



THE KAKI OR JAPANESE PERSIMMON.

(*Diospyros kaki* L. f.)

One of the largest collections of kakis or Japanese persimmons in the United States is that maintained by the Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction at Chico, Calif. Represented in this collection are the best of the 350 introductions which have been secured during the past twenty-five years from Japan and China, countries in which the kaki is cultivated extensively and where practically all varieties now known have had their origin. The range in form and size which occurs in this species is well illustrated by the above photograph, which shows the varieties fruiting at Chico in 1922. Among the most interesting ones are the following: Row 1, fruit 1, S. P. I. 13823, *Hachiya*, now the most common commercial variety, with yellow flesh and astringent; row 1, fruit 6, S. P. I. 13841, *Kuro kuma*, with dark flesh and nonastringent; row 1, fruit 7, S. P. I. 13846, *Shakumi*, also dark fleshed and nonastringent; row 4, fruit 2, S. P. I. 22362, *Tamopan*, with yellow flesh and astringent; row 4, fruit 7, S. P. I. 26491, *Fuyu*, yellow fleshed and very promising commercially because it is never astringent. The two small fruits in the bottom row are of *Diospyros lotus*. (Photographed by P. H. Dorsett, Plant Introduction Garden, Chico, Calif., October 20, 1922; P28345FS.)