

interesting relative of the cottons was supposed to be extinct, a single tree only remaining on the Molokai ranch where it occurred, but during the summer this tree supposed to be dead, revived and a single branch put forth leaves and flowers and produced a few seeds. These seeds were procured for this Office by Mr. Rock, and will be propagated for distribution for comparison with *Kokia Rockii*, already widely distributed to botanic gardens.

*Lycopersicon esculentum* Miller. (Solanaceae.) 39362. Seeds of a wild tomato from Funchal, Madeira. Presented by Mr. Charles H. Gable, Director, Junta Agricola. "The little wild tomato, *Lycopersicon vulgare cerasiforme* which is found in Madeira is considered by Lowe (Manual Flora of Madeira) as being the original stock from which our cultivated varieties have been derived. The same author states that besides 'growing spontaneously everywhere below 2000 feet above Funchal and other towns and villages in Madeira, it is completely naturalized on the central rocky crest of the North Deserta.' The North Deserta is an almost barren, uninhabited island which lies about thirty miles north from Madeira. The selection which has taken place in the development of our cultivated varieties has not greatly changed the general appearance of the plant. The writer has not had the opportunity of making the careful botanical study necessary for the intelligent comparison of the characters presented by this wild tomato and our cultivated varieties, so there will be presented here only very brief observations of the conditions in which the plants grow. One of these plants was transplanted to a favorable part of the garden where the ground was rich, and had plenty of moisture. It made a tremendous growth, and at the end of three months, the plant was five feet in diameter and three and one-half feet high. Unfortunately the plant was destroyed, so that it was impossible to complete the record. Another plant was found where it could not have had a drop of water for at least three months. It probably had started to grow during the last few rains of the spring, but had completed its growth during the heat and drought of the summer. The particular spot where it grew was the hottest of the hottest part of the island. When it was found, the vine was apparently entirely dead, and lying flat on the ground; the leaves had dried up and dropped off, but the fruits every one of which was ripe, were clinging to the vine. It also seemed very strange to find that the fruits were all plump and firm, over three hundred of them on this one vine. The fruits are so very acid that they can be used for little else besides soups, and the natives do not use them a great deal even for that. Their keeping quality, however, may prove a desir-