

## 48551 to 48586—Continued.

**48565. ELEOCHARIS TUBEROSA** (Roxb.) Schult. Cyperaceæ. **Beechi.**

“(Foochow, China. September 17, 1919.) Tubers of the beechi, or water chestnut, as it is sometimes called, from the market in Foochow. This plant is one of the very common food plants of this region. One sees the peeled and unpeeled tubers in all parts of Foochow. Apparently they are eaten by all classes. Venders sell them strung on split bamboo sticks, six tubers peeled and sometimes dipped in a dark-brown candy paste. The fields of this water chestnut were common both on the river level and on high ground. The grasshoppers eat the tops very badly, so that I saw no good seed.”

**48566. EREMOCHLOA OPHIUROIDES** (Munro) Hack. Poaceæ. **Grass.**

“(Kuliang Hills, near Foochow, China. August 25, 1919.) Tops of the best lawn and grazing grass of this region. All through the clay region and the gravelly sand alluvial this is the dominant plant. All the neglected fields and washed hillsides are overgrown with it. It is depended upon in Kuliang and largely in Foochow as a source of cover for lawns. If the lawns are mowed, clipped, or grazed, this is the only grass which persists except Bermuda grass (*Capriola dactylon*), which sometimes maintains itself along the edges of walks and paths. This grass in pure culture does not need to be mowed, as it grows only 3 or 4 inches high. In rich soil it is dark green. It can be eradicated easily, as the runners are on the surface, and it is easily propagated by pieces of runners, turf, or seed. It is the best grazing grass in this region, growing with *Lespedeza striata* and allied forms over the fallow terrace lands. The prime condition of the cattle grazing in the hills here depends upon the prevalence of this grass and lespedeza. This is also an excellent plant to prevent washing; the long runners stretch out in every direction, root at every node, and soon branch and make cover. If it can be grown even as far north as North Carolina, it will solve the lawn difficulties of the Eastern States, where none of our grasses are satisfactory the year round.”

**48567. FICUS** sp. Moraceæ.

“(Kuliang Hills, near Foochow, China. September 3, 1919.) Seed of the common banyan which finds its natural northern limit at Foochow. This tree is the best general-purpose shade tree commonly found at Foochow.”

**48568. GINKGO BILOBA** L. Ginkgoaceæ. **Ginkgo.**

“(Shanghai, China. October 1, 1919.) Many tons of ‘nuts’ may be seen in the markets of Shanghai in September. Numerous grades are seen, based apparently on individual trees. The samples collected illustrate the range of variation.”

**48569. APIOS FORTUNEI** Maxim. Fabaceæ.

“(Kuliang Hills, near Foochow, China. September 2, 1919.) This relative of *Apios tuberosa* and *A. priceana* is very important as a possible means of producing hybrids. It differs from both our American species, but may cross with one or both. It has a large fleshy root suggesting *A. priceana* in type. If, through it, the type of either one of our native plants can be broken up and a range of variation started to use in selection work, a new crop will be assured.”

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 44569.