

leaflets. The flowers, which are produced in clusters of considerable size, are of a deep lilac color and quite attractive. In form they resemble the flowers of the common pea, but are smaller, being about half an inch broad. The shrub seems well worthy of trial in California and Florida." (Popenoe.)

Ixerba brexioides Cunningham. (Escalloniaceae.) 44955. **Tawari** seeds from Auckland, New Zealand. Presented by Mr. H. R. Wright, Avondale Nursery. A beautiful evergreen tree, sometimes 70 feet tall, with thick, leathery, coarsely serrate leaves 3 to 7 inches long, and very handsome waxy, white flowers $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, borne in flat panicles. It is a native of New Zealand, where it is not common; and is considered by some to be the most beautiful tree indigenous to that country. (Adapted from Laing and Blackwell, Plants of New Zealand, pp. 186, 188.)

Musa paradisiaca seminifera (Lour.) Baker. (Musaceae.) 45007. **Plantain** seeds from Nice, France. Presented by Dr. A. Robertson Proschowsky. A wild, seed-bearing plantain having small, oblong, greenish fruits full of seed. These fruits are about a third of the size of the common banana; and have a pleasant taste, although encumbered by numerous seeds. The plant is quite ornamental; and as it is hardier than the common banana it might be possible, by selection or hybridization, to extend the range of banana culture. (Adapted from Bailey, Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture, vol. 4, p. 2079, and from letter of Dr. A. Robertson Proschowsky, June 30, 1917.)

Panicum decompositum R. Brown. (Poaceae.) 45040. Seeds from Burringbar, New South Wales, Australia. Presented by Mr. B. Harrison. A tall, coarse, succulent, semi-aquatic grass, cultivated in many parts of Australia as a forage crop. It produces an abundance of forage, and is greatly relished by stock. It has yielded, under cultivation, as much as 3 tons of hay per acre. The seeds are produced in December and January. (Adapted from J. H. Maiden, Useful Native Plants of Australia, pp. 97, 98.)

Persea sp. (Lauraceae.) 44996. Seeds from Guatemala. Collected by Mr. Wilson Popenoe, of this Bureau. "(No. 152a. From the Chuacús mountains, near Rincon Grande, about 5 miles from Salamá, at an approximate