

**Plants recently received, not yet available for distribution.**

**CEREUS VALIDUS** (Cactaceae), 58988. From Nice, France. Seeds presented by Dr. A. Robertson Proschowsky. This picturesque, half-climbing cactus yields a fruit the size of a goose egg, entirely devoid of spines or spicules, pleasing magenta red in color, and of very good taste. Dr. Prochowsky remarks that he has seen no other fruit which is so "melting" in character, and that its flesh resembles the "snows" sold in Latin American countries, prepared by flavoring real snow or finely chopped ice with fruit juice and sugar.

Very little attention has been given to this species in tropical America, and Dr. Proschowsky deserves credit for insisting that its economic value be recognized. For some reason cactus fruits are not so popular with North Americans as they are with the inhabitants of Latin American countries. The fruits of several *Opuntias* are highly esteemed in Mexico, not to mention those of one or two native species of *Cereus*. Their refreshing character makes them particularly grateful to persons living in hot, arid regions.

**CITRUS SINENSIS** (Rutaceae), 58989. **Orange.** From Soledad, Cienfuegos, Cuba. Budwood presented by R. M. Grey, superintendent, Cuban Gardens. "Harvard No. 1." In forwarding budwood of this orange, Mr. Grey says of it: "This is one of the best seedlings we have ever raised here, and it has been in cultivation for many years. The tree forms a compact head, with deep rich green foliage; it is drought-resistant and has borne splendid crops every year. The fruit is medium to large, starts to ripen early in November and remains firm and juicy until May. The skin is rich orange, of medium thickness; the flesh is of fine texture and quality, sweet in flavor and few-seeded." Orange growers in California and in Florida will be interested in testing this variety, which will have to be grown in quarantine at Washington, however, before it can be propagated and distributed to citrus-growing sections of the country. The danger of introducing bacterial or fungus diseases which might imperil the citrus industry has made this procedure necessary.

**MALUS sp.** (Malaceae), 58975. **Garras apple.** From Tripoli, North Africa. Budwood presented by Dr. E. O. Fenzi. From the little known region of Tripoli our old correspondent, Dr. Fenzi, has sent us budwood of this interesting apple, which he describes as an extra early native variety called Garras. The fruit, which he says is of good size and very juicy, ripens at the same time as the earliest apricots. Since it comes from a hot semiarid region, this variety is worth testing in the Southwestern States and California, where it may prove of value as an early apple for sections where most of the standard American sorts can not be grown successfully.