

eaten after prolonged soaking in water. The red, reticulated wood is used for joiners' and turners' ornamental work. (Adapted from Thiselton-Dyer, *Flora Capensis*, vol. 5, p. 504.)

*Cajan indicum* (Fabaceae), 46480. **Pigeon-pea.** From Zacuapam, Mexico. Presented by Dr. C. A. Purpus. **Frijolito garbanzo.** "The pigeon-pea, or **guandu**, supposed to be a native of India, is cultivated widely for food in the tropics and subtropics. It is perennial in frostless regions, but is usually cultivated as an annual. The plant develops into a large, semi-woody bush reaching a height of from 5 to 10 feet. Although the skin of the pigeon-pea is a little tough the flavor of the peas is good. In India this vegetable is commonly called **dhall** or **dahl**." (Young.)

Mr. H. V. Krishnayye, Officiating Director of the Mysore Department of Agriculture, states that in preparing **dhall** for the market it is soaked for twenty-four hours in puddled red earth and then dried. In the removal of the dried earth the skin, or husk, of the seed also comes off. The product is then ready for market. This letter contains the following further statement: "The pulse as it is sold in the market is dehusked and split and is ready for cooking without further treatment. **Dhall** enters into the composition of many Indian dishes, where it supplies the nitrogenous constituents in a vegetarian ration, but these will probably not be relished by non-Indian palates. However, I think it is safe to say that **dhall** could be substituted for lentils in all your dishes with satisfactory results."

"Krauss, of Hawaii, reports that an excellent forage is secured there from pigeon-peas by lopping off the tops and drying them with the peas attached and then reducing these tops to meal. He asserts that this rivals alfalfa meal in food value." (Fairchild.)

*Ceiba pentandra* (Bombacaceae), 46522. **Kapok.** From Mexico. Presented by Mr. John R. Silliman, American Consul, Guadalajara. "The **kapok** tree, native in the American tropics, is widely distributed in the tropics of both hemispheres. It attains a height of from 75 to 100 feet with wide-spreading horizontal branches, making an attractive ornamental or shade tree. It is often, planted along the borders of fields for fence posts. It begins to bear seed pods with down, when about five years old and the yield of pods increases with the age of the tree. Well-developed trees under favorable