

53845. SALVADORA PERSICA L. Salvadoraceæ.

From Khartum, Sudan, Africa. Seeds presented by R. E. Massey, Government botanist. Received June 27, 1921.

A shrub or small tree easily reproduced from seed, though of slow growth, common on the shores of Lake Chad and growing in dense clumps from 3 to 10 feet high near Shibam, Hadramaut, etc. The twigs are used as a tooth cleanser by the natives of Portuguese East Africa. The wood is white and soft and weighs about 45 pounds per cubic foot. The shoots and leaves are pungent. They are eaten as salad and given as fodder to camels; the fruits, bitter, pungent, and aromatic, are used with the leaves and shoots as a relish. The root bark is acrid and vesicant. The seed contains about 45 per cent of fat, suitable for the manufacture of candles. A vegetable salt called *kepr* is obtained from the ash of this plant in northern Nigeria. The seed cake is useful as a manure; analysis shows that it contains nitrogen 4.8 per cent, potash 2.8 per cent, and phosphoric acid 1 per cent. (Adapted from *Holland, Useful Plants of Nigeria, pt. 3, p. 427.*)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 7362.

53846. SOLANUM COMMERSONII Dunal. Solanaceæ. Wild potato.

From Montevideo, Uruguay. Tubers presented by Sr. Luis Guillot, Dirección General de Paseos Públicos. Received June 28, 1921.

"A *Solanum* with angled stems and leaves 4 to 8 inches long with two to four pairs of leaflets, the terminal one somewhat larger. The corolla is white or pale violet, pubescent on the outer surface. Native to eastern Argentina and Uruguay, usually in moist situations." (*W. F. Wight.*)

For discussion of experiments with this species in France, see Labergerie, Une Nouvelle Pomme de Terre (*Solanum commersonii*), *Revue Horticole*, vol. 78, p. 303).

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 17054.

53847. RUBUS MACRAEI A. Gray. Rosaceæ. Akala.

From Mauna Kea, Hawaii. Cuttings collected by J. F. Rock, Agricultural Explorer of the Department of Agriculture. Received June 7, 1921.

"The Hawaiian giant raspberry, reddish black to purple variety, from an altitude of 4,500 feet, on the Shipman Ranch, Mauna Loa, Hawaii, May 13, 1921." (*Rock.*)

For introduction of roots, see S. P. I. No. 53760.

For an illustration of the fruit of this raspberry, see Plate VI.

53848. HYPHAENE THEBAICA (L.) Mart. Phœnicaceæ.**Doum palm.**

Received through the United States Department of State, June 24, 1921.

A palm 25 feet high, distributed from Upper Egypt to central Africa. The stems of old trees are sometimes forked three or four times. The yellowish brown, beautifully colored fruits are borne in long clusters of one to two hundred. In Upper Egypt the poorer classes eat the fibrous, mealy fruit husk, which tastes much like gingerbread, but is rather hard and husky. The hard tough wood is used for domestic utensils. (Adapted from *Lindley and Moore, Treasury of Botany, vol. 2, p. 612.*)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 51440.

53849. PINUS MASSONIANA Lambert. Pinaceæ.**Pine.**

From Hongkong, China. Seeds collected by J. F. Rock, Agricultural Explorer of the Department of Agriculture. Received June 1, 1921.

"The Hongkong pine, the most common tree of the island of Hongkong, growing well on sandy soil and much planted to check erosion. It is a rare pine and sparingly cultivated in America. Suited for northern Florida. Collected April, 1921." (*Rock.*)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 34548.