

Introduced from China through the efforts of Mr. Maurice L. Vilmorin, this new *Viburnum* is one of the most distinct and most remarkable of the genus. It is a low plant, entirely hardy, with large persistent, shining leaves resembling those of a rhododendron, the shoots of the year terminating in an umbel of white flowers, appearing in April. These flowers are succeeded by steel-blue fruits, ripening in autumn. It attains a height of from 25 to 50 cm. and flourishes in shady, peaty soil. Received a Certificate of Merit from the National Society of Horticulture of France in 1913.

Vitex lucens T. Kirk. (Verbenaceae.) 42790. Seeds of **Puriri** from Avondale, Auckland, New Zealand. Presented by Mr. H. R. Wright. A fine tree, from 50 to 60 feet in height, often called the New Zealand Oak on account of the strength and durability of its timber. It is not injured by damp or exposure, and is therefore extremely valuable for ship-building purposes. The logs are often perforated with large holes, but these do not affect the timber, except in so far as it has sometimes to be cut to disadvantage. These holes are made by a soft-bodied grub, which develops into the puriri moth. The leaves of the puriri are handsome, being of a bright, glossy green, the leaflets 3 to 4 inches long. The flowers are in axillary panicles, 4 to 8 together, pink or red, irregular in shape, and with exserted stamens. The roots of the puriri never penetrate deeply into the ground, but lie near the surface, so that the tree is easily blown over in a gale of wind. It is endemic in New Zealand, and is restricted to the northern part of the North Island. It is easily cultivated, and flowers more or less all the year round. (Laing & Blackwell, *Plants of New Zealand*, p. 350.) "The New Zealand **Puriri** is one of the most handsome trees in cultivation, and worthy of more extensive planting. It transplants well, grows rapidly, and makes a compact tree of symmetrical bushy form, with bright glossy green foliage. It is one of the New Zealand hardwoods used for railway sleepers and is very durable. The berries when ripe, resemble cherries, which all tend to add to its beauty." (Wright.)