

**50682 to 50685—Continued.****50683. COCCOLOBIS sp. Polygonaceæ.**

"(No. 376. May 27, 1920.) Plants presented by Carlos Wercklé, El Coyolar, Costa Rica. Mr. Wercklé described this as a small tree, ever-green, much branched, and handsome in appearance. It produces blue-black fruits the size of small plums, with juicy flesh of acid, somewhat astringent flavor, good for making jellies and preserves and also for eating out of hand when of a good variety. The single stone is rather large. This plant may succeed in southern Florida. It is from the lowlands of Costa Rica and hence tropical in its requirements."

**50684. MARANTA sp. Marantaceæ.**

"(No. 377. May 27, 1920.) *Lairen*. Roots presented by Carlos Wercklé, El Coyolar, Costa Rica. A plant allied to arrowroot and greatly resembling it in appearance. It yields large numbers of plump tubers, 2 to 4 inches long. These contain much starch, and can be eaten when boiled, though they never become soft or mealy. Mr. Wercklé thinks the species may be of value as a source of starch because of the large quantity of tubers which each plant produces."

**50685. NECTANDRA GLABRESCENS Benth. Lauraceæ.**

"(No. 379a. Seed from Rancho Redondo, near San Jose, elevation about 1,500 meters. May 27, 1920.) A round-topped tree growing to about 40 feet, and producing fruits which look like small avocados of the Mexican race. They are obovoid in form, nearly 2 inches long, with a thin black skin and yellow flesh of oily texture and strong aniselike taste which makes them inedible. Of interest as a possible stock plant for the avocado."

**50686 and 50687.**

From Kisantu, Belgian Kongo. Seeds presented by Father H. Vanderyst. Received June 29, 1920.

**50686. ANDROPOGON sp. Poaceæ. Grass.**

Numbered for convenience in testing by the Office of Forage-Crop Investigations.

**50687. BRACHIARIA BRIZANTHA (Hochst.) Stapf. Poaceæ. Grass.**  
(*Panicum brizanthum* Hochst.)

"A tall grass, especially on the higher land. It is very abundant on the uplands and forms a large part of the great grass cover of this grassland country." (*Shantz*.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 49687.

**50688. PERSEA AMERICANA Mill. Lauraceæ. Avocado.**  
(*P. gratissima* Gaertn f.)

From San Jose, Costa Rica. Collected by Wilson Popenoe, Agricultural Explorer of the United States Department of Agriculture. Received June 15, 1920.

"(No. 485.)" (*Popenoe*.)