

*Dioscorea fasciculata* Roxb. (Dioscoreaceae.) 40892. Tubers of a yam from Manila. Presented by Mr. H. T. Edwards, Director, Bureau of Agriculture. "*Tugue*. Flesh white, and mealy but firm and a little fibrous, sweetish. The quality is not equal to that of the *yampi* of Jamaica." (R. A. Young.)

*Durio zibethinus* Murray. (Malvaceae.) 40826. Seeds from the Botanic Gardens, Buitenzorg, Java. Presented by the Director. "A very large, handsome, pyramid-shaped tree, native of the Malayan Archipelago, and commonly cultivated in the Straits, Burma, Java, etc., for the sake of its celebrated fruit. The latter is produced on the older branches, varies somewhat from round to oval in shape, and usually weighs from five to seven pounds or more. It is armed with thickly set formidable prickles about one-half inch long; when ripe it becomes slightly yellow, and possesses an odour which is intensely offensive to most people, especially on first acquaintance with it. The cream-coloured pulp surrounding the seed is the edible portion; this is most highly prized by the Malays and oriental people, and is also relished by Europeans who acquire a taste for it. Firminger describes it as 'resembling blanc-mange, delicious as the finest cream,' whilst Mr. Russell Wallace considered that 'eating durians is a sensation worth a voyage to the East.' The large seeds may be roasted and eaten like chestnuts. Pounded into flour, they are said to be sometimes made into a substance like 'vegetable-ivory.' The durian tree thrives in the moist low-country of Ceylon up to 2000 feet elevation, and luxuriates in deep alluvial or loamy soil. In Peradeniya Gardens, there are magnificent specimens well over 100 feet in height. They usually flower in March or April, and the fruit is ripe in July or August. Durian fruits are variable in size, shape, flavour and quantity of pulp, according to variety. The trees also vary in productiveness, some varieties being almost barren. Selection and high cultivation should therefore be practised in order to obtain the best fruits. The tree is readily propagated by seed if sown fresh; the seed is of short vitality and germinates in seven to eight days." (Macmillan, Handbook of Tropical Gardening and Planting.)

*Passiflora alata* Curtis. (Passifloraceae.) 40843. Seeds of a passion-fruit from Honolulu, Hawaii. Presented by Mr. Garret P. Wilder. "This is a strong vigorous vine, very suitable for arbors and trellises. It is not commonly found in Hawaii; however, a very fine specimen of its