

No. 19.

BULLETIN OF FOREIGN PLANT INTRODUCTIONS.

July 5 to August 1, 1909.

NEW PLANT IMMIGRANTS.

- ANACARDIUM OCCIDENTALE. 25718. From Cartago, Costa Rica. Presented by Mr. C. Werckle. Received July 2. Cashew. "These seeds are from the best and largest varieties I could find; red, yellow and tawn color; the latter are the best". (Werckle) For propagation; plants available later.
- AVENA. 25730-731. Oats from Jerusalem, Palestine. Presented by Mr. E. F. Beaumont. Received July 6. 25730 is *A. sterilis*; 25731 *A. sativa* grown from Jaffa seed.
- AVENA STERILIS. 25784. From Mustapha-Alger, Algeria. Presented by Dr. L. Trabut. Received July 26. "Variety sub-sativa. A cultivated oat developed by utilizing the spontaneous mutations of *A. sterilis*." (Trabut.)
- CAESALPINIA NAGU. 25803. From Luzon, Philippine Islands. Presented by Mr. Wm. S. Lyon. Received July 30. "A very attractive and sweet scented, flowering scandent shrub". (Lyon.) See No. 20944 for previous introduction and description.
- CARICA. 25720-722. From Cartago, Costa Rica. Presented by Mr. C. Werckle. Received July 2. 25720. *C. papaya*. Good; very large variety. 25720. "Suara. Fruit very small, globular, full (no cavity), sweet and fragrant. For crossing. Eaten with the seeds as Granadilla. Pulp soft, skin very thin. 25722. *C. papaya* x *peltata*. Small, sweet, fragrant fruits. Not full or solid as the Suara". (Werckle). For propagation; plants available later.
- CITRULLUS VULGARIS. 25754. From Tamsui (Daitotei) Formosa, Japan. Presented by Mr. Carl F. Deichman. Received July 26. "Seeds of a watermelon which grows in the

Island of Formosa which has a fairly good flavor and I believe with proper cultivation could be much improved in quality. The meat of the melon has a very pretty shade of yellow from lemon to light orange color and the size averages about 12 inches in diameter. It is not rare here". (Deichman.)

CUCURBITA MOSCHATA. 25719. From Cartago, Costa Rica. Presented by Mr. C. Werckle. Received July 2. "Pipian. Most fertile pumpkin of the Pacific coast. Full; white fleshed". (Werckle.)

CYDONIA SP. 25699. Grown at Ames, Iowa, from seed received from Mr. Paul D. Bergen, Shantung, China. Mr. Bergen in his letter of Oct. 2, 1906, says: "This quince is the regular Shantung species, very good for jelly". For distribution by Upper Mississippi Valley Plant Introduction Garden, Ames, Iowa.

HORDEUM. 25742-750. A collection of nine kinds of barley from Bavaria, Germany. Presented by Messrs. G. and S. Heil, Tuckelhausen. near Wurzburg. Received June, 1909.

JATROPHA (?) 25775. From Veracruz, Mexico. Presented by Mr. Wm. Canada, American Consul. Received July 23. "This seed came from a tree that grows wild in the lowlands of this district, is very abundant and also apparently very rich in oil. The local name is Duraznillo". (Canada.) "This seed belongs to some plant of the Euphorbiaceae, probably a species of Jatropha. We have no material by which further identification can be made". (Skeels.)

LAWSONIA. 25776. From Ancon, Canal Zone, Panama. Presented by Mr. H. F. Schultz. Received July 23. "This plant has proved very valuable for me down here as an ornamental and flowering shrub. The individually small and rather insignificant yellow flowers form a compact and yet graceful panicle and are produced in great masses between the small, fine foliage. The plant often produces flowers the first year and abundantly after that. The fragrance

is very strong, somewhat resembling that of *Cestrum nocturnum* and like the latter is exhaled even more strongly in the evening, from which characteristic it has obtained its local name 'Dama del noche'. Although I do not know whether this plant has ever been used for the manufacture of perfume I should think that it would be suitable for that purpose in frost-free regions of the United States". (Schultz.)

