

Mr. A. Woeikoff, Director, Experimental Garden of the Cholmy School of Horticulture. "A deciduous bush or small tree; leaves ovate, the apex long drawn-out, two to three and one half inches long, half as wide, reddish at first, then bright green and smooth above with axil tufts of down beneath; stalk one-half to one inch long. Flowers mostly solitary, white or pink. Fruits scarcely stalked, about one inch long, yellow except on the sunny side, covered with a velvety skin; the flesh scanty, dry, harsh and scarcely edible; kernel of nut with an almond-like, bitter taste. Native of the mountains of southern Siberia, where, according to Pallas, the Russian botanist, some mountain-sides are covered with its pink blossoms in May, when the northern sides are purple with *Rhododendron dauricum*. Although an old tree in gardens (it was cultivated at Kew one hundred years ago), and still offered for sale by continental dealers, it is scarcely known in England nowadays. So far as I have seen, it has very little to recommend it for gardens, being of about the same value as the wild apricot, to which it is very closely allied. Its leaves have usually much more elongated points." (W. J. Bean, Trees and Shrubs Hardy in the British Isles, vol.2, p.253.)

Pyrus salicifolia Pallas. (Malaceae.) 40497. Seeds of the willow-leaved pear from Novospasskoe, Russia. Presented by Mr. A. Woeikoff, Director, Experimental Garden of the Cholmy School of Horticulture. "A tree 15 to 25 feet high, branchlets covered with down which is quite white when young. Leaves $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ inches wide, narrowly lanceolate, tapering gradually towards both ends, covered when young on both sides with a beautiful silvery grey down; later in the year this falls away from the upper surface, leaving it shining green; margins quite entire; stalk one-half inch long or less, sometimes scarcely noticeable. Flowers pure white, about three-fourths inch across, produced in April, closely packed in small rounded corymbs, the calyx and flower-stalk covered with white wool. Fruit of the typical pear-shape, one to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches long and wide. Native of southeastern Europe and Asia Minor. It is much the most ornamental of all true pears. Its leaves and flowers often open simultaneously, and it then presents a very charming picture, the willow-like leaves being of a conspicuous silky white. After the flowers fade, the leaves remain silvery for some weeks, gradually, however, becoming greener on the upper surface. The fruit is harsh to the palate and of no value." (W. J. Bean, Trees and Shrubs Hardy in the British Isles, vol.2, p. 292-293.)