

bloom, but set a good crop in 1917, and there should be a fine lot of fruits to ripen next year (1918). Judging from accounts given me, the tree usually does not carry a great many fruits, but this would be expected of a variety of such large size. The season of ripening is said by the owner to be from February to April, most of the crop being picked in March. The fruits, as indicated by young ones now on the tree (June 12, 1917), are long and slender,—best termed slender pyriform, perhaps, but not markedly swollen at the lower end. The surface is nearly smooth, and the skin rather thin for this race. When ripe the color is said to be deep purple, and the flesh is said to be of excellent flavor. An American who has known the variety for some time tells me he has weighed specimens which tipped the beam at 3 pounds. This is a larger fruit than any other included in the collection and, so far as I am aware, the largest yet seen in Guatemala. Since it has not been possible for me to examine the mature fruit, it is recommended that budded plants be distributed with the understanding that the variety is a very large-fruited one highly recommended by several people who are familiar with it, but not tested by me." (Popenoe.)

*Polygonum tinctorium* Loureiro. (Polygonaceae.) 44805. Seeds from Yih sien, Shantung, China. Presented by Rev. Ralph G. Coonradt. "The 'Blue plant' may be common in America. When mature, it is put through a process to obtain the dye with which all of our blue clothes are colored." (Coonradt.) An annual herb commonly cultivated in dry fields in China and Japan, growing to a height of 1 to 2 feet. The leaves are variable in shape, ranging from long and narrow to short and oval, and the pink flowers are borne in spikes. The dried leaves are made into "indigo balls" from which the dye is obtained. (Adapted from Useful Plants of Japan, p. 101, 1895.)

*Prunus salicifolia* H.B.K. (Amygdalaceae.) 44885. **Cherry** seeds from Guatemala City, Guatemala. Collected by Mr. Wilson Popenoe, of this Bureau. "(No. 128a. May 16, 1917.) The wild cherry of the Guatemalan highlands, called **cereza** in Spanish and **capulin** in the Quiché Indian dialect. The tree is found both wild and cultivated in the mountains of Guatemala, from elevations of about 4000 feet up to 9000 feet or perhaps higher. As commonly seen, the tree is erect, often somewhat slender,