

A horse-chestnut, native to Szechwan and Hupeh, China, which is very closely allied to *A. chinensis*, from which it differs only in a few minor characters. It is a large tree with leaves that are downy when young and white flowers borne in racemes which sometimes become 16 inches in length. The burs are rough but not spiny. (Adapted from Bean, Trees and Shrubs Hardy in the British Isles, vol. 1, p. 168.)

AMYGDALUS COMMUNIS (Amygdalaceae), 56178. **Almond.** From Serai, Bagdad, Mesopotamia. Seeds presented by G. S. Cameron, Officiating Director of Agriculture, Serai. "Sweet almonds with a hard, thick shell; native to Mesopotamia." (Cameron.)

ASPARAGUS AFRICANUS (Convallariaceae), 56483. From Loanda, Angola, Africa. Seeds presented by John Gossweiler. "This asparagus is a great delicacy, and in my opinion better than any of the cultivated kinds." (Sir Percy Fitzpatrick, in note under S.P.I. 32271.)

A much-branched tall shrub, native to many places in tropical and South Africa. The main branches are woody and the leaves are spiny at the base. The 1-seeded berries are a sixth of an inch in diameter. (Adapted from Thiselton-Dyer, Flora of Tropical Africa, vol. 7, p. 433.)

BRACHYCHITON DISCOLOR (Sterculiaceae), 56185. From Brisbane, Queensland. Seeds presented by E. W. Bick, curator, Botanic Garden, Brisbane. A large tree, native to southern Australia, with roundish heart-shaped leaves, 4 to 6 inches in diameter, with white-velvety lower surfaces. The rose-red flowers, up to 2 inches long, are borne in few-flowered clusters in the upper axils. The wood is soft, light colored, and of rather coarse grain; when dried, however, it hardens, and makes good shingles. (Adapted from Maiden, Useful Native Plants of Australia, p. 600, and from Bailey, Queensland Flora, pt. 1, p. 138.)

CASSIA BREWSTERI TOMENTELLA (Caesalpiniaceae), 56186. From Brisbane, Queensland. Seeds presented by E. W. Bick, curator, Botanic Garden. An erect, slender tree 20 to 30 feet high, found in thickets about Obum Obum, Queensland, where it is known as "bean tree." The branches, under surface of the leaflets, and small yellow flowers are covered with fine white hairs. The cylindrical pods, 1 to 2 feet long, are bright reddish brown. (Adapted from Bailey, Queensland Flora, pt. 2, p. 456.)

CASTANEA MOLLISSIMA (Fagaceae), 56393. **Chestnut.** From China. Seeds presented by C. A. Reed, Bureau of Plant Industry. "(No. 18c. Anshan, Chihli, October, 1922.) Nuts obtained on the streets of Anshan, a railroad station between Lanchow and Changli; perhaps originally from north of Lanchow. There are many orchards containing a hundred trees or more