

prolific and used extensively in feeding horses and cows. They are also eaten by the poorer people, boiled and roasted in oil." (Shields.) For distribution later.

IDDRINGTONIA WHYTEI. (Pinaceae.) 28690. From Zomba, Nyasaland Protectorate, Africa. Presented by Mr. J. M. Purves, Chief Forest Officer. "The seed germinates quickly, usually 3 to 4 weeks, in moist and slightly shaded soil, with a mean temperature of 65° to 70° F. The tree occurs at about 17° S. latitude, at elevations of from 5,000 to 6,000 feet. Above this its growth is very stunted. It exhibits a preference for deep gullies and ravines, and seems to detest very strong winds. The rains fall in the hot months, October to April, and herein will lie your chief difficulty in establishing the tree in the Northern Hemisphere. In the south of England it is grown with difficulty, as it makes its new growth in the same months as at Klanje with the result that it does not ripen off before frost. At elevations of 5,000 feet in Nyasaland it makes a nice ornamental tree, but it begins to die out suddenly after ten or twelve years. It seems to thrive best in its native habitat when it is slightly intermixed with other leaf-shedding trees and evergreens typical of mountain forests, as the decaying foliage helps to form a better layer of humus." (E. W. Davy.) For distribution later.

EA MAYS. (Poaceae.) 28661. From Zomba, Nyasaland Protectorate, Africa. Presented by Mr. E. W. Davy, Agricultural and Forestry Department. "Seed of native grown type of Nyasaland. I have carried out selection work on it for only one year, and it will take some years to get a very true and improved type fixed. The results of even the first year show a marked improvement. I would recommend you to test it in your southern states with a good rainfall." (Davy.) For distribution later.

INZIBER SP. (Zinziberaceae.) 28675. Wild ginger from near Tampico, Mexico. Sent in by Dr. Edward Palmer. Plants turned over to the Department by Dr. J. W. Rose. For immediate distribution.

NOTES FROM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

RABIA, Aden. Mr. Chas. Moser, American Consul, July 12. Sends khat plants and a detailed description of the cultivation and uses of the plant. Khat (*Catha edulis*) is grown extensively in two localities, the Yemen and near Harrar in Abyssinia. It is in universal use among all classes of Arabs, who say that life and hard work would be unendurable in their country without it. Among the poorer classes sometimes as much as half the daily wage is spent for khat, and even among the better classes as