

Notes from Correspondents abroad.

Port Louis, Mauritius. Mr. G. Regnard writes, July 24, regarding the Jujubes of Mauritius which differ specifically from those of China mainly in seed and leaf character and have been given the name *Ziziphus mauritiana*: "To meet the wishes you expressed in your letter of October 18 last, I have endeavored to obtain fruits of the principal varieties of *Ziziphus sativa* Lam., growing in Mauritius . . .

"I might add to what I said on this subject in my previous letter. If the *Ziziphus* are not cultivated, in the strict sense of the word, they are to be found in large numbers in the villages inhabited by Indians and Africans, in the warmer localities of the island; and the fruits are well appreciated, not only by those people, but also by Europeans, and they are sold in great quantities in the fruit markets during June, July, and August (the cold season). On having fruits gathered on different trees, I have noticed that there are many varieties, probably more than one hundred, of different sizes, shapes, tastes, and colors. The fruits, on ripening, may be green, pink, red, or yellow. The majority are of a certain shade of yellow. When over-ripe, that is, when the fruit softens, all the fruits have the same uniform color, that is, yellowish brown.

"The fruits are eaten before they become what I call 'over-ripe', and, except for some varieties, have a very good taste. Usually, those fruits which have the lower extremity slightly pointed are considered to be the best, but this is not always the case.

"The tree rarely attains more than 20 feet high, the trunk is six to eight inches in diameter. It grows all around the island, from the sea level to 500 or 600 feet elevation, but it appears, save in a few exceptions, that the best products are obtained from the regions where the heat is more regular, because they are sheltered from the winds which blow during most of the year from the southeast.

"I have had photos taken, in natural size, of fourteen principal varieties of different trees.

"I send you a small package (No. 15) of seeds of a little fruit, long and pointed, excellent to eat; but which I was unable to procure when the photo was taken."