

*Prunus armeniaca* L. (Amygdalaceae.) 40012-013. Seeds of wild apricots, from near Lan Tsai, and Kwa Tsa, Kansu, China. "Wild apricots occur very commonly in the mountains at altitudes from 5000 to 9000 feet. The natives collect the stones, crack them, take the kernels out and eat them, after having boiled them. They still taste bitter, however. Of use possibly in extending apricot culture farther north; also as stocks for stone fruits in semi-arid regions and as hardy spring-flowering park trees for the cooler parts of the United States." (F. N. Meyer's introductions and descriptions.)

*Prunus* spp. (Amygdalaceae.) 40014-015. Seeds of wild plums from near Kwan yin tang, Shensi, and Kageba, China. 40014, "a wild plum, found on somewhat stony mountain slopes at elevations between 4000 and 5000 feet. Grows up into a tall bush, densely branched, and often spiny on the young shoots. Fruits the size of a large marble, of yellowish green color, flavor very spicy, although sour near the skin and the stone. Of value possibly to supply composites and for breeding purposes." 40015, "a wild plum growing into a tall bush or even a small tree, found on sloping stretches of loess land at the foot of mountains near the Tibetan frontier at elevations of from 6000-8000 feet." (F. N. Meyer's introductions and descriptions.)

*Pyrus* sp. (Malaceae.) 40019. Seeds of a wild pear from near Tchen ya tan, Kansu, China. "A species of wild pear, growing to be a large tree, with a wide-spreading, dense head of branches. Bark of dark color and in the main trunk even blackish and deeply furrowed in old specimens. Young branches often fiercely spiny and especially so in suckers. Leaves small and with much shorter petioles than in *Pyrus chinensis*. Fruits globose, flattened. Calyx persistent, peduncle generally short; much variation exists as regards size, but the fruits of this species of pear are generally small; the flesh is also acrid and often quite hard, though some of the larger ones are edible after having been frozen. This pear is not found in the warm valleys, but it thrives best at elevations of about 8000 feet, in company with such hardy trees and shrubs as *Picea obovata*, *Populus tremula*, *Malus baccata*, *Hippophae rhamnoides*, *Syringa amurensis*, *Rhamnus dahurica*, *Sorbaria sorbifolia*, and others. This pear has apparently given rise to some locally cultivated forms bearing small, sour fruits, which are juicy, however, and melting, and not hard and gritty like the poorer strains of *P. chinensis*. Of undoubted value as a stock for pears in cold sections and as a factor in breeding experiments in trying to extend successful pear