

yield a crop. I only know that it is slow - very slow. The renewal crop is rapid. I have seen canes on cut over lands which had been stripped 4 years before. I think in 5 or 6 years at most and on very poor lands a crop can be depended upon. A seedling crop perhaps in 10 years". (Lyon.) For propagation; plants available later.

CITRULLUS VULGARIS. 25934. Seed from Robertson, Cape Colony, South Africa. Presented by Mr. Chas. P. Lounsbury who procured them from Mr. E. A. Visser, Manager of the Experiment Station at Robertson. Received September 4. "Mr. Visser says this plant yielded melons at the rate of 75 tons an acre on the station grounds without any special care and that the melons kept well and are excellent stock food. They weigh about 30 lbs. each and have a firm, sweetish, somewhat tough pulp. The rind is mottled pale and dark green like common watermelons as a rule but is sometimes whitish in this strain. The seeds do not separate readily and no one seems to be trying to save more than they need for themselves, so there is little chance of buying a supply unless it is ordered a year ahead. Mr. Jack, who was Director of the Department here and is now farming, is trying in vain to get seed for a hundred acres which at least indicates that the merits of the crop appeal to him. Mr. Thornton, our Agriculturist, tells me the plant has long grown to the west of Kuruman on the east side of the Kalihari desert. He thinks it was probably cultivated there by natives in by-gone days but now it grows wild. Some years ago he got down seeds and had them planted near Graaf Reinet. Farmers of the district soon appreciated the value of the melon and took to its cultivation as a stock food. It is said, on good authority, to have yielded as high as 150 tons an acre around there, the ground being almost obscured by the fruits. It seems to me that this or other of the South African melons should be more worth cultivating in arid parts of the west than the thornless prickly pears. Of course the melons want water but much of what they get they store away for months. (Lounsbury.)