloa stagnina*, No. 48427) of the Philippines for trial on overflowed lands on the Everglades of Florida is worth emphasizing.

Mr. J. Burt Davy collected for us, during a short expedition into the region of the Belgian Kongo and Rhodesia, seeds of a remarkable number of interesting economic plants (Nos. 48428 to 48503), among which should be mentioned the knob thorn (*Acacia pallens*, No. 48428, one of the most valuable hardwood trees of the Transvaal; the mootungulu (*Amomum* sp., No. 48433), an edible-fruited plant related to the ginger; the kifumbe (*Bauhinia reticulata*, No. 48437), the pods of which are used for fodder; the mookasje (*Diospyros senegalensis*, No. 48454), a persimmon from the Belgian Kongo; the noxa tree (*Parinari mobola*, No. 48469), a handsome ornamental and useful tree of the Rosaceæ, whose leaves are dark green above and snowy white below and whose edible fruits, the size of a small peach, are produced in such abundance that at the time of ripening a large proportion of the native population is sustained almost exclusively on them; and various cultivated forms of *Uapaca* (Nos. 48490 to 48494), a genus of Euphorbiaceæ, bearing edible fruits which are given native names by the inhabitants of the Kongo.

The yama-momo of Japan or yang mei of China (*Myrica rubra*, No. 48504) is one of the most showy of table fruits, and the fact that specimens of it are growing at Chico, Del Monte, and Berkeley, Calif.,