

tough and leathery and not easily broken, but separating readily from the flesh, which comes out in a body when the skin is broken; flesh translucent, whitish, jelly-like in consistency, full of juice; flavor vinous, with a peculiar twang of its own; seeds normally four, but one to three sometimes abortive. Three seems to be the commonest number, but two is also common, and a few have been seen with five. Shape oval to almost round, flattened laterally, three-eighths to one-half inch long, one-eighth thick; seed coats very thin.

"Practically no cultivation has been given the trees we have seen, and we have heard of no other way of propagating than by seed." (Dorsett, Popenoe and Shamel introduction.) For distribution later.

*Phoenix dactylifera*. (Phoenicaceae.) 36818-825. Offshoots of the Bent Mooda date from Dongola, Sudan. Collected by Mr. S. C. Mason, of this Bureau. "The find which is worth the whole journey is the Bent Mooda, a *Succotha* variety which is very rare. A man of consequence may have two or three trees. The gift of an offshoot to a friend is a mark of distinction. I was at once told both by Gov. Jackson and his head man that one could not go out and buy a stock of these. I really think the Bent Mooda variety ranks with the Deglet Noor and Menakher. The stone is small and clean and it has the appearance and flavor to give it a place in the first rank." (Mason.) For distribution later.

*Phoenix dactylifera*. (Phoenicaceae.) 36826. Offshoot of the Berakwy date from Dongola, Sudan. "*Berakwy* is the great food staple and export date and is said to reach Cairo under the name *Ibrimu*, though there may be a distinct variety of that name. It is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches long or longer, narrow, tapering from base to apex; dull purplish red, drying bone hard but sweet and of a wheaty flavor, said to resist the weevil and to keep two or three years. The people say that these dates put in a tightly closed vessel of water for a day or two becomes as good as fresh dates and the water makes a very pleasant drink." (Mason.) For distribution later.

*Phoenix dactylifera*. (Phoenicaceae.) 36827. Offshoot of the Gundala date from Dongola, Sudan. "The Gundala (as these people have it), or Jendila, is an oblong or oval, blocky date, 'antimony yellow', ripening to a 'chestnut brown'. It is a 'semi-dry' date as it ripens but exposed to the sun two hours each day it is made quite dry, but has to be carefully guarded against weevils. It only reaches Cairo by special orders or as presents. It is one