

*NOTES ON BEHAVIOR OF PREVIOUS INTRODUCTIONS.*

Among the numerous varieties of mangos introduced by this Office from the Orient and other regions, several are proving of great promise in south Florida, and at least one has been planted on a commercial scale. This is the Bennett, introduced from Bombay, India, under S.P.I. numbers 8419 and 8727. Under the first number, cions obtained from the Cooper estate were sent in by Messrs. Lathrop and Fairchild; under the second number cions were sent in by Douglas Bennett, for many years superintendent of the Bombay market, and for whom the variety has been named. The behavior of these two numbers in Florida has led horticulturists to believe that they are not precisely the same variety, since there are slight differences in the fruit. They are sufficiently alike, however, so that they cannot be distinguished by the average person. This mango, which was originally called Douglas Bennett's Golden Alphonse, but is now termed Bennett for convenience, is a selected form of the famous Alphonse mango of Bombay, noted for its unusual keeping qualities and excellent commercial characteristics. In Florida it has proved to be a more regular bearer than Mulgoba, yet does not usually produce heavy crops. The fruits are of excellent quality, the flesh being deep orange in color, free from fiber, and of a rich, luscious flavor. The only defect which has been pointed out by Florida growers is the rather dull color of the fruit, which makes it less attractive in the market than Mulgoba. Last season many crates of fruit were sent from one grove near Miami to the markets of the north, excellent prices being realized.

Paheri, while not yet planted commercially, seems likely to take an important place among the commercial mangos of the future. This variety, which was introduced from Bombay, India, under S.P.I. No. 8730, and was given to Messrs. Lathrop and Fairchild by Mr. T. N. Tata, the Parsee millionaire of Bombay is somewhat similar to Bennett in general characteristics, but has a reddish cheek, and is perhaps even richer in flavor. It gives promise of being a good bearer, showing a tendency to produce heavier crops than Bennett or Mulgoba. The fruit is considered in India to possess rather poor keeping qualities, and hence is not so valuable commercially as Bennett. It seems likely to be a sufficiently good keeper for market purposes in this country, however, since trial shipments which have been sent from Florida to Washington and held in cold storage have ripened and developed their characteristic aroma and flavor.