

The seeds are small, flat and dry, and are crowded together in a flat triangular capsule. This is a most valuable ornamental shrub for southern Florida, where it thrives vigorously in dry, sandy soil. Its distinct and not too strong perfume, which is exhaled particularly during the night, is an additional charm."

**FICUS PADIFOLIA** (Moraceae), 44116. Fig. From El Coyolar, Costa Rica. "This is the most elegant and graceful in my collection of Ficus, consisting of about forty different species. Its rather small leaves, growing in dense masses along the slender drooping branches, are glossy, light green, contrasting strongly with the deep somber green foliage of *Ficus retusa* (*F. nitida*) and *F. benjamina*. The young foliage is light coppery-red, adding much to the beauty of the plant, which is extremely dense - so dense, indeed, that the beautifully drooping branches have to be bent aside in order to examine the trunk. I received two small plants April 9, 1919, and planted them out here on my Naples place in November, 1920, one in a dry sandy spot, the other in moist undrained soil on the edge of my cypress hammock. Though this latter specimen is quite healthy, it cannot be compared in luxuriant growth, beauty and elegance with the one in high vineland. This is about 15 feet high and about 10 feet in spread, provided with dense leafy branches from the ground up. The one in the moist soil is scarcely more than 6 feet high, and its growth is rather open. This experiment shows that this charming Ficus is a dry land plant. It will prove a most valuable tree for lawns and for avenue planting in southern Florida. Its root system is vigorous but not aggressive, as is the case in so many other species of the genus. It is the most charming and beautiful, the most graceful and dense of all the trees on my place. It has ripened quite a number of small berries, the size of peas and dull red. Mocking birds are very fond of these fruits. My trees have received now and then an application of blood and bone fertilizer."

**ULMUS DENSA** (Ulmaceae), 32829. **Stamboul elm.** From Merv, Turkestan.

"In 1917 I received two young trees of this elm, and planted them in my experimental nursery, where they grew about 4 feet in two years. I then transplanted them to an open, well-drained space on high ground. At this date both are 26 feet high, with a diameter of 18 inches 5 feet above the ground. They grow rapidly and symmetrically, and have very small leaves, much smaller than those of our native elm; the branches grow horizontally, drooping at the ends. The rather dense foliage is a healthy green, and the trees have been absolutely free from any disease or insect pest. They were sufficiently hardy to withstand, one year after planting, one of the severest winters ever experienced in this latitude." (W. S. Pilling, Philadelphia, Pa., August 25, 1924.)

### The Quetta Nectarine.

(*Amygdalus persica nectarina* Ait.; S.P.I. No. 34685.)

On the table before me is a plate of nectarines just received from the Plant Introduction Garden at Chico, Calif. As we eat one of these delicious, juicy, aromatic specimens, we mentally turn back the pages of history and see a town