

Besides these crops the Chinese secure an abundance of snails and frogs from the paddies. In some there are fish also, but the fish ponds are usually separate as are the duck ponds. On the surface of the paddies is a solid mat of Azolla and 2 species of Lemna which are gathered in great baskets as food for ducks and fishes.

The water and mud of the ponds smell vilely, due no doubt to fertilizers. Indeed at the edge of some paddies or in small special paddies public privies are erected so as to secure "katamorphic human products" as fertilizers.

The gardens are excellently kept and no doubt are very profitable. It certainly is a wonderful way of utilizing what otherwise would be waste land, and indicates one method we might copy in utilizing some of our swamp areas. Indeed it seems to me a swamp experiment station would be well worth while even now.

I saw no mosquitoes and they are said not to be bad, due no doubt to the fishes in the ponds at least in part.

None of the Europeans I asked had ever eaten Kausun, but the Chinese hold it in high esteem. I can give no estimate of the area grown, but if all the lotus is succeeded by Kausun it is very extensive.

This information I think accurate in a general way only, as one would have to observe the gardens a whole year to get them accurate. My brief experience indicates what so many others have said, that no two Chinese tell quite the same story.

CHINA. Mokanshan. Rev. J. M. W. Farnham writes August 26, that Mr. Kennedy, who was with the Agricultural Explorer, Mr. Frank N. Meyer, at the time he collected the persimmons at Tangsi, will collect a considerable quantity of seeds this fall from the wild trees commonly used as stocks, and will send us scions in the spring. Mr. Farnham has resigned from his position with the Tract Society and will have much more time for his interests in things agricultural.

CHINA. Tientsin. Dr. Yamei Kin writes August 14, that she has a quantity of the ordinary lacquer, made from the sap of Rhus vernicifera, ready to send, and is expecting to be able soon to report on the white lacquer, which she is experimenting with. This lacquer was requested by this Office for experimental purposes. As to an orange from Shantung, the fruit gets its name from passing through this province from the western provinces, and she has not yet been able to get authentic trace of its origin there.