

NOTES FROM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

ALGERIA. Algiers. Mr. Walter T. Swingle writes November 26 to Mr. W. A. Taylor, Assistant Chief, that Dr. Trabut, in charge of the Algerian Botanical Service, has offered to send us a complete collection of the more interesting native vines, including a seedling Ahmeur bou Ahmeur, the North African original of the Flame Tokay, that is of good quality without ceasing to be a good shipper! I have found a very interesting new persimmon of the South(?) Chinese type as distinguished from the Japanese type. It differs decidedly from the Kaki, has larger leaves, green fruit with an odor of jimson weed(!) when unripe. Both the common small fruited variety and a new variety with fruits measuring two and three quarters to three inches in diameter are considered superior in flavor to the red Japanese sorts. Dr. Trabut has the finest collection of citrus fruits I have ever seen, certainly far superior to anything in America. He has some twenty-five or thirty of the principal American sorts growing alongside the choicest Old World varieties. Algeria is destined to be THE orange region of the Old World - the Spanish and Italian growers will never equal the French in skill and alertness and especially in ability to fight disease. In some ways the Algerian growers are in advance of ours - not having the capital invested in old varieties as we have, they are much more ready to test new sorts, and Dr. Trabut has for ten years been collecting all the cultivated sorts from all the orange producing regions of the world. You can see in his garden the Satsuma and King from Florida; Unshiu and Kawakami from Japan; Dancy Tangerine, South African Naartjie, Clementine and Saigon No. 19 (these last two having long leaves unlike our tangerine and two months earlier, as early as the Satsuma in this climate) and a lot of other loose-skinned oranges in full bearing." In a letter of November 30 to Dr. B. T. Galloway he adds: "I was very much impressed by the value of the Clementine Tangerine which is by far the earliest of the kidglove type except the Satsuma. It is a bright red-orange medium-sized tangerine with a special flavor and aroma, not, however, so different from the ordinary tangerine as is the Satsuma. A tree sent to Florida three years ago and planted on the leased orchard at Glen St. Mary showed very marked resistance to cold - probably as much as the Satsuma. Dr. Trabut is convinced that it is a hybrid of a tangerine with pollen from the 'granito' a willow-leaved Spanish variety of sour-orange. I do not see any trace of sour orange in the Clementine, but I must admit that forms very like the 'granito' do appear among its descendants. Some of the specimens I am sending you show the punctures of the fruit-fly, Ceratitis(?). I fear this would make us a lot of