

"The Socotra *olibanum* flowers in April and the gum is collected any time after May, which is the beginning of the wet season. It is usually collected, however, during June, July, and August. The Socotran merely goes among the wild trees, giving each about a dozen deep, oblique slashes, 2 or 3 inches long, which he tears open into a kind of pocket at the lower end with a wrench of his knife. The tree is then left to deposit its sap in these pockets for three weeks or a month, at the end of which time the collector comes with his knife and basket and cuts the collected nodules 'or tears' away with pieces of bark. He then either makes new cuts or deepens the old ones and again awaits the harvest in another three or four weeks. The process is repeated until September. The *lu-ban*, which overflows the wound and runs down the tree, is regarded as of less value than that which remains in the pockets. A Socotran average tree is said to yield from 1 to 5 pounds of *lu-ban* per season, while the yield in Somali is much larger. Its value in the island is simply anything which the collector, who has little use for money, can persuade the Arab trader to give him for it in rice, goats, or cotton shirting. In Aden it is worth from 6 to 12 cents per pound, according to quality, while the Somali *lu-ban* is worth from 10 to 24 cents per pound.

"I must add that we found the *olibanum* growing only on the inside, protected slopes of the mountain, that its range seemed to be from 2,000 to 4,000 feet, and that while we only saw it in a red granite soil, we were told that it grew equally well out of fissures in the limestone heights above us. The climate of Socotra is, of course, very dry and not so hot as Arabia. We found the earth exceedingly dry, and were informed that rain never falls in the Haghier Hills except during the rainy months from May to August or September.

"There is no cleaning of the collected *lu-ban*, but as soon as it hardens a little after being cut from the trees it is ready for market." (*Moser.*)

"The frankincense tree is supposed to have been the tree which furnished the frankincense of the ancients, and the hardened drops of gum are now used very extensively in Roman Catholic churches as incense, being burned in the censers. The tree will probably thrive only in the dry, almost frostless, areas of the Southwest." (*Fairchild.*)

32020. CITRUS LIMETTA Risso.

Lime.

From Burringbar, New South Wales, Australia. Presented by Mr. B. Harrison, Burringbar. Received July 31, 1911. Numbered October 15, 1911.

Seeds.

32021. STIZOLOBIUM CINEREUM Piper and Tracy.

From Amani, German East Africa. Presented by Dr. A. Zimmermann, director, Biologisch Landwirtschaftliches Institut, Amani. Received October 25, 1911.

32022 to 32025. STATICE spp.

From Canary Islands. Presented by Dr. George V. Perez, Puerto Orotava, Tenerife. Received October 5, 1911.

Seeds of the following; quoted notes by Dr. Perez:

32022. STATICE ARBOREA Brouss.

Variety *frutescens*. "Native of Teneriffe. Botanically this is a dwarf form of *arborea*."

32023. STATICE MACROPTERA Webb and Berth.

"Native of the island of Hierro."

32024. STATICE PEREZII Stapf.

"Native of Teneriffe. Newly discovered species."

32025. STATICE PUBERULA Webb.

"Gathered wild at Famara, Lanzarote. This seed keeps 2 or 3 years."