

PERSEA AMERICANA. (Lauraceae.) 35121. Seeds of an avocado from Caracas, Venezuela. Presented by Mr. H. Pittier of this Bureau. "This aguacate is called Veranero, on account of the crop coming at the end of the dry season, while the high time for the other varieties growing about Caracas is August. It is smaller than the common varieties coming from the Tierra caliente which can also be obtained now in the market. Besides its outer color is characteristically yellow, and it has a special very fine flavor. As it grows here up to above 1400 meters, it should do well in Southern California and in other parts of the South where the rain is somewhat scarce." (Pittier.) For distribution later. See halftone.

RUBUS BIFLORUS QUINQUEFLORUS. (Rosaceae.) 35197. Plant of a Chinese bramble from the private fruticetum of Mr. Maurice L. Vilmorin, Les Barres, Nogent sur Vernisson, Loiret, France. "This is the most striking of all the brambles introduced by Mr. Wilson. He collected seeds in West Szech'uan, southeast of Tachien-lu, at an altitude of 5000 feet to 6000 feet. The growths are particularly strong, being 12 feet in height, and the stems $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference at the base. The waxy-white bloom on the stems is a particularly striking feature. They are armed with large, stiff spines, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length. The leaves are pinnate, about a foot in length, and generally consist of five leaflets, which are white beneath and green above. The flowers are white, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter, being borne in terminal and axillary panicles of about five flowers. The fruit is a rich, golden-yellow color, equal in size to those of most of our cultivated raspberries, and of a good flavor. This species, so far as I am able to judge, is likely to prove the most useful of the Chinese raspberries to the hybridist for raising new fruits." (Gardener's Chronicle, March 9, 1912.) For distribution later.

SICANA ODORIFERA. (Cucurbitaceae.) 35136. Seeds of a "calabaza" melon from Tampico, Mexico. Presented by Mr. Clarence A. Miller, American consul. Seeds of a remarkably fragrant maroon skinned, yellow-fleshed cucurbit, the pulp of which makes excellent preserves. For distribution later.

NOTES FROM CORRESPONDENTS ABROAD.

CHINA. Kutien. Mr. T. H. Coole, Wiley General Hospital, writes March 14, 1913: "Regarding the ripening of the persimmon it is as follows: An earthenware jar