

Canavali gladiatum (Jacq.) DeCandolle. (Fabaceae.) 44806. **Sword bean.** From Cairo, Egypt. Presented by Mr. F. G. Walsingham, Giza Branch, Horticultural Division, Ministry of Agriculture. A perennial, climbing plant, with leaves composed of 3 roundish leaflets 2 to 6 inches long, and axillary racemes of dark purple flowers. The scimitar-shaped pods are about a foot long and contain numerous red or white seeds which resemble large beans. The young pods are sliced and boiled for table use, and are also pickled. Propagation is by seeds.

Casuarina stricta Dryander. (Casuarinaceae.) 44909. **Drooping sheoak.** Presented by Mr. B. Harrison, through Mr. C. V. Piper. An Australian tree, 20 to 30 feet in height, known in New South Wales as **Feld's Fodder tree**; suitable for dry or semi-arid sections. The foliage is eagerly eaten by cattle, especially in times of drought, and it is said that one tree has supported 8 to 10 head of stock at one time. Even in large quantities it does not appear to have an injurious effect on the cattle. The wood is used for cabinet work and shingles, and makes an excellent fuel. (Adapted from letter of Mr. B. Harrison of May 8, 1917.)

Citrullus vulgaris Schrader. (Cucurbitaceae.) 44842. **Water-melon** seeds from Durban, Natal. Presented by Mr. William W. Masterson, American Consul. **Mankataan.** A melon much cultivated throughout Natal for use as cattle feed. It is exceptionally tough, enduring rough handling and keeping for six months after ripening without spoiling; but, at the same time, as it is very watery, it makes an excellent green fodder for live stock, especially when mixed with such feed as alfalfa hay or corn stalks. It is also very suitable for jam making, some of the Cape Colony firms using large quantities for this purpose. One pound of seed will plant two or three acres, and as much as 120 tons of melons have been taken from a single acre. It might be suitable for the semiarid regions of the United States. (Adapted from William W. Masterson, Consular report, April 18, 1917.)

Citrullus vulgaris Schrader. (Cucurbitaceae.) 44869. **Water-melon** seeds from Curacao, Dutch West Indies. Collected by Mr. H. M. Curran. "The watermelons of Curacao are the best I have tasted in the tropics. March, 1917." (Curran.)