

ica, being found at 38° 22' S. Lat. The pinnate leaves, 4 to 6 feet in length, are borne on a trunk 6 to 12 feet high, and the very numerous flowers, occurring on a densely flowered, much-branched spadix, are pale pink. The young inflorescences are eaten by the natives of New Zealand. (Adapted from Curtis's Botanical Magazine, pl. 5139.)

*Rubus* spp. (Rosaceae), 55630 and 55631. From the Island of Hainan, China. Seeds presented by F. A. McClure, Canton Christian College. Quoted notes by Mr. McClure.

*Rubus* sp., 55630. "(No. 848.) An edible wild berry found in sandy soil at an altitude of 100 to 165 feet."

*Rubus* sp., 55631. "(No 849.) An edible wild berry found in clay loam on hillsides at an altitude of about 3,300 feet."

*Rumex* spp. (Polygonaceae), 55605 and 55606. From Okitsu, Japan. Seeds presented by T. Onda, director, Government Horticultural Experiment Station. These sorrels, which are used as salad vegetables in Japan, are introduced for trial as food for diabetics.

*Rumex acetosa*, 55605. SORREL. "Suiba."

*Rumex crispus*, 55606. CURLY DOCK. Variety japonicus. "Gishi-gishi."

*Trifolium subterraneum* (Fabaceae), 55707. SUBTERRANEAN CLOVER. From Melbourne, Victoria. Seeds purchased from F. H. Brunning & Co., Ltd. "Experiments carried on by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and by state experiment stations in cooperation with this department, during the years 1921 and 1922, have established the fact that this clover will survive the winter as far north as Knoxville, Tenn. At this station, as well as at several others, the plants from fall seeding made some growth in the fall, held their own during the winter and made a rapid and heavy growth early in the spring of 1922. This clover made a strong growth on sandy land at McNeill, Miss.; in this case finely ground bone meal had been used as fertilizer. Preliminary trials have been encouraging and the department is making further tests." (A. J. Pieters.)

*Vitex lucens* (Verbenaceae), 55620. PURIRI. From Auckland, New Zealand. Seeds presented by Stanley G. Chambers, secretary, Auckland Acclimatisation Society. A fine tree, from 50 to 60 feet in height, native to New Zealand but restricted to the northern part of the North Island. It is often called the New Zealand oak, on account of the strength and durability of its wood which is not injured by dampness or exposure, and is therefore extremely valuable for shipbuilding purposes. The logs are often perforated with holes, the work of a soft-bodied grub which develops into the "puriri moth." These holes do not affect the timber except in so far as it has sometimes to be cut to disadvantage.

The handsome, bright glossy green leaves are 3 to 5-foliolate with leaflets 3 to 4 inches long. The pink or red 2-lipped flowers, produced more or less all the year round, are in axillary clusters of 4 to 8. The roots of the "puriri" never penetrate deeply into the ground, but lie near the surface, so the tree is easily blown over in a gale. (Adapted from Laing and Blackwell, Plants of New Zealand, p. 350.)