

small leguminous tree which occurs commonly on the plains of the state of Minas Geraes, and is said by Pio Correa to be distributed from Para, in northern Brazil, to Sao Paulo in the southern part of the country. The bark contains a high percentage of tannin, and is known as *casca da virgindade*; the seeds are said to be poisonous, and the leaves to have medicinal qualities. It is the bark, however, that seems to have economic interest, being considered of value for use in tanning. According to Brazilian authorities it contains as high as 40 per cent of tannin; an analysis made by the Bureau of Chemistry, United States Department of Agriculture, gave the following results:

Total dissolved solids.....	31.6	per cent
Soluble solids in cold water.....	28.6	" "
Non-tannins.....	6.7	" "
Tannins.....	20.1	" "

*Tutcheria spectabilis* (Theaceae), 45720. From Hongkong, China. Presented by Mr. W. J. Tutcher, Botanical and Forestry Department. A handsome, ornamental, small tree or shrub, indigenous to the island of Hongkong. The leaves are alternate, short-petioled, coriaceous and shining. The flowers are about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter usually having 7 white, roundish-obovate petals. Fruit is a woody capsule, the size of a small apple, retaining at the base the persistent sepals, and containing several large seeds. The plant flowers in May and fruits in November. (Adapted from Champion, Transactions of the Linnean Society vol. 21, p. 111, 1850.)

*Vitis tiliaefolia* (Vitaceae), 45797. **Grape.** From Zacuapam, Mexico. Presented by Dr. C. A. Purpus. "A small-fruited wild grape excellent for jelly. This is essentially a tropical grape." (Purpus.) A grape which is widely distributed in the American tropics. It varies greatly and often runs into white-leaved forms. The cluster of fruit is long and long-peduncled, large and compound; the purple berries are small and globose. This species is considered promising as a pomological grape for the tropics. (Adapted from Bailey, Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture, vol. 6, p. 3489.)