

48551 to 48586—Continued.

48579. *IPOMOEA REPTANS* (L.) Poir. Convolvulaceæ.
(*I. aquatica* Forsk.)

“(Foochow, China. September 10, 1919.) This plant is an important leaf vegetable or potherb. Several varieties are grown, but the common wide-leaved aquatic form grown in paddy and pond-edge culture is more abundant in markets. A dry-land form is found even on the hilltop up to 3,000 feet. Its growth is not nearly as tender as the aquatic form, but some say the two forms are different only in the cultural methods. In the flats on Nantai Island forms were found with narrow leaves. While they were cultivated in a half-hearted way, it seemed that these strains were little improved from the wild type, which, however, I did not see in this region, so that the plant is evidently not a native of Foochow. Some of the aquatic dry-land forms showed no bloom up to September, but the hill dry-land forms were in bloom in July and well seeded late in August. The quality of this plant is only mediocre, as the flavor has nothing distinctive about it. The upland forms are more or less fibrous, but the water-grown shoots of the flat plains are quite brittle. On early mornings in June and July one sees great loads of the shoots about 18 inches long in the market streets. The hollow stems, over half an inch in diameter, and the succulent leaves are cut up and cooked into a spinachlike table vegetable. The Chinese say that they carry the aquatic form through the winter without seed, renewing the field from cuttings in the spring. Both forms are attacked by white rust very badly. These seeds were obtained from a patch grown in very wet soil, but not under paddy conditions.”

48571. *JUGLANS REGIA* L. Juglandaceæ. Walnut.

“(Kobe, Japan. October 28, 1919.) Thin-shelled Persian walnuts from China procured here, where they were being transshipped. The shipment was apparently from ungrafted seedlings, but all the nuts were much thinner shelled than those from Japan and were as good as high-grade stock from California.”

48572 and 48573. *KOCHIA SCOPARIA* (L.) Schrad. Chenopodiaceæ.

48572. “(Saigo, near Nagasaki, Japan. October 10, 1919.) A plant used for brooms all along the eastern coast of China and in Japan. The stems are very tough and durable. It is an ornamental border plant. This is not the same as the common Kochia of American seed catalogues. These plants are not highly colored in the fall and are fastigiate inverted pyramidal rather than ovoid. The branches and twigs are wonderfully tough and wear resistant. Every little garden has a few of these plants, first for ornamentals, then to pull for brooms to sweep the walks and yard.”

48573. “(Foochow, China. September 14, 1919.) Another sample of the plant used for brooms by the Chinese and Japanese.”

48574. *OSTERDAMIA JAPONICA* (Steud.) Hitchc. Poaceæ. Grass.
(*Zoysia japonica* Steud.)

“(Mogi, near Nagasaki, Japan.) Mixed seed of two forms of the common lawn grass of Japan. These seem distinct from the forms grown at Miami and Pasadena. If they are free-fruited strains they will prove an important addition to our grass importations, as *Osterdamia* when properly handled is one of the best lawn grasses for the South.”