

"For many years it was believed that the mangosteen could not be made to bear fruit outside the Asiatic Tropics. There is now a fruiting orchard of more than a dozen trees on the Island of Dominica in the West Indies, and another of nearly the same size near Guayaquil, Ecuador. Fruit has also been produced in Trinidad, Jamaica, and the Hawaiian Islands. It is evident, therefore, that the mangosteen can be grown successfully in many regions, given the proper conditions of climate and soil, and appropriate cultural treatment.

"The seeds of this fruit are among the most difficult in the world to transport long distances. Year after year the Department of Agriculture has received small shipments from Ceylon, Java, and other parts of the Asiatic Tropics, without being able to save more than an insignificant number of them. Attempts to secure seeds from the trees in Dominica have been somewhat more successful, but large quantities are not available from that source.

"In 1922, it was found that seeds obtained through Vilmorin-Andrieux and Co., of Paris, reached Washington in better condition than any which had been obtained previously from any source. A good number of plants was grown from this seed, but, due to their extremely slow growth, they will have to be kept in the greenhouses at Washington until they are two years old, when they will be ready to send out for testing in various parts of Latin America. In order to increase the stock available for this use, a second shipment of seeds has been secured this season." (Wilson Popenoe.)

**HIBISCUS ROSA-SINENSIS** (Malvaceae), 58035. **Chinese hibiscus.** From Manila, Philippine Islands. Cuttings presented by Adn. Hernandez, director, Bureau of Agriculture. "The Chinese hibiscus is an exceedingly popular ornamental plant in southern Florida, where the single scarlet variety is practically the only one which has been commonly planted up to this time. The Department has undertaken to introduce the best forms from other parts of the world, in the hope of diversifying somewhat the ornamental plantings of Florida gardens. The scarlet variety, though a handsome and useful plant, is in danger of becoming monotonous. An excellent collection of new varieties has recently been introduced from the Hawaiian Islands, where much has been done to improve this genus by breeding." (Wilson Popenoe.)

**HYPHAENE CRINITA** (Phoenicaceae), 58028. **Palm.** From Pretoria, Union of South Africa. Seeds presented by C. P. Lounsbury, Chief, Division of Entomology. A South African fan palm which in some sections of its native country reaches a height of 30 feet. The leaves are used by the natives to make matting, basketware, and rope. From the sap, obtained by tapping the trunk, a native beverage is prepared. (Adapted from Marloth, Flora of South Africa, vol. 4, p. 50.)