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NO. 37.

BULLETIN OF FOREIGN PLANT INTRODUCTIONS.

May 1 to 15, 1910.

NEW PLANT IMMIGRANTS.

- ACACIA DECURRENS.** 27792. Black wattle from Berea, Durban, Natal. Presented by Dr. J. Medley Wood, Director, Botanic Garden. For distribution later.
- ANDROPOGON SORGHUM.** 27877-879. Three varieties of Juar from Malkapur, Berars, India. Presented by Mr. A. S. Dhavale. Said to be the chief food and fodder crop of that section. For distribution later.
- CARICA PAPAYA.** 27793. From Tlacotalpan, Vera Cruz, Mexico. Presented by Mr. Edward Everest. "These seeds were taken from a very sweet, good specimen." (Everest.) For distribution later.
- CITRULLUS VULGARIS.** 27856-858. Three varieties of watermelon from Roumania. Procured by Mr. Horace G. Knowles, formerly American Consul at Bucharest. 27856. "Rattlesnake Junior. Small, striped, oval; meat dark pink." 27857. "Carmen Sylva. Meat perfectly white." 27858. "Princess Maria. I am sure this is seed of the variety with dark green skin and dark red meat, the kind grown in Roumania." (Knowles.) For immediate distribution.
- CITRUS BERGAMIA.** 27776. Bergamot orange from Bronte, Sicily. Presented by Mr. Chas. Beek. Turned over to Mr. Swingle for experiments in citrus breeding.
- CROTALARIA JUNCEA.** 27880-881. From Malkapur, Berars, India. Presented by Mr. A. S. Dhavale. "A wild legume for green manuring." (Dhavale.) For distribution later.
- CRYPTOCARYA RUBRA.** 27904-924. From Central Chile. Received through Mr. Jose D. Husbands. "Seeds of 14 strains of this tree, each showing some difference in fruit, leaf, growth, etc." (Husbands.) "A beautiful Chilean tree, persistent leaves; produces a small pink fruit the size of a small olive; the fruit is eaten after boiling. Very ornamental when fruits are ripe. Requires wet soil. Can stand frost; grows best in valley protected from wind, in forests." (T. Finger.) For distribution later.
- DAHLIA COCCINEA.** 26928. From Lawang, Java. Presented by Mr. M. Buysman. Flowers single; scarlet, orange or yellow; plants dwarf. May be valuable for hybridizing with the taller, more showy varieties to obtain dwarf forms. For distribution later.

DOLICHOS LABLAB. 27882-883. Bonavist bean from Malkapur, Berars, India. Presented by Mr. A. S. Dhavale. "A garden vegetable crop; also used for green manure." (Dhavale.) For immediate distribution.

GLADIOLUS SP. 27844. From near Geok-Tapa, Caucasus, Russia. A wild gladiolus occurring on dry mountain slopes. To be tested in breeding experiments. (Meyer's introduction.)

HYPHAENE GUINEENSIS (?) 27011. Ivory-nut from Grand Bassa, Liberia. Presented by Mr. E. L. Parker, Commissioner of Agriculture. "This nut develops at the root of the plant. The natives use the leaves for thatching or covering the roofs of their houses." (S. G. Harmon, Grand Bassa, Liberia.) For immediate distribution.

IRIS SP. 27843. From near Helemendorf, Caucasus, Russia. An iris, perhaps *I. paradoxa*, found on a dry, stony mountain slope, growing but a few inches high. Perhaps of use as a low-growing border plant in semi-arid regions. (Meyer's introduction.)

KENNEDYA STIRLINGI. 26929. From Perth, West Australia. Presented by Mr. W. Catton Grasby. "In experiments conducted by Mr. Grasby this species has given unusual promise as a forage crop. It is a bulky perennial and makes a rapid growth. One of the obstacles to its utilization is its comparatively poor seed producing capacity." (Brand.) For distribution later.

LATHYRUS SATIVUS. 27884. From Malkapur, Berars, India. Presented by Mr. A. S. Dhavale. "Lakha. A leguminous fodder and food crop." (Dhavale.) For immediate distribution.

