INVENTORY[1]

60957. PRUNUS CANESCENS Bois. Amygdalaceæ.

From Loiret, France. Seeds presented by L. Pardé, Directeur des Écoles des Barres, Nogent sur Vernisson. Received September 8, 1924.

A shrubby cherry from Szechwan, China, with attractive, dark orange-brown bark and very hairy leaves and stems. In habit it is rounded and bushy and about 7 feet high. The clustered rosy white flowers are exceedingly fragrant, but fall quickly from the leafless branches. The smooth, red fruits, half an inch in diameter, have a pleasant, acid flavor.

60958. HIBISCUS CANNABINUS L. Malvaceæ. **Ambari hemp.**

From Pretoria, Transvaal, Union of South Africa. Seeds presented by I. B. Pole Evans, Division of Botany. Received September 8, 1924.

Introduced for testing by fiber specialists.

A prickly-stemmed plant 6 to 8 feet in height, cultivated throughout India and elsewhere in the warmer parts of the world for its fiber, which is used as a substitute for hemp. The fiber is soft, white, and silky and is considered by some authorities to be more durable than jute for coarse textiles.

For previous introduction see S. P. I. No. 55481.

60959. ANDROPOGON SACCHAROIDES Swartz. Poaceæ. **Silver beard grass.**

From Sucre, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Seeds collected by H. L. Westover, Bureau of Plant Industry. Received July 14, 1924.

April 5, 1924. This grass is very abundant west of Buenos Aires; it apparently is not relished by stock except when young. (*Westover.*)

60960 to 60971.

From Peking, China. Seeds purchased from Rufus H. Lefever, Presbyterian Mission. Received September 12, 1924. Notes by Mr. Lefever.

60960. PHASEOLUS ANGULARIS (Willd.) W. F. Wight. Fabaceæ. **Adsuki bean.**

No. 1. Nay shou do tzu (small black beans). These are boiled soft and sugar added to make a sweet cake.

60961. PHASEOLUS AUREUS Roxb. Fabaceæ. **Mung bean.**

No. 12. Starch is obtained from this for stiffening clothes and for eating like vermicelli.

60962 and 60963. PISUM SATIVUM L. Fabaceæ. **Pea.**

60962. No. 7 A local variety.

60963. No. 9. A local variety.

60964 to 60970. SOJA MAX (L.) Piper (*Glycine hispida* Maxim.). Fabaceæ. **Soy bean.**

Local soy-bean varieties.

60964. No. 2.

60965. No. 3. *Nay do.* Fed to animals.

60966. No. 4.

60967. No. 5. *Li lang do.*

60968. No. 6. Sprouted and stewed with meat.

60969. No. 8. Used as flavoring for food.

60970. No. 10. *Huang do* (yellow bean). Used as flavoring for food.

60971. VIGNA SINENSIS (Torner) Savi. Fabaceæ. **Cowpea.**

No. 11. Stewed and eaten with rice or millet.

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[1] It should be understood that the names of horticultural varieties of fruits, vegetables, cereals, and other plants used in this inventory are those under which the material was received when introduced by the Office of Foreign Plant Introduction; further, that the printing of such names here does not constitute their official publication and adoption in this country. As the different varieties are studied, their entrance into the American trade forecast, and the use of varietal names for them in American literature becomes necessary, the foreign varietal designations appearing in this inventory will be subject to change with a view to bringing the forms of the names into harmony with recognized horticultural nomenclature.

It is a well-known fact that botanical descriptions, both technical and economic, seldom mention the seeds at all and rarely describe them in such a way as to make possible identification from the seeds alone. Many of the unusual plants listed in these inventories are appearing in this country for the first time, and there are no seed samples or herbarium specimens with ripe seeds with which the new arrivals may be compared. The only identification possible is to see that the sample received resembles seeds of other species of the same genus or of related genera. The responsibility for the specific identifications therefore must necessarily often rest with the person sending the material. If there is any question regarding the correctness of the identification of any plant received from this office, herbarium specimens of leaves and flowers should be sent in so that definite identification can be made.