

attractive in appearance and in texture and quality. It seemed to me to be a very great improvement over the Kieffer and every other variety that I know which is adapted to the far south. If the tree is satisfactory and is reasonably resistant to blight, it seems to me that there may be something in this variety which would be worth considering very carefully in connection with the planting of pears in the south." (H. P. Gould.)

Rhoicissus erythroides (Vitaceae), 47100. From Africa. Presented by Mr. J. Burt-Davy, Johannesburg. A shrubby, suberect plant, native of Abyssinia. The leathery, compound leaves are made up of 3 leaflets, the terminal one obovate, 2 to 3 inches long, the lateral ones broadly ovate; all are smooth and deep green above, but covered with fine gray pubescence below. The scarlet flowers occur in small, lateral cymes, and the globose fruits are about half an inch in diameter. (Adapted from Oliver, Flora of Tropical Africa, vol. 1, p. 401.)

Salvia hispanica (Menthaceae), 47126. Chia. From Mexico. Seeds procured by Mr. Cornelius Ferris, Jr., American Consul, San Luis Potosi. "This seed was obtained in the semitropical region of the state of San Luis Potosi and is known simply as **chia**. It is the kind used in making the drink called 'chia'. (Ferris.)

"Chia is widely used in Mexico for the preparation of a 'refresco', or as an addition to 'refrescos' prepared with limes or other fruits. I have never observed the plant in cultivation. The seed, which is often seen on sale in the markets, is similar in appearance to mustard seed, except in its grayish color. When soaked in water it behaves somewhat as tapioca, each seed becoming surrounded by a transparent gelatinous substance almost without taste. A glass of sweetened water to which has been added a few **chia** seeds is considered a good drink; it lacks character, however, and may be considered much better when lime juice is one of the ingredients. This drink is a peculiar thing, difficult of description, but not unworthy of introduction into other countries. It may be mentioned that the state of Chiapas takes its name from 'chia', meaning 'place where the **chia** abounds'." (Popenoe.)

Sterculia diversifolia (Sterculiaceae), 47153. Kurrajong. From Richmond, Victoria, Australia. Seeds presented by Mr. F. H. Baker. Found in Victoria, New South Wales, and Queensland. Useful as human food, as a forage