

**21252. CYPERUS TEGETIFORMIS.****Matting sedge.**

From Beppu, Kiushiu Island, Japan. Received through Mr. John H. Tull, special agent, at the Plant Introduction Garden, Chico, Cal., January 4, 1907.

"A semiaquatic perennial sedge found wild in warmer parts of the Temperate Zone in Asia.

"In south middle China and in the island of Kiushiu, Japan, it is cultivated for its long stems, of which different grades of matting are made.

"The plants are grown in the low paddy fields where rice is grown and are generally grown in several inches of water, though by planting the roots in low moist land and heavily mulching them with rice straw to preserve moisture and prevent the weeds from crowding them out a very successful crop can be produced. These roots are preserved the same as the *Juncus effusus* roots, by saving them from the last year's crop, and when ready to plant are divided into small clumps, each clump containing several 'eyes.'

"They are planted about 5 inches apart each way and are then flooded with water to a height of about 2 inches. The fertilizer is put on very heavy, being divided into several applications during the growing season.

"In about five months after planting the stems are ready to harvest, being at that time from 4 to 6 feet high. These stems are harvested green by hand with a sickle and tied into bundles. In the evening the family all get busy and these stems are all split longitudinally several times by drawing through them a taut, fine wire.

"After splitting they are exposed three successive days to the hot sunshine, which cures them.

"They are then cut to the proper length, 3½ feet, for weaving matting a yard wide.

"About 90 large boxes of these roots were collected near Beppu, Bungo province, Kiushiu, Japan. They were packed about November 15 and shipped via both tram and boat to Nagasaki, and then to San Francisco.

"It was estimated that about 80,000 roots were alive on January 8, 1907, when unpacked, but by making smaller divisions many more plants could have been produced, as they are multiplied by root division." (Tull.)

**21253. PYRUS SINENSIS.****Pear.**

From Peking, China. Received through Mr. Frank N. Meyer, agricultural explorer, at the Plant Introduction Garden, Chico, Cal., February 20, 1906.

"(No. 99a.) Seeds of the most remarkable pear of North China. Looks and smells like a quince, but has melting meat and tastes very good. Chinese name *Ya kwam li*." (Meyer.)

**21254. PYRUS SINENSIS,****Pear.**

From China. Received through Mr. Frank N. Meyer, agricultural explorer, at the Plant Introduction Garden, Chico, Cal., February 20, 1906.

"(No. 127a.) Pear seeds from everywhere. In all probability some interesting varieties will appear from these seeds." (Meyer.)

**21255. NANDINA DOMESTICA.**

From Hanchau, China. Received through Mr. Frank N. Meyer, at the Plant Introduction Garden, Chico, Cal., April 22, 1906.

"(No. 224a, Mar. 5, 1906.) Seeds of 'heavenly bamboo.' An evergreen shrub bearing bunches of beautiful scarlet-colored berries in winter. The Chinese use the stalks with berries for house decoration at the Chinese New Year, for which purpose they are splendidly adapted." (Meyer.)

**21256. CALLISTEPHUS HORTENSIS.****China aster.**

From Wu-tai-shan, Shansi, China. Received through Mr. Frank N. Meyer, agricultural explorer, at the Plant Introduction Garden Chico, Cal., April 22, 1907.

"(No. 725a.) Seeds of an annual flower called *Hsi hua*. Obtained from a priest at the Ta Yuen Sze temple at Wu-tai-shan." (Meyer.)