

large elliptical dark-green leaves, and white to purple flowers 10 inches in diameter. This magnolia has flowered freely in southern France and Italy. (Adapted from *Curtis's Botanical Magazine*, vol. 111, pl. 6793.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 47718.

55724. MEDICAGO SATIVA L. Fabaceæ. Alfalfa.

From Lima, Peru. Seeds presented by W. E. Dunn, acting commercial attaché, through the Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C. Received July 3, 1922.

"This Peruvian alfalfa is known as 'San Pedrana.' Sr. Carlos Alvarez Calderón, who obtained the sample for us, says that it was grown in the coast region and may be harvested every 45 days throughout the year, whereas from the ordinary variety 'del pais' only about six cuts per year can be obtained." (*Dunn.*)

Peruvian alfalfa has proved of great value in certain parts of the United States. In the hope of originating new strains which may be superior in certain respects to any now grown in this country, an effort is being made to obtain seed from as many different regions in Peru as possible. The following note is adapted from H. L. Westover, in "The Development of the Peruvian Alfalfa Industry in the United States," United States Department of Agriculture Circular 93:

As compared with common alfalfa, both types of Peruvian alfalfa are more upright, less branched, and have fewer and somewhat coarser stems and smaller crowns. In thick stands, these differences are hardly noticeable. Most of the Peruvian introductions are also characterized by rapid growth, quick recovery after cutting, and in sections having a mild climate ability to make growth in cool weather after ordinary alfalfas have ceased growing. Under such conditions the Peruvian alfalfas start growth earlier in the spring and continue later in the fall, thereby giving more cuttings each season. The principal objection advanced in times past to these alfalfas is their tendency to become somewhat woody when allowed to stand beyond the flowering stage, but this difficulty is easily obviated by earlier harvesting. Lack of hardiness will always confine the successful production of the true and smooth Peruvian alfalfas to the southern and southwestern portions of the United States, where the climatic conditions are comparatively mild. They can not be grown to advantage where the winter temperature falls below 10° F. At the present time most of the Peruvian and smooth Peruvian alfalfa in the United States is found in Arizona and California. It has also been grown to a limited extent in New Mexico, Texas, and the coastal regions of the Southeastern States. The results seem to indicate that in much of this region the common alfalfa could be replaced very profitably by the Peruvian varieties.

55725. PRUNUS ARMENIACA L. Amygdalaceæ. Apricot.

From Algiers, Algeria. Seeds presented by Dr. L. Trabut. Received July 3, 1922.

"A native apricot known as *louz*; the tree is very productive and the fruit excellent. This tree is cultivated at M'Sila, a subarid region." (*Trabut.*)

55726. FRAGARIA ROSEIFLORA Boulay. Rosaceæ. Strawberry.

From Chenebourg, near Geneva, Switzerland. Seeds purchased from H. Correvon, Floraire Nursery. Received July 11, 1922.

Introduced for experiments in strawberry breeding.

This is very closely allied to *Fragaria vesca*, from which it is distinguished by its round, uniformly pink petals and its roundish depressed fruits. It is found wild on the slopes of the Vosges Mountains in Alsace. (Adapted from *Bulletin de la Société de France*, vol. 18, p. 92.)

55727. CERATONIA SILIQUA L. Cæsalpiniaceæ. Carob.

From Bari, Italy. Budwood presented by Dr. E. Pantanelli, director, Agricultural Experiment Station. Received July 7, 1922.