

*Aeluropus repens* (Poaceae), 55029. From Algiers, Algeria. Seeds presented by Dr. L. Trabut, director, Service Botanique. "Found at very salty places in the Sahara." (Trabut.)

A low, much-branched, rigid, perennial grass from the Mediterranean countries. It roots at the nodes, and appears to be partial to sandy places, - even close to salt water. (Adapted from Muschler, Manual Flora of Egypt, vol. 1, p. 129.)

*Cassia siamea* (Caesalpiaceae), 55025. **Kassod tree.** From Los Banos, Philippine Islands. Seeds presented by J. E. Higgins, College of Agriculture. A medium-sized or sometimes a large tree with gray, nearly smooth bark and papery glabrous leaflets. The small yellow flowers are borne in large pyramidal, terminal panicles. The tree is probably native to Burma and is cultivated throughout India and many tropical countries for its hard heavy wood which is very durable. The heartwood is dark brown to nearly black, in stripes of dark and light; it is used for mallets, walking sticks, for building, and for fuel. (Adapted from Rock, Leguminous Plants of Hawaii, p. 81.)

*Chenopodium quinoa* (Chenopodiaceae), 55051. From Cuzco, Peru. Seeds presented by Prof. Fortunato L. Herrera. "One of the inhabitants of the highlands of Peru and Bolivia is a species of *Chenopodium* (*C. quinoa*) and so far as foliage is concerned it is not very unlike our ordinary 'goosefoot.' Its seeds, however, are white or nearly so, and fully three times as large as those of *C. album*. In pre-Columbian times this plant was one of the main foods of the Indians, evidently ranking with the potato and corn in this respect. None of the Old World cereals being known before the discovery it was only natural that the cultivation of this plant should have extended over a considerable area. In addition to Peru and Bolivia it was probably grown in some parts of Argentina and is known with certainty to have been cultivated in Chile; in fact there even appears to have been an Araucanian or Mapuche name for it. Doubtless its cultivation at the present time is less extensive than formerly, due in part to the diminished Indian population and in some measure to an apparent ignorance or indifference on the part of the white population to its real merits as a food. At present it is probably most commonly grown on the Titicaca plateau. It is said to yield abundantly though it does not seem