

Garcinia mangostana L. (Clusiaceae.) 43481. Seeds of Mangosteen from Peradeniya, Ceylon. Presented by Mr. C. Drieberg, Secretary, Ceylon Agricultural Society. "A moderate-sized conical tree, with large leathery leaves, indigenous to Malaya. Its globular purplish brown fruit, about the size of an apple, is famed as one of the most delicious fruits of the tropics, some writers describing it as 'perhaps the most luscious fruit in the world, partaking of the flavor of the strawberry and the grape.' The delicate white juicy pulp surrounding and adhering to the seed is the part eaten. In striking contrast to it is the dense, thick, reddish rind, containing tannic acid and a dye. The fruit is in season in the low country of Ceylon from April to June, and at higher elevations from June to August or September. Here it is usually sold in the markets, or hawked about, at 75 cents (Ceylonese) to 1 rupee per dozen; (24 to 32 cents U.S. gold.) It is always charged for on hotel menus as an extra. The tree is of very slow growth, and does not usually come into bearing till about nine or ten years old. The essential conditions for it are a hot, moist climate, and deep, rich well-drained soil. It thrives up to 1500 feet elevation in the moist region, but may also be grown in moderately dry districts with irrigation. Propagation is usually by seed, but may also be effected by gootee or layering. Sow seeds in pots under cover. The plants are of very slow growth, taking about two years to become large enough for planting out, being then only about 12 inches high." (Macmillan, Handbook of Tropical Gardening & Planting, p. 164 & 165.)

Ilex paraguariensis St. Hilaire. (Aquifoliaceae.) 43456. Seeds of **Yerba de mate** from Argentina. Collected by Mr. H. M. Curran. A small, bushy, evergreen tree with serrate alternate leaves, native of Brazil and Paraguay and the neighboring countries. The leaves are roasted and ground to make the Paraguay-tea of commerce, which is said to possess the good properties of tea and coffee without their after-effects. In the hospitals of Paris it is used as a stimulant. The Yerba groves are located in remote regions, and grow best on high land at an elevation of 1,000 to 2,000 feet, in soft alluvial soil or soil rich in humus. The seed is very difficult to germinate, and without special treatment requires a year before it will come up. An opinion prevails that these seeds will ger-