

acquaintance with them may enable me to do it better than the layman himself, and it is with this idea that I continue to prepare these introductory statements.

The cultivation of Job's-tears as a field grain crop has been proposed for tropical and subtropical regions, but I think P. J. Wester has furnished the first report of its yields. In Mindanao, where several varieties are grown by the natives in a limited way, one variety (*Coix lacryma-jobi ma-yuen*; No. 49798) yielded 3,230 pounds per acre.

The bulso (*Gnetum indicum*; No. 49799) is a climber which bears brick-red fruits like grapes, each containing a seed which when roasted tastes like a chestnut. In Java its close relative, *G. gnemon*, is used as a pickle with the "rijs tavel."

The sokwa grass of Nigeria (*Echinochloa stagnina*; No. 49845), which, according to Alfred Thompson, is adapted to low swamp lands and is so sweet that children like to chew it and horses prefer it to Guinea corn, may prove valuable for Porto Rico, Hawaii, or even for the Everglades of Florida.

The guar of Burma (*Cyamopsis tetragonoloba*; Nos. 49864 and 49899 to 49904) is, according to Professor Piper, more drought resistant than any other annual legume and will grow in any part of the country where cowpeas succeed; it may be utilized as hay, or pasturage, or silage; its green pods are also used as a vegetable. It deserves more serious consideration than has heretofore been given it.

Mr. Wester's introduction of the silani (*Vigna lutea*; No. 49870), a new leguminous vine with possibilities as an orchard cover crop for citrus orchards, will interest Florida growers.

The success of the beautiful Australian vine (*Cissus hypoglauca*; No. 49871) on Miss Kate Sessions's place at San Diego, Calif., where it is one of the most attractive of pergola vines, makes its wide distribution most desirable.

H. E. Allanson calls attention to a quick-maturing variety of watermelon (*Citrullus vulgaris*; No. 49872), the seed of which was sent by Mr. Voyeikoff, of Vladivostok. At Chico, Calif., it matured fruits in 45 days from seed.

Capt. F. Kingdon Ward, the English explorer, sends from the Htawgaw Hill tracts of Burma a promising plumlike fruit (No. 49886) which so far has not been determined botanically, but which seems suited to regions of perpetual cool climate and rainy weather, like the Puget Sound region, and is a good table fruit even in its wild state.

The Chilgoza pine (*Pinus gerardiana*; No. 49889), from the dry, arid valleys of the northwestern Himalayas at 6,000 to 12,000 feet altitude, yields a large edible seed suited for table use, and like our