INVENTORY [1]

63490 to 63495. SOLANUM TUBEROSUM L. Solanaceae. **Potato.**

From Paris, France. Tubers purchased from Vilmorin-Andrieux & Co. Received May 6, 1925.

Locally developed varieties.

63490. *Chardon.*

63491. *Général Authaine.*

63492. *Institut de Beauvais.*

63493. *Maréchal Foch.*

63494. *Maréchal Joffre.*

63495. *Saucisse.*

63496. LILIUM CROCEUM Chaix. Liliaceae. **Lily.**

From Stuttgart, Germany. Bulbs purchased from Wilhelm Pfitzer. Received May 21, 1925.

Horticulturists engaged in lily-breeding experiments in the United States are endeavoring to obtain material of *Lilium bulbiferum*. This is said to be offered in the trade in Europe as *L. croceum*, the orange lily, and material of the latter is now being introduced for comparison tests.

63497. THUNBERGIA GRANDIFLORA **Roxb.** Acanthaceae.

From Kingston, Jamaica. Cuttings presented by W. S. Goodman, superintendent, Hope Gardens. Received May 2, 1925.

Variety *alba*. The typical form of *Thunbergia grandiflora* is well known in tropical gardens, where it is highly esteemed for its large, sky-blue flowers and the ornamental effect of its foliage. The white form (variety *alba*) is less widely cultivated, though perhaps as meritorious as the type. It is a strong-growing climber, useful for covering pergolas and fences, and is sufficiently frost resistant for cultivation in the warmer parts of Florida and the most favored sections of southern California. (*Note by Wilson Popenoe under S. P. I. No. 57216.*)

63498 and 63499.

From Matania el Saff, Egypt. Seeds presented by Alfred Bircher, director, Middle Egypt Botanic Station. Received April 28, 1925.

63498. ONCOBA SPINOSA Forsk. **Flacourtiaceae.**

The discovery of chaulmoogric acid in the seeds of *Oncoba echinata* has prompted the testing of other species of the same genus for the presence of this acid, now used in the treatment of leprosy. *O. spinosa* is described (Flora of Tropical Africa, vol. 1, p. 115) as a spiny shrub with elliptic, membranous leaves and showy, fragrant, white flowers about 2 inches across. The round, hard-shelled fruit, 2 inches in diameter, is eaten by the natives of tropical Africa, where the shrub is indigenous. The shells are often used as ornaments.

63499. SCLEROCARYA BIRREA (A. Rich.) Hochst. Anacardiaceae.

A tropical African tree 25 to 50 feet tall, with leathery pinnate leaves and light-yellow round fruits about an inch in length. The sweet resinous flesh incloses a stony nut containing two to four seeds which have a flavor similar to that of walnuts and are a favorite food of the natives of Abyssinia.

63500 to 63521. DIOSPYROS KAKI L. f. Diospyraceae. **Kaki.**

From Nanking, China. Scions presented by M. Leslie Hancock, University of Nanking. Received April 1, 1925.

These scions are from our persimmon orchard here at the university; the material was received from many sources, and there are probably several duplications in the collection. (*Hancock.*)

63500. No. 6.	**63505.** No. 13.
63501. No. 7.	**63506.** No. 15.
63502. No. 10.	**63507.** No. 16.
63503. No. 11.	**63508.** No. 17.
63504. No. 12.	**63509.** No. 18.

[1] It should be understood that the names of 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, and, 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 dtsignations 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 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.