

*Vanilla pompona* (Orchidaceae), 45669. From Zacuapam, Vera Cruz, Mexico. Presented by Dr. C. A. Purpus. "Wild vanilla which grows in brush-woods, and half-shady places in the low country at the limit of the Tierra caliente. Should be planted at the foot of small trees or large shrubs in leaf mold." (Purpus.) "A native of Mexico, yielding an inferior quality of vanilla known by the name of 'Vanillon' and 'Vanilloes'. This is claimed to have advantages over proper vanilla, its pods not having a tendency to split, as well as being easily cured, whilst the vines are said to flower and fruit 3 or 4 times during the year." (MacMillan, Tropical Gardening and Planting.)

*Ziziphus mauritiana* (Rhamnaceae), 45625 to 45658. From Port Louis, Mauritius. Presented by Mr. G. Regnard. "If the Ziziphus trees are not cultivated in the strict sense of the word, they are, however, found in large numbers in the villages inhabited by Indians and Africans, in the warmer localities of the island, and the fruits are well appreciated not only by those people, but also by Europeans and they are sold in great quantities in the fruit markets during June, July and August (the cold season). On having fruits gathered from different trees, I have noticed that there are many varieties, probably more than one hundred, of different size, shape, taste and color. The fruits on ripening may be green, pink, red or yellow. The majority is of a certain shade of yellow. When over-ripe, that is when the fruit softens all the fruits have the same uniform yellowish-brown color. The fruits are eaten before they become what I call, "over-ripe", and except for some varieties have a very good taste. Usually those fruits which have the lower extremity slightly pointed are considered to be the best, but this is not always the case. The tree rarely attains more than 20 feet in height, with a trunk 6 to 8 inches in diameter. It grows all around the island, from the sea level to 500 to 600 feet elevation, but it appears, with a few exceptions, that the best products are obtained from the regions where the heat is more regular, because they are sheltered from the winds which blow during most of the year from the southeast." (Regnard.)