

In Dahomey according to the French explorer, the women are forbidden to eat the beans.

"Last year (1910), thanks to the kindness of First Lieutenant Häring of Sokodé-Bassari (Togo), the Botanic Garden at Dahlem near Berlin received excellent seeds of this remarkable fruit. They germinated well and numerous plants were raised by Chief-Inspector F. Ledien, not a few of them flowering in July and August. A number of seeds were sent to Inspector E. Rettig of the Botanic Garden at Jena, and under his careful and intelligent treatment, splendid specimens grew up of which some even set fruit. The unfavorable and cold summer of 1910, however, prevented their maturation. The flowers are very small and papilionaceous and spring from the creeping stem close to the ground. The flowers of the variety with light or occasionally black-mottled seeds are white, those of the other varieties pale violet.

"It is desirable to follow up the distribution of this cultivation, particularly among the natives in Togo, where it may also be found in the wild state. Similarly *Voandzeia subterranea*, so generally cultivated in Togo, has never been observed in the spontaneous condition. It is also possible that *Kerstingiella* occurs in the Hinterland of the Camaroons (Adamaua, Zola, Gerau, etc.). Chevalier states that the Hausa traders contended that it existed in British Nigeria and the probability that the Hausa people were instrumental in the spreading of the cultivation is obvious. The Hausas call it Kouarouroi according to Chevalier. It is also said to occur in Borgu. It is true, at the first glance it might be mistaken for *Voandzeia subterranea* and Schweinfurth actually suggests that this has been the case with certain writers (*Zeitschrift d. Gesellschaft f. Erdkunde*, 1910), but the expert will always distinguish them. Habit and leaves are similar and yet distinct, and *Voandzeia*, so long and so well known to us, has above all much larger globose seeds.

"In any case, I should be very grateful for any communications concerning *Kerstingiella* or *Voandzeia*, their cultivation and use, and particularly if they are accompanied by flowers, fruits, and seeds. Material of this kind would enable us to establish the distribution of the plant. *Kerstingiella* might possibly also be grown with advantage in other parts of our colonies. Moist and hot countries do not suit it; in Togo it occurs according to Kersting in sandy laterite loam, in a climate of low humidity with occasional heavy showers and a shade temperature of 18°-34°C."

"As the resemblance between *Kerstingiella* and *Voandzeia*