

The rapid-growing timber tree of China (*Catalpa bungei*, No. 52909), which Frank N. Meyer reported as growing to 100 feet in height and 15 feet in diameter and furnishing a light, strong, durable, and nonwarping timber resembling walnut, has shown itself at home in Maryland and deserves to be widely tried in those regions where the chestnut blight has destroyed the American chestnut trees.

*Dendrocalamus strictus* (No. 53610), the forest bamboo of India, which grows to a height of 100 feet and, unlike most other species, produces seeds in abundance, deserves to be widely grown throughout the regions warm enough for its culture.

*Hydrangea petiolaris* (No. 52937) is a remarkable deciduous climber which is ideal for covering the trunks of old dead trees and is serviceable—like the Japanese ivy—for screening rock and brick walls.

The palangi (*Brassica rugosa*, No. 53542), an early cold-weather crop growing in the hills of the central, eastern, and western Himalayas and cultivated in Nepal, may be worthy of special study. The leaves of its loose head are plucked and eaten as fast as they develop, and an oil is extracted from its seeds. Has any plant breeder worked with this species?

As illustrating a new reason for introducing foreign plants, special attention might be called to the collections of grasses, barberries, legumes, borages, etc., which have been received from Sweden, Denmark, and Holland for the use of the pathologists of the department who are engaged in studying the great problem of controlling the rusts of cereals. These rusts have stages in which they inhabit as secondary hosts a variety of plants, notably the barberries.

The botanical determinations of seeds introduced have been made and the nomenclature determined by H. C. Skeels, and the descriptive and botanical notes have been arranged by G. P. Van Eseltine, who has had general supervision of this inventory. Miss Patty Newbold has assisted in the compilation of descriptive notes.

DAVID FAIRCHILD,  
*Agricultural Explorer in Charge.*

OFFICE OF FOREIGN SEED AND PLANT INTRODUCTION,  
Washington, D. C., November 29, 1922.