

JUL 21 1928

F. D.

Agriculture

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**



**INVENTORY No. 85**



Washington, D. C.

Issued July, 1928

**PLANT MATERIAL INTRODUCED BY THE OFFICE OF FOREIGN PLANT INTRODUCTION, BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY, FROM OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1925 (NOS. 65048 TO 65707)**

**CONTENTS**

	Page
Introductory statement.....	1
Inventory.....	3
Index of common and scientific names.....	30

**INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT**

The outstanding feature of this inventory is the large proportion of introductions from P. H. Dorsett, agricultural explorer, who continued his work in Manchuria. The importance of this region for agricultural exploration was discussed in the introductory statement to Inventory No. 84.

The nature of the plant material obtained by Mr. Dorsett was quite general and included everything of economic value available at a given place and time. The products of the native markets were carefully scrutinized and propagating material collected of any fruits or vegetables which appeared to be superior in any way to varieties now grown in the United States. Many wild plants also were collected, including such as might be of ornamental value or useful as forage. Transportation to various parts of the country was greatly facilitated through the courtesy of the Chinese Eastern Railway, and the cooperation of the Manchurian Research Society made it possible to procure selected types of cereals and forage plants from their experiment stations.

J. F. Roek, working under the direction of the Arnold Arboretum and as a collaborator of this office, continued his botanical exploration of the Province of Kansu, western China, collecting a number of interesting woody plants. These include several hardy ornamental spruces (*Picea* spp., Nos. 65689 to 65692) which appear to be new to horticulture.

A collection of tubers of wild potatoes (*Solanum* spp., Nos. 65444 to 65449), presented by Elbert Reed of the Instituto Agrícola Bunster, Angol, Chile, will be of special interest to potato breeders. These tubers were collected on the island of Chiloe and on the mainland of Chile north of this island, part of the region considered by many horticulturists to be the original home of the potato.

A collection of local varieties of the kaki (*Diospyros kaki*, Nos. 65578 to 65583) was sent in by F. A. McClure, agricultural explorer, from Honam Island, a few miles east of Canton, China. With this bud wood Mr. McClure transmitted detailed notes on the character and uses of the fruits of these varieties.

*Aleurites trisperma* (No. 65297), a Philippine relative of the Chinese tung-oil tree (*Aleurites fordii*), is the source of bagilumbang oil, similar in composition to tung oil, but somewhat lighter in color. The tree is tropical in its requirements, but may succeed in southern Florida. The precise value of the oil in the paint and varnish industries has yet to be determined, but this Philippine species should be included in tropical experiments with this group of oil-producing trees.