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PLANT MATERIAL INTRODUCED BY THE OFFICE OF FOREIGN PLANT INTRODUCTION, BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY, APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 1926 (NOS. 66699 TO 67836)

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INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

THREE agricultural explorers were carrying on their investigations in foreign lands during the three-month period represented by this eighty-seventh inventory.

David Fairchild, in company with P. H. Dorsett, made an extended tour along the northern coast of Sumatra and also spent some time in Java and Ceylon. Their itinerary included the Sibolangit Botanic Garden, near Medan, Sumatra, and the Hakgala Botanic Garden, Newara Eliya, Ceylon. The material collected came from these botanic gardens, from the markets of the native villages visited, and from the wild. It consisted for the most part of fruit-bearing plants, ornamentals, and leguminous plants of possible value as cover crops for the warmer parts of the United States. Breeders of small fruits will be interested in the numerous species of *Rubus* (Nos. 67592 to 67604; 67728 to 67740) obtained mostly in Sumatra. Several species of *Ficus* (Nos. 67557 to 67570; 67696 to 67705) from Sumatra will be tested in southern Florida, where already a number of these wild figs have proved popular as shade trees.

F. A. McClure continued to work in the general vicinity of Canton, China, collecting plant material largely from the native markets of the neighboring villages. At one small place in the Lungtau Mountains he obtained seeds of the Faan kwa cushaw (*Cucurbita moschata*, No. 66735). A previous introduction (No. 54427), also from the vicinity of Canton, showed this to be an excellent variety of cushaw, producing large fruits of good quality and flavor. Mr. McClure also collected rhizomes of several bamboos, mostly belonging to the genus *Phyllostachys* (Nos. 66781 to 66789; 66900 to 66902; 67398, 67399), a number of which furnish edible young shoots.