

matter. Under this name several species and varieties closely related to it and having nearly the same qualities are frequently confounded in commerce and cultivation." (*Vilmorin.*)

The seed weighs 31 pounds per bushel, and 7 to 10 pounds are sown per acre.

1466. ERVUM LENS.

Lentil.

From France. Received through Mr. W. T. Swingle, December, 1898. (21 packages.)

"Lentille petite à la reine." "Lentillon de Mars." (Small queen or March lentil.)

Variety "*minus.*"

"Annual. Cultivated generally for its seed; it gives also a very useful fodder; requires wholesome, dry siliceous or gravelly soils. Seeding takes place in March and April; mixed with a little oats or rye to support it." (*Vilmorin.*)

Weights 62 pounds per bushel; 90 to 107 pounds are sown per acre. In some countries it is sown, especially if for forage, at the rate of 143 pounds per acre.

1467. ERVUM LENS.

Lentil.

From France. Received through Mr. W. T. Swingle, December, 1898. (44 packages.)

"Lentille petite rouge." "Lentillon d'hiver rouge." (Small or winter red lentil.)

Variety "*hiemale.*"

"Annual. Employed like *E. lens minus*. It is cultivated principally in northern and eastern France. Sown in September, alone if for the seed, in a mixture with rye or winter oats if for fodder." (*Vilmorin.*)

Ninety to 107 pounds per acre is sown for seed; as high as 143 pounds for forage.

1468. LOTUS ULIGINOSUS.

Bird's-foot trefoil.

From France. Received through Mr. W. T. Swingle, December, 1898. (8 packages.)

"Lotier velu" (hairy lotus).

"Perennial; a very good plant for meadows and damp woods, demanding more humidity than *L. corniculatus*; taller and gives more fodder; succeeds quite well in the shade, in peat bogs, heaths, and acid marshes, not calcareous; has been proposed for the formation of artificial prairies and is very suitable for mixtures for meadows and natural pastures. This lotus is a little more prolific in its seeds than *L. corniculatus*. It may be sown from March to May and even in autumn." (*Vilmorin.*)

The seed weighs about 62 pounds per bushel; 7 to 9 pounds are sown per acre.

1469. MEDICAGO SATIVA.

Alfalfa.

From France. Received through Mr. W. T. Swingle, December, 1898. (9 packages.)

"Luzerne de Provence" (Provence lucern).

"Perennial; root very long, axial; plant early, very productive, and of very long duration. It succeeds in all good wholesome soils, deep, and even damp, but without an excess of humidity. It may be found growing, though less vigorously, on dry, light soils, on slopes and escarpments, even on dunes. It is sown generally in spring with a cereal, but even in summer with flaxseed, buckwheat, or haricot beans. In climates where the winters are mild one may sow at the end of the summer or early in autumn, together with rye or winter barley, but only on dry and light soils. The differences existing between plants springing from Provence seed and those from seed of other localities have been contested, and if they exist at all, they are due perhaps only to the fact that the Provence seed is handsomer, better filled, and more uniformly good, sprouts more thickly, and furnishes more vigorous plants and in greater number upon the same area. Nevertheless, there are places where an absolute preference is given to seed gathered in the north." (*Vilmorin.*)

The seed weighs 58 to 62 pounds per bushel; 18 to 22 pounds is sown per acre.

1470. MEDICAGO SATIVA.

Alfalfa.

From France. Received through Mr. W. T. Swingle, December, 1898. (9 packages.)

"Luzerne de pays ou de Poitou" (country or Poitou lucern).