

Trigonella suavissima (Fabaceae), 49124. From Sydney, New South Wales. Seeds presented by Mr. J. H. Maiden, director, Botanic Gardens, through Mr. A. J. Pieters, Bureau of Plant Industry. This cloverlike plant, called "Darling clover" in Australia, where it is native, has fragrant stems and foliage, and in favorable locations is perennial, becoming 3 feet or more in height. When grown on rich black soils subject to periodic inundations, it produces a large amount of nutritious herbage, of which stock are particularly fond, and on which they fatten. It provides good feed in late winter and early spring, hence it is a valuable addition to pastures. Sir Thomas Mitchell wrote of this plant, which he called "Australian shamrock": "The perfume of this herb, its freshness and flavor, induced me to try it as a vegetable. and we found it delicious, and tender as spinach." The perfume is due to the presence of coumarin. If cut when in flower, and properly cured, it makes good hay. (Adapted from Kew, Bulletin of Miscellaneous Information, 1909, p. 12.)

Notes from Correspondents.

A letter received August 26, 1918, from Mr. B. H. Hunnicutt, Lavras, Minas, Brazil, contains the following interesting account of the macauba palm.

"*Acrocomia seleroearpa*, also called 'macaiba,' 'macaja,' 'macajuba e coqueiro de catarrho,' is a palm 10 to 15 meters [33 to 39 ft.] in height and is found over quite an extensive district reaching from the state of Maranhao to the more southern states of Minas, Rio de Janeiro, and Espirito Santo. The trees frequently form large groups in which they can be counted by thousands. It grows in this way in the central and northern parts of Minas, especially in the valley of the River das Velhas and the Jequitinhonha River and their tributaries. It is calculated that the district in this state which comprises within its limits the villages of Lapa, Jaboticatuba, Taquarassu, Uniao, and Cipo e Santa Luzia, has spontaneous growth of more than a million of these valuable palm trees.

"It is an ornamental palm on account of its elegant form, and for this reason it is cultivated in many of the cities of Brazil including the capital of the Republic. It furnishes excellent fiber, good wood for many mechanical and artistic uses, the much appreciated palmetto, and acidulous pulpy fruits which are edible and pleasant to the taste.