

springing open and scattering their seeds when ripe. On very dry and exposed places the plants make but small growth, but where found on moister places and between grasses, they supply quite a mass of herbage, which is eagerly eaten by all grazing animals. This alfalfa is found at elevations from 2000 to 8000 feet, making a much more abundant growth in the higher mountain regions than on the lower plains. Of decided value as a forage plant on ranges and grazing grounds. Might be found valuable enough even to be grown in congenial localities for hay and for green fodder." (Meyer's introduction.) For distribution later.

*Myrciaria cauliflora*. (Myrtaceae.) 36702, 36709, 36888, Seeds of the jaboticaba from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. "Among the fruit trees cultivated in gardens about Rio de Janeiro the Jaboticaba is one of the commonest, and certainly one of the most beautiful. The largest trees are thirty to forty feet in height and fully forty feet in spread, with dense, umbrageous, dome-shaped heads of light green foliage. The individual leaves vary in size according to the variety, some being three inches in length while others are not more than two, oblong-lanceolate in form, glossy, light green in color, usually pink in the young stage. The trunk of the tree is oftentimes very large, one specimen that we measured being 80 inches in circumference at the base, and usually branches close to the ground. The bark is smooth, grayish-brown in color, reminding one of the bark of the guava and other myrtaecous fruits.

"The name jaboticaba is a Tupi word, spelled by some authorities *jabuticaba*; this name is applied only to the fruit, the suffix 'eira' being added to signify the tree, making the word 'jaboticabeira', or jaboticaba-tree. The name is usually pronounced here at Rio as though spelled ja-bu-ti-ca-ba, with accent on the fourth syllable.

"The tree flowers in May and June, and the fruit ripens in October and November. As signified by the specific name, *cauliflora*, the fruits are produced on the old wood, and we have seen many trees whose trunks were literally covered with fruits down to within two or three feet of the ground. The fruiting is not confined, however, to the large wood, but extends clear out to the ends of the smallest branches; the fruits are sessile or nearly so, and a tree covered with them from the ground to the ends of the small limbs presents a rather unusual appearance, to say the least.

"Four varieties are offered by the nurserymen here, but do not seem to be recognized by the people in the rural districts. They come from different parts of Brazil,