MALUS SP. 27846-847. From Santa Ines, Chile. Presented by Mr. Salvador Izquierdo. 27846. "Admirable de Otono de Santa Ines". 27847. "Huidobro. The Huidobro is known also as the Araucana. It is perhaps the most valuable winter apple, since it is absolutely immune to the woolly aphid and other pests. It is a vigorous and prolific tree; produces a large, uniformly golden-yellow fruit, which keeps until October or November in Chile. Of very characteristic taste, such as is found in no other apple of the collection at Santa Ines. The fruit is firm and ships well. The horticulturist who created this variety thinks he has made a valuable addition to our fruit trees. It originated from an Italian seed sown at 'Principal', the Estate of Senor Vicente G. Huidobro." (Extract from Publicaciones de la Estacion de Patolojia Vegetal de Chile, No. 3. El Pulgon Lanijero de los Manzanos by Gaston Lavergne. p. 6.) For distribution later.

- MANGIFERA INDICA.** 27830-838. Grown at the Department Greenhouses, Washington, D. C. Three varieties of seedling Philippine mangos selected for propagation by grafting, for distribution and testing, to determine how nearly these varieties come true from seed. 27830-831. Carabao. 27832-834. Pico. 27835-838. Pahutan. For distribution later.
- MANGIFERA INDICA.** 27848-849. Maharajah and Mangalore mangos from Kingston, Jamaica. Purchased from the Tangley Fruit Company, Mr. Aston W. Gardner, Manager. For distribution later.
- MEDICAGO SPP.** 27794-796. Three kinds of Medicago from Paris, France. Presented by the Director of the Paris Museum of Natural History. Secured at the request of Mr. C. V. Piper. For distribution later.
- PENNISETUM AMERICANUM.** 27885. Pearl millet from Malkapur, Berars, India. Presented by Mr. A. S. Dhavale. "A secondary food and fodder crop." (Dhavale.) For distribution later.
- PHASEOLUS ACONITIFOLIUS.** 27886. From Malkapur, Berars, India. Presented by Mr. A. S. Dhavale. "A leguminous food and fodder crop." For distribution later.
- PRUNUS SP.** 27791. Marasca cherry from Dalmatia. Purchased from Mr. Ludwig Winter, Bordighera, Italy. "It is from the fruit of this cherry that the Maraschino liqueur is manufactured." (Fairchild.) For distribution later.
- PRUNUS DASYCARPA.** 27031. From Baumschulenweg, bei Berlin, Germany. Purchased from Mr. L. Spath. Plum-apricot. Considered to be a hybrid between *Prunus cerasifera myrobalana* and *P. armeniaca*. "This tree has white blooms in the early spring and the fruit ripens at the beginning of August. It is medium-sized, blackish-purple, with fine hairs; the flesh is blood red, turning to orange near the stone; juicy, sweet and of apricot taste." (Description taken from Spath's catalogue for 1909-1910.) For distribution later.
- QUERCUS CORNEA.** 27925. From Hongkong, China. Purchased from Mr. W. J. Tutcher, Superintendent, Botanical and Forestry Department. "An evergreen oak, said to be a very showy ornamental, but interesting particularly in bearing acorns as hard-shelled as the nuts of the American hickory, and which contain a kernel almost as sweet as the Spanish chestnut. These acorns are sold in the markets of Canton and Hongkong in large quantities and are keenly relished, not only by the Orientals,

but by Europeans. Although difficult to predict how hardy this species will be in America, it is worthy of trial in all regions where citrus fruits can be grown. Young specimens in Maryland survived with slight injury, last winter's low temperature, when the mercury went to +6° F." (Fairchild.) Young plants will be available for distribution in the spring of 1911. (See photograph.)

ROLLINIA SP. 27797. From Horqueta, Paraguay. Presented by Mr. T. R. Gwynn. "Chirimoya chica colorado. This is a small red fruit growing on a bush, and to my taste the best of all." (Gwynn.) For distribution later.

