

sorts grown in that vicinity. It is ordinarily sown here in November and ripens early in June, but it is worth trying as a spring wheat in the northern United States. The sample obtained is from the farm of M. J. Labouresse, of Tessala, near Sidi-bel-Abbès, which latter is one of the noted wheat growing districts of Algeria, possessing a light rich soil." (*Fairchild and Scofield.*)

7580. TRITICUM DURUM.**Wheat.**

From Batna, Constantine, Algeria. Received through Messrs. D. G. Fairchild and C. S. Scofield (No. 729), September 26, 1901.

Aljimi. "This wheat is from stock grown by the Arabs on the rolling lands of the Aurès Mountains, east of Batna, where the summer temperature often reaches 100° F. and where it frequently drops to zero in winter. It is a variety highly spoken of by the macaroni manufacturers of Marseille, and, although rapidly deteriorating in quality, when cultivated there, has given very good yields when grown without irrigation on lower lands of the high plateau of the province of Constantine. The soil on these lands is excessively rich in sulphate of magnesia and is of a hard and gravelly nature. Although a winter wheat in Batna, being sown in December or January and harvested early in July, it will be worth a trial in the spring-wheat region. The seed obtained is from Arab growers, whose methods of culture are very primitive, and the Department is indebted to Mr. G. Ryl, manager of the Geneva Society of Setif, for its purchase from them." (*Fairchild and Scofield.*)

7581. TRITICUM DURUM.**Wheat.**

From El-Outaya, Constantine, Algeria. Received through Messrs. D. G. Fairchild and C. S. Scofield (No. 730), September 26, 1901.

Kahla. "This wheat will be found to differ from the *Kahla*, No. 7794, of the high plateau region, as it comes from plants grown by irrigation on the somewhat salty sands of the northern Sahara Desert. It is one of the few sorts of wheats that maintain their good quality when grown year after year in slightly alkaline soils. It is highly valued by the Arabs for its rich content of elastic gluten. It is grown on land that probably has at least 5 per cent of salt in it and the irrigation water itself with which the plants are irrigated is slightly salty, not so salty, however, as to be quite undrinkable. The wheat is planted in El-Outaya in December or January, but it might be worth trying as a spring wheat in the North. This seed is from the farm of Mr. Charles des Places at El-Outaya. As a macaroni wheat its rank is not known, but its ability to grow in alkaline soil makes it especially valuable for any experiments in the irrigated salt lands of America. We were told that a change of seed was especially beneficial on these salt lands. Quantities of wheat are brought down from the neighboring mountains to plant on these salt lands. This change of seed forbids the formation of any salt-resistant race, but does not change the interest in these wheats for other salt lands." (*Fairchild and Scofield.*)

7582. TRITICUM VULGARE.**Wheat.**

From El-Outaya, Constantine, Algeria. Received through Messrs. D. G. Fairchild and C. S. Scofield (No. 731), September 26, 1901.

Fretes. "This variety, sometimes called *Fretiss*, is one of the few soft wheats grown in Algeria. It is particularly noted for its early maturity and is often extensively planted in the Sahara Desert in seasons when the winter rains occur so late that the durum varieties usually grown would not have time to mature. When planted in November, as it is in Algeria, at the same time with durum varieties, it is said to ripen two months in advance of them. The seed obtained was grown on the rather salty desert sands in the vicinity of El-Outaya, north of Biskra, and watered with somewhat alkaline but still drinkable irrigation water. The variety is said to have originated from a shipment of Russian wheat which was made into Algeria at the time of a famine many years ago. Its early maturing qualities attracted attention, and it has been cultivated in small quantities by the Arabs ever since. The seed obtained is from the farm of Mr. Charles B. des Places." (*Fairchild and Scofield.*)

7583. HORDEUM TETRASTICHUM.**Barley.**

From El-Outaya, Constantine, Algeria. Received through Messrs. D. G. Fairchild and C. S. Scofield (No. 732), September 26, 1901.

Beldi. "This and the following variety (No. 7584) are sorts planted on the saline soils of the edge of the Sahara Desert. They are grown by irrigation, but the irriga-