

Zea mays L. (Poaceae.) 44564. Seeds from Rosario, Argentina. Presented by Mr. William Dawson, Jr., American Consul. *Maiz amargo*. A so-called "bitter corn," grown in the Chaco region of Argentina as a locust-proof variety. Otherwise it seems to have no advantages, as the yield is but one-fourth to one-half that of other varieties and the development is extremely slow, requiring from nine to ten months to mature.

Zinziber mioga Roscoe. (Zinziberaceae.) 44579. Roots from Yokohama, Japan. Purchased from the Yokohama Nursery Company. A perennial Japanese herb about 3 feet high, with nearly linear, smooth, membranous leaves, up to 15 inches long; white flowers in spikes, 2 to 3½ inches long; and ovoid capsules. It occurs wild and also in cultivation. In summer and autumn the flowers, with the bracts, are eaten, either raw or boiled; they have a slightly acid taste and an aromatic odor. (Adapted from Useful Plants of Japan, p. 30, and from F. Tracy Hubbard, in Bailey, Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture, vol. 6, p. 3544, the former under *Amomum mioga*.)

Notes from Correspondents abroad.

Mr. Eugene André writes from Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, B.W.I., October 22, 1917:

"I enclose two bulletins of our Department of Agriculture. Part 1, Vol. 16, pages 18-20, gives the results of certain experiments made by the Government in 1915-1916 with the object of acquiring definite knowledge as to the yield of the various kinds of cassava grown by our peasantry. The spot where the experiments were conducted forms part of the old St. Augustine Sugar estate, one of the oldest estates in the island. Bulletin Part 2, Vol. 16, deals with other matters connected with the cassava industry here. Unfortunately, the inhabitants of Carenage, in spite of the inducements offered to them, would not take up the growing of cassava on a scale that would have kept the factory busy, so that this part of the enterprise has been a failure. Speaking generally, comparatively little cassava is grown here. The laboring man has got used to his wheaten loaf and he turns his nose up at the disks of cassava which is the staple of the Venezuelan poor. Like cassava corn is but little used as a bread, but corn is more widely grown than cassava because it is the food generally given to our domestic