

and as such is worthy of a trial in California, where early varieties of the Guatemalan race are needed. Its only visible defect is its somewhat large seed. The quality is good and the fruit is attractive in appearance. This location is not sufficiently high to experience cold weather, hence the variety must be assumed to be of average hardiness for the Guatemalan race until it can be given a trial in the United States. The productiveness of this variety is somewhat in doubt. The crop harvested in 1917 was not large. The tree bloomed heavily in December and was setting a good crop when last seen. The season of ripening extends from October to the first of December. Probably the fruits would remain on the tree later than December if given an opportunity to do so, but as avocados are very scarce at this season of the year they are picked as soon as mature. The form of the fruits, pear shaped to obovoid, is attractive, as is the deep maroon color which they assume upon ripening. They are of convenient size, about 12 ounces, and the flesh is yellow and of good quality. The seed is larger than in the best late varieties, but not unreasonably large. It is tight in the cavity." (Popenoe.)

Pyrus calleryana (Malaceae), 45592. **Wild pear.** From China. Collected by Mr. Frank N. Meyer, Agricultural Explorer for this Department. "(No. 2453a. Kingmen, Hupeh, China. October 1917.) Over 100 pounds of seed of a small-fruited wild pear which has proven to be highly resistant, but not totally immune to fire-blight in the inoculation experiments of Professor F. C. Reimer at Talent, Oregon. This pear grows in a variety of habitats, as at the edges of ponds, in dense thickets, on rocky mountain slopes, in crevices, etc. It is used by the Chinese as a stock for improved pears, and seems to make a good union. When left alone it grows into a large tree reaching an old age. Where this pear occurs around Kingmen, *Pyrus betulaefolia* also is found and, since it resembles *P. calleryana* to a striking degree, it is impossible, when collecting a large number of fruits, to keep it out entirely. There is, therefore a certain percentage of seed of this pear mixed with that of *P. calleryana*. As *P. betulaefolia* is highly susceptible to blight, roguing in the seed beds or nursery plantings of *P. calleryana* should be carefully done. To insure pure seeds for future stock purposes, groves should be set out here and there, away from other species and varieties of pears, so as to minimize