MALUS SP. 25700. Grown at Ames, Iowa from seed received from Mr. Paul D. Bergen, Shantung, China. Mr. Bergen in his letter of Oct. 2, 1906 says: "This apple is a small, dark red, sourish variety. Our climate here is milder considerably than that of Iowa. The country here is so completely cultivated that there is small place left for wild fruits of any kind. The Chinese are considerably skilled also in the art of grafting, so that their fruits are very much modified from the ancestral stock". For distribution by the Upper Mississippi Valley Plant Introduction Garden, Ames, Iowa.

MALUS SP. 25701. Grown at Ames, Iowa from seed received from Mr. H. P. Perkins, Pao Ting Fu, China. In his letter of September 5, 1906, Mr. Perkins says: "These apples are of 2 or 3 varieties, none of them equal to our best United States summer apples and I fear they will not answer the purpose for which you write because the winters here are probably far less cold than are yours. This place is near Shan Hai Kuan, which is the place where the great wall reaches the sea. The fruit region is some 40 miles north (Changli.) There are hills there but I imagine the fruit is grown not very far up the hillsides. We are on a sea bay which usually does not freeze over in the winter". For distribution by Upper Mississippi Valley Plant Introduction Garden, Ames, Iowa.

ORYZA SATIVA. 25702-703. From Saigon, Cochin, China. Presented by Mr. Jacob E. Conner. Received June 28.
25702. The 'Baixau' as it is known here, is sometimes called Siamese garden rice and it commands the highest price in the market. A Chinese rice specialist here

told me that it is known also as Sun Tsim which Mr. Wilder says corresponds to the Sunejin. At any rate it is a fine rice to introduce". (Conner.) Sun Tsim means 'long kernel'. 25703. This variety is called locally Nep or alcohol rice. It is very dark colored and is the one I suppose which corresponds to Patma and which Mr. Wilder called Pat nor. (Conner.) Pat nor means 'soft'.

PHYLLANTHUS EMBLICA. 25724. From Baroda, India. Presented by Mr. B. F. Cavanagh. Received July 3. "A small, deciduous tree of the family Euphorbiaceae found in China, Japan, India and elsewhere. The unripe fruit, formerly official in medicine, is known commercially as emblic myrobalan, and with the leaves and bark is used in tanning. The leaves have been found to contain 18 per cent tannin and the bark 12.6 per cent". (Stockberger.) Introduced for trial in the southern states by Dr. Stockberger.

SACCHARUM OFFICINARUM. 25738. From Buitenzorg, Java. Presented by Dr. M. Treub. Received July 2. "Arrows of one of our best varieties of sugar cane. Rather a large percentage of these seeds do not germinate". (Treub.)

SCHINOPSIS BALANSAE. 25717. From Chaco, Argentina. Presented by Sr. Don Carlos D. Girola. Received June 19. "A tree belonging to the family Anacardiaceae. Native in Paraguay where according to Engler it grows on river banks in impervious clay soil. Said to occur also in eastern and southern Argentine. Known locally as Quebracho colorado and forms one of the sources of the quebracho extract used in tanning." (Stockberger.) Procured for Dr. Stockberger's tanning experiments.

ZEA MAYS. 25736. Corn from Pretoria, Transvaal, South Africa. Presented by Prof. J. Burt Davy. Received July 16. "Hickory King. A strain now being developed in South Africa. (Davy.)

ZEA MAYS. 25758-774. A collection of 17 varieties of corn from Ecuador. Presented by Mr. H. R. Dietrich, American Consul-General, Guayaquil, Ecuador. Received July 10.

