

58432 to 58434—Continued.

58432. MUSA FEHI Bert. Fehi banana.

Fehi. An upright-fruited Hawaiian variety with red fruits. The young shoots are very long and slender. (*Pope*.)

For previous introduction see S. P. I. No. 54673.

58433 and 58434. MUSA PARADISIACA SAPIENTUM (L.) Kuntze.

58433. *Lady's-Finger*. The Hawaii Experiment Station obtained its first offshoot of the *Lady's-Finger* variety March 21, 1912, from E. W. Rowell, since deceased, who lived on Vineyard Street, Honolulu. The station records give no information as to where the original plants in Hawaii came from. The plant is well known in Costa Rica, Jamaica, and British and French Guiana.

The *Lady's-Finger* banana is generally described as a variety of superior flavor, but on account of tenderness is a poor shipper. W. Fawcett in a recent publication, "The Banana," says that in British Guiana, where there has been great loss, ranging from 25 to 75 per cent of the Jamaica variety (Bluefields), from the fungus disease known as "Panama disease," the *Lady's-Finger* has not been attacked.

Plant: At maturity of fruit the plant is about 20 feet tall, trunk rather slim; withstands considerable wind, indicating good root system. With good culture, offshoots are fairly abundant; outer trunk sheaths appear dark with reddish brown streaks. Foliage: Dark green, leaf petioles greenish with edges tinged light yellow; blade averages about 7 feet in length, 14 inches wide, dark green above, dull green below. Flowers: Terminal spike on long stout flower stalk, which begins to turn downward on emerging from the trunk; spathe greenish, bracts which cover undeveloped flower hands purplish and with frosted bloom outside, reddish brown inside; floral parts pale yellow with calyx split at margin into four or five parts which are bright yellow and curved outward. Fruits: Bunch long, slim, very compact. Average weight of Hawaiian-grown specimens 36 pounds, 10 to 12 hands; number of bananas to the hand vary from 13 to 20 from extreme to base; number of bananas to the bunch, usually over 200. Individual bananas 4 to 5 inches long, spindle shaped, apex beaked, attached end of stem three-fourths to 1 inch long, skin light yellow, thin, tender; pulp, yellow, melting, of good subacid flavor, placenta of 3-celled ovary very rudimentary. (*Pope*.)

58434. *Popoulu*. A well-known variety of cooking banana, common in the Honolulu markets. The plant is of medium height. The stem is green with a slight tendency to pinkish tints on the petioles. The scape is rather slender; the bunch itself is of medium size. There are 8 to 10 fruits per hand. The fruits are short, thick, rounded, and blunt at the ends. This banana is of good quality when cooked; the flesh is firm and sweet. Other members of the *Popoulu* group are: *Kaio*, *Hua moa*, *Moa*, *Nou*, and *Lahi*. (*Plant World*, vol. 21, p. 6.)

58435 to 58441.

From Tientsin, China. Seeds presented by J. C. Huston, American consul in charge. Received November 28, 1923. Notes by Mr. Huston.

58435. GOSYPIUM sp. Malvaceæ. Cotton.

White cotton from Chihnsien, which is sown the latter part of April and ripens the latter part of October. The average yield per mow (about one-sixth of an acre) is 100 cattles (approximately 800 pounds per acre).

58435 to 58441—Continued.

58436. MEDICAGO SATIVA L. Fabaceæ. Alfalfa.

From Tientsin, where it is sown early in July. It matures the following June. The average yield per mow is 2,000 cattles (approximately 7 long tons per acre).

58437. NICOTIANA TABACUM L. Solanaceæ. Tobacco.

From Shaho. Planted the first part of April, transplanted and harvested late in September. The average yield per mow is 100 cattles.

58438. ORYZA SATIVA L. Poaceæ. Rice.

Large, white-bearded water rice, from Tientsin. This variety is sown the latter part of March and harvested the latter part of September. The average yield per mow is 2 piculs (approximately 1,600 pounds per acre).

58439. SOJA MAX (L.) Piper. (*Glycine hispida* Maxim.) Fabaceæ. Soy bean.

Large black beans from Chinghahhsien; sown the latter part of April and harvested the first part of September. The average yield per mow is 1 picul (approximately 800 pounds per acre).

58440. TRITICUM AESTIVUM L. (*T. vulgare* Vill.) Poaceæ. Common wheat.

From Feihsiang; sown late in September and harvested the following June. The average yield per mow is 1 picul (approximately 800 pounds per acre).

58441. ZEA MAYS L. Poaceæ. Corn.

Yellow corn from Peking; sown the latter part of April and harvested the latter part of August. The average yield per mow is 1½ piculs (approximately 1,200 pounds per acre).

58442 and 58443. GOSYPIUM spp. Malvaceæ.

From South America. Seeds presented by E. L. Prizer, Bureau of Plant Industry. Received December 5, 1923.

Collected in Para, Brazil, October 31, 1923. (*Prizer*.)

Introduced for cotton specialists.

58442. GOSYPIUM sp. Cotton.

58443. GOSYPIUM sp. Kidney cotton.

58444. PERSEA AMERICANA Mill. (*P. gratissima* Gaertn. f.) Lauraceæ.

Avocado.

Growing at the Plant Introduction Garden, Miami, Fla. Numbered December, 1923.

Alfred A. Winslow, consul general at Guatemala City, sent to this office in 1904 an avocado seed which was planted at the Miami Plant Introduction Garden [S. P. I. No. 10978]. It grew into a tree which bore its first fruits in 1911. A few fruits from the first crop were sent to P. H. Rolfs at Gainesville, Fla., with the suggestion that he save the seeds. This was done, and two seedlings were inarched on old trees at Buena Vista, near Miami, where Professor Rolfs owned property at that time. One of these two fruited in 1917 and was called Winslowson by Mr. Simmonds, superintendent of the Miami garden, and young trees of the variety were soon in the hands of nurserymen.

In all probability the variety is a cross between the Guatemalan and West Indian races. The seed parent, Winslow, is a typical Guatemalan, round, small, and having a very hard shell, rough on the exterior. The pollen parent was probably one of the West Indian varieties cultivated at the Miami garden. Winslowson ripens earlier in southern Florida than most of the true Guatemalans, November being its season, though the fruits may hang on the tree as late as January. It is a productive sort and a sturdy grower. The fruit is large, attractive, and of very satisfactory quality.