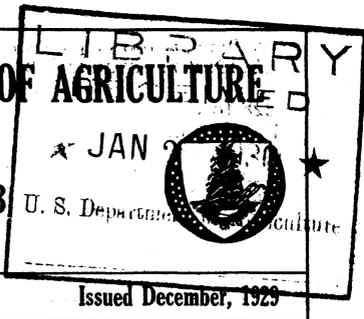


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



INVENTORY No. 93



Washington, D. C.

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PLANT MATERIAL INTRODUCED BY THE OFFICE OF FOREIGN PLANT INTRODUCTION, BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY, OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1927 (NOS. 75127 TO 75844)

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INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

In presenting an inventory of the material which has passed through the Office of Foreign Plant Introduction for the period included between October 1 and December 31, 1927, it is scarcely enough to report that the serial numbers include 718 introductions, a statement as dull in itself as the reading of any inventory is likely to be. But before commenting in any way upon the items which make up this list, the reader should be reminded of several things.

Before all else, this inventory must be considered as a record, a historical document. In it are listed the names of all species and varieties received, together with brief notes concerning the nature of the material, the source, and a description. It in no way indicates the disposition of the material, nor does it suggest its present whereabouts. The reader is urged to remember that this is not a statement of material on hand, to be consulted like a catalogue from a nursery. It should be consulted to discover how far about the globe the office reaches out to procure the plants which it brings in for use in this country. The mere list of contributing countries fires the imagination—Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canal Zone, Ceylon, Chile, China, Chosen, Colombia, Egypt, England, Fiji Islands, France, French Guinea, Gambia, Germany, Gold Coast, Hawaii, India, Italy, Japan, Java, Kenya Colony, Manchuria, Mexico, New South Wales, New Zealand, Nyasaland Protectorate, Palestine, Persia, Philippines, Rhodesia, Russia, Scotland, Sierra Leone, Spain, Tanganyika Territory, and Uganda. Practically every corner of the globe has contributed to the stream of introductions which are being brought in for our national development. Here are recorded findings of several collectors and two expeditions, as well as the varied contributions of the many collaborators who further the work of the office.

Conspicuous among these are the chestnuts that have been sent in by R. Kent Beattie, of the Office of Forest Pathology, who has been studying chestnuts in the Orient with a view to collecting trees that will be valuable in replacing our American chestnuts, which are disappearing as a result of the chestnut blight. Other collections from Mr. Beattie which are specifically related to projects within the department here are the azaleas and lilies which appear conspicuously among the ornamentals he has sent.

More than 100 numbers are used to record the plants sent in from the expedition in Africa under Messrs. Kephart and Piemeisel, whose particular interest centered in forage crops, both the grasses and legumes.