NOTES FROM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

- ABYSSINIA. Mr. Robert P. Skinner, Consul-General at Hamburg, Germany, formerly in Abyssinia sends a report on the Abyssinian kat plant (*Catha edulis*). The leaves are chewed by the natives and a drink is also made from them which is stimulating, tonic and non-narcotic.
- CHILE, Lima. Alfredo Broggi, June 17. Will send tubers of *Solanum immite*.
- COCHIN CHINA, Saigon. J. E. Conner, June 2. Is sending seeds of several species of *Dipterocarpus* and resin from the trees. Also seed of Ylang Ylang, *Crinum Asiaticum* and *Cinnamomum loureirii*.
- FORMOSA, Tamsui. Carl F. Deichman, June 15. Is sending a package of Kah-peh sung. Will send edible bulbs of the plant in September.
- HONDURAS, Tegucigalpa. Mr. Fritzgartner, June 19. Sends a new kind of matasano, seeds of maranon, seeds of Nispero, also seeds of Granadilla; likewise Honduras beans. The natives prefer these to foreign beans. They use them as 'fried beans'.
- INDIA, Chittagong. R. L. Heinig, May 31. Is sending seeds of the Muli bamboo.
- INDIA, Lahore, Punjab. W. R. Mustoe, June 17. Is sending Bael fruits and photograph of the tree as it grows in the Punjab. Will send elephant apple seeds later on.
- JAPAN, Tokyo. Prof. J. Kozai, June 18. Will send seed of *Citrus trifoliata* in December when the fruits ripen.
- MANCHURIA, Antung. E. C. Parker, July 7. Has commenced collecting seeds of the hardy cherries and apricots, that are found so far north there. Has also found a few native cherries that have sweet fruit. Has marked them so as to get scions next winter. The cherries are small, almost shrub-like and the fruit is borne all along the branches like gooseberries, giving a very pretty ornamental effect.

Most of the apricots are hard and tasteless but a few in the market from Shantung province surpassed anything in America. Will send seeds and scions of these.

NEW ZEALAND, Wellington. T. W. Kirk, June 4. Will forward *Podocarpus dacrydioides* in a few weeks.

SOUTH AFRICA, Durban. J. M. Wood, July 3. Is sending seed of a species of *Protea*. Will send other species soon.

TRIPOLI-IN-BARBARY. Wm. Coffin, June 21. Sends photographs of date gardens in Oman.

TRIPOLI-IN-BARBARY. Wm. Coffin, June 26. Was sent some dates from the Pangh Ghur country in Baluchistan which were the finest he ever tasted. Best dates in Tripoli are said to grow in Fezzan about a month's camel journey from Tripoli. He will try to get samples of the finest varieties. There is a kind of alfalfa called "susfa" grows there which is fed to live stock. It is alternated with barley and is the steadiest crop there. Can send seed if desired.

TURKEY, Harput. W. W. Masterson, June 17. Sends a report in regard to horse beans in that country. Will send seeds of the different varieties at the close of the season. Also speaks of the Trebizond date. It is a shrub 8 or 10 feet high. Has a wonderfully fragrant blossom and a fruit that looks like the commercial date but not so good in quality. A beautiful shrub for hedges.

RECENT VISITORS.

SERVIA. Mr. Petrovitch, a Servian, formerly Consul. Described Semendria grape of Servia, from town near Belgrade. Large white and also red grape; much like the Malaga grape. Servians do not ship.

SOUTH AMERICA. Mr. Chas. R. Toothaker, the Chief Curator of the Philadelphia Museum wants to go up the Amazon next autumn to be gone 5 months.

SOUTH AMERICA. Mr. C. F. Young, Manager of the Tanners Supply Co., Grand Rapids, Mich., expects to visit South America and offers to look up anything we want investigated.

Inventory No. 17 is now printed, covering Nos. 23745-24429. This Inventory covers a period of three months from October 1st to December 31st and includes a collection of Chinese vegetables brought by Mr. Meyer from Peking; the Indian bael fruit valuable as a possible new fruit and as a dry land stock for the orange; a new species of the fruiting hedge plant *Carissa* from Calcutta; a new green manure legume from Sao Paulo, Brazil; a large collection of beans, cowpeas, squashes, field peas and garbanzos and some remarkable hard-stemmed bamboos from Chile; a number of new strains of alfalfa from Peru, Australia, Spain and Chile; a collection of seeds of the best species of grazing grasses from Rhodesia; a number of Syrian pomegranates from Sidon; a collection of *Stizolobium* or velvet beans from the Royal Botanic Gardens of Java; and many other promising plants from various parts of the world.

We have just received from Prof. Schweinfurth of Berlin, addressed to Mr. Aaronsohn, samples of six forms of the wild wheat, *Triticum dicoccoides*, grown at the Agricultural School at Bonn.