



FRUIT OF THE PATAShte, A RELATIVE OF THE CACAO.

(*TRIBROMA BICOLOR* (HUMB. AND BONP.) COOK.)

According to Mr. O. F. Cook, this gourdlike elliptical pod contains large fleshy seeds which are used in the same manner as cacao among the Indians of Guatemala. Though not considered the equal of cacao in quality, the patashte is bought readily by the Indians and would undoubtedly find a place in commerce if it could be produced cheaply. The patashte tree grows much more rapidly than cacao, develops into a much larger tree, and has been used experimentally as a shade tree for cacao. Its rapid growth and adaptation to high altitudes make it promising for trial as a stock for the cacao. (Photographed by Wilson Popenoe, at Escuintla, Guatemala, September 22, 1916; P16793FS.) Slightly under natural size.