

24451 to 24575—Continued.

24498 to 24540. CUCUMIS MELO L.

Muskmelon.

24498. "(No. 124.) Winter muskmelon. 'Katschalinsky,' from Chardchui, Turkestan." (*Hansen.*)

24499. "(No. 126.) Winter muskmelon. 'Khansky,' from Chardchui, Turkestan. Diameter 38 and 22 cm." (*Hansen.*)

24500. "(No. 127.) Winter muskmelon, from Chardchui, Turkestan. Diameter 32 and 20 cm." (*Hansen.*)

24501. "(No. 128.) Winter muskmelon, from Chardchui, Turkestan. Diameter 23 and 22 cm." (*Hansen.*)

24502 to 24537. "(Nos. 150 to 185.) Native muskmelons of Turkestan, mostly winter varieties. No. 167 (S. P. I. No. 24519) is the largest lot of seed, from melons I bought in December, 1908, in the bazaar at Chardchui, Turkestan. In my opinion it is worthy of a most earnest effort on the part of a melon specialist to get these winter muskmelons of Turkestan introduced into the driest and hottest regions of our Southwest and the driest parts of our cotton belt. Some of the melons weigh from 30 to 40 pounds, with thick white flesh, and are extremely sweet. In Turkestan the late varieties are hung in reed-grass nets or slings from the ceilings in the native houses of sun-baked clay, ready for use all winter as needed. They are one of the main staples of the native diet. The melons are also pickled somewhat like watermelon rinds in America, but much superior in quality. Much of the muskmelon seed I brought from my first trip to Turkestan in 1907, and some in the spring of 1908, was lost from being tested too far north, in response to the great demand for the seed. Some melons of this first importation have done well in the Southwest and have since appeared under other names, by which the credit of introduction is lost. With this fresh lot of seed it is hoped that the Turkestan muskmelons, the largest and best in the world, will receive a thorough trial in the hottest, driest regions of the Southwest. None of them should go north of the cotton belt, unless it be some of the smallest and earliest varieties. A long period of hot, dry weather is needed to bring out the quality. Some of the varieties endure long-distance transportation, so that in these melons appears an inviting field for southern enterprise. Some of the varieties may prove too sweet for our tastes. The breeder of melons may find them useful in hybridizing. Southern California, New Mexico, Arizona, and southern Texas should receive the seed at first; later the range may extend farther northeast as the seed becomes more abundant. I can not insist too strongly on the necessity of giving these melons a long, hot, dry season for their best development." (*Hansen.*)

24538. "(No. 233.) Seed saved from three large, white muskmelons bought at Kagan or New Bokhara, Turkestan. Fruit oval, 12 to 15 inches in long diameter, clear, bright yellow; flesh white, very sweet. See Nos. 150 to 185 (S. P. I. Nos. 24502 to 24537)." (*Hansen.*)

24539. "(No. 236.) An oval, brownish yellow winter muskmelon with sweet, green flesh, 8 to 10 inches in length. Grown near Merv, Turkestan. In good condition December 17, 1908." (*Hansen.*)

24540. "(No. 244.) Seed of winter muskmelon saved from melons bought at Chardchui, Turkestan, December, 1908." (*Hansen.*)