

and Brooksville, Fla., makes it appear desirable to arouse more interest in its culture in America. Its slow growth should not prevent its being planted extensively, for it is a handsome evergreen tree worthy of a place on anyone's lawn.

The Mexican hawthorn (No. 48507), sent by Mr. F. S. Furnivall, with fruits suited for preserves, may add a fruiting and ornamental tree to our Southern States.

When the writer was in Cape Town in 1902, Prof. MacOwan called to his attention the spekboom, an important fodder tree of the karoo, and one of the trees then standing in the gardens was cut down and sent in as cuttings. As a result several trees of this species are now growing in Santa Barbara and San Diego, Calif. If it can be naturalized in this portion of California and become wild, as in South Africa, it will add a valuable forage asset to the hillsides of that region. Dr. Shantz has sent in additional material with most interesting data on this important tree (*Portulacaria afra*, No. 48510).

The late Aaron Aaronsohn called attention to *Crataegus azarolus*, which he had used successfully as a stock for early pears in Palestine. Sr. Pedro Giraud sends in two varieties of it for trial (Nos. 48516 and 48517).

Mr. J. B. Norton, who was sent out as an agricultural explorer to South China, was prevented by ill health from carrying out the program outlined for the work there, but, before he was forced to return, he obtained several interesting things, among which are a new *Actinidia* (No. 48551), related to the yang-tao; the Chinese "olive" (*Canarium album*, No. 48554) which, contrary to general belief, he found has a pleasant, refreshing flavor; a small watermelon with a thin rind (No. 48558), which he suggests might, after improvement, be adapted for serving as an "individual melon;" a lawn and grazing grass (*Eremochloa ophiuroides*, No. 48566) for clay soils possibly as far north as the Carolinas; a new species of legume (*Apios fortunei*, No. 48569), related to our native *Apios tuberosa*, which may be useful in the hybridization and selection of this promising wild legume; a new, attractive pot ornamental (*Trichosanthes cucumeroides*, No. 48585), which the Chinese train on special frames in pots; an ornamental perennial shrubby *Melastoma* (*M. repens*, No. 48718); the "tiger grass" (*Miscanthus sinensis*, No. 48719), from the inflorescence of which excellent brooms are made; and three species of *Rubus* (Nos. 48739 to 48742), promising for hybridization.

Since Bignonias are among the most beautiful of the climbers grown in Florida, a new vine of the same family (*Pandorea ricasoliana*, No. 48624), which so experienced a horticulturist as Dr. Pros-