SAPIUM JENMANI. 27873. From Georgetown, Demarara, British Guiana. Presented by Mr. F. A. Stockdale, Assistant Director and Government Botanist, Science and Agriculture Department, Botanic Gardens. "A rubber producing plant; should be planted in a humid situation shaded from the wind. It does best here in well-drained, fully cleared, clayey-peaty land, some distance up the rivers; it is making most excellent growth in our Experiment Stations. In heavy clay soils exposed to winds this plant does not grow luxuriantly, developing into a shrubby bush very liable to attacks from Lecanium scale." (Stockdale.) For distribution later.

SOLANUM SP. 27839. Yellow potato from Callao, Peru. Presented by Rev. V. M. McCombs. For distribution later.

TULIPA SP. 27845. From near Geok-Tapa, Caucasus, Russia. An ornamental species of tulip having large, bright red flowers that stand on long stems. Found growing in dry places in the mountains at several hundred feet elevation. (Meyer's introduction.) For distribution later.

VIGNA SESQUIPEDALIS. 27887. From Malkapur, Berars, India. Presented by Mr. A. S. Dhavale. "Val. Long, white pod. A garden vegetable crop, also used for green manuring." (Dhavale.) For distribution later.

VIGNA UNGUICULATA. 27859-872. Cowpeas from Monetta, South Carolina. Grown by Mr. J. M. Johnson, crop of 1909. 27859-861. Hybrids between Iron and Black. 27862-866. Hybrids between Iron and Large Blackeye. 27867-871. Hybrids between Iron and Whippoorwill. 27872. Iron. For distribution later.

NOTES FROM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

- CHILE**, Limavida. Mr. Jose D. Husbands, April 12. Will send seeds of *Cryptocarya peumus alba*, a rare tree used in tanning; also Chile strains of *Juglans regia*.
- CHINA**, Hwai Yuan. Dr. Samuel Cochran, April 16. Describes a pear growing there which is large, has a firm flesh and keeps splendidly. The flavor is not delicate, but he thinks it might be valuable in breeding because of its large size and good keeping quality.
- INDIA**, Sind. Deputy Director of Agriculture. Reports that two small plots were sown from the Triumph cotton seed sent him, and that the fiber was highly thought of by the Manchester Valuer of the British Cotton Growing Association.
- JAMAICA**, Kingston. Mr. Aston W. Gardner, May 4. Sends photographs of large grafted Bombay mango, tree and fruit. Mr. Gardner has shipped 60 crates of fresh mangos to the New York market.
- TIBET**. Mr. George Forrest, a young botanist in the employ of Mr. Bulley, a well-known cotton broker of London, who is making ornamental plants a hobby, expects to visit for Mr. Bulley a region which he has already explored once before, and which was written up in the National Geographic Magazine, February, 1910, under the caption "The Land of the Cross-Bow". He is in search of ornamental plants of all kinds and his travels will take him into the region of Upper Burma and the border of Tibet, a region hitherto practically unexplored by the white man. Mr. Bulley has been kind enough to allow Mr. Forrest to collect the varieties of corn which are cultivated by the savage races inhabiting this locality. If any one who wishes to get special material from this region will let the Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction know, arrangements can probably be made to get it.
- TUNIS**, Tunis. Colonial Agricultural School, April 29. The school authorities are making a study of the different varieties of wheat and barley cultivated in Tunis. They have isolated and propagated a great number of forms, and are testing their adaptation to different regions; they offer to send a collection of these varieties.

RECENT VISITORS.

NEW YORK. Dr. Robert Morris, the well-known New York surgeon, noted for his experiments in internal grafting, has made the culture of nut plants a hobby. He is making a collection of nuts for Cornell University from all parts of the world.

RUSSIA. Mr. Konstantin Buszczynski. Proprietor of a large estate in Podolia, Russia, and another in Austria, where he has originated new varieties of sugar beets and grains. He wishes to secure varieties of cereals suited to the climatic conditions of Podolia, and the less severe climate of Austria.



Quercus cornea (S. P. I. Nos. 10633 and 27925).

Quercus cornea, an evergreen oak from China. The acorns are as hard-shelled as hickory nuts and the kernels almost as sweet as Spanish chestnuts. They are keenly relished by both natives and Europeans and are sold in large quantities in the markets of Canton and Hongkong. At this time it is difficult to predict how hardy this species will prove in America; however, it is worthy of trial from Washington southward.

Young plants will be available for distribution in the spring of 1911.