

41483. JUNIPERUS CEDRUS Webb. Pinaceæ. Teneriffe juniper.

Seeds from Teneriffe, Canary Islands. Presented by Dr. George V. Perez.
Received November 17, 1915.

See S. P. I. No. 41463 for previous introduction and description.

41484. JUBAEOPSIS CAFFRA Beccari. Phœnicaceæ.**Pondoland coco.**

Seeds from Johannesburg, Union of South Africa. Purchased from Mr. J. Burt Davy, botanist, Agricultural Supply Association. Received September 21 and October 7, 1915.

"I have just learned of the existence of a grove of wild coconut palms along the coast some 70 miles south of Port Shepstone. This appears to be a new species of coconut, adapted to warm temperate conditions; the nuts are said to be smaller than those of the typical *Cocos nucifera*. The fruits have the flavor of coconut and are much prized by the Tondos, who traveled scores of miles to collect and sell them. They are used as food, and, I am told, for oil." (*Davy*.)

"Until quite recently only two genera of palms were known from South Africa. A few years ago Mr. Charles Ross, then conservator of forests at Umtata, reported the occurrence of another kind in Pondoland. This has now been found to be the representative of a new genus named *Jubaeopsis*, from its nearest ally, *Jubaea*, a monotypic genus of South America (Chili). The fruit of *Jubaeopsis* differs from that of *Cocos* by the position of the germinating holes, which in the latter genus are situated near the base of the nut, but in *Jubaeopsis* near its equator. The endosperm is hollow, as in the coconut, and also of a sweetish taste, but without milk. A tree up to 20 feet high, with leaves 12 to 15 feet long. The ♂ flowers are inserted on the upper parts of the branches of the spadix and possess 8 to 16 stamens, the ♀ flowers being on the lower parts. The fruits are about the size of walnuts, but nearly globular, the fibrous pericarp being yellow when ripe. The palm occurs, as far as known, only at two localities in Pondoland, viz., at the mouths of the Umsikaba and the Umtentu Rivers, in both cases only on the northern bank and in close proximity to the water. As this is, apart from the widely spread coconut palm, the only member of the tribe which occurs in Africa, all the others being American, its discovery throws some new light on the origin of the Coccoineæ and the relationship of our flora." (*Marloth, Flora of South Africa, vol. 4, p. 48.*)

41485 to 41488.

From Orotina, Costa Rica. Presented by Mr. Carlos Wercklé. Received November 16, 1915. Quoted notes by Mr. Wercklé.

41485. LICANIA PLATYPUS (Hemsl.) Fritsch. Rosaceæ. Sansapote.

"Seeds of the forest sansapote, which is the poorest and smallest fruit of all four or five species of *Licania*; still the little meat it has is quite good. A splendid, very large forest tree, the timber of which is considered nearly as valuable as *Cedrela*. I will try to graft the *Couepia* on it."

41486 and 41487. SOLANUM sp. Solanaceæ.

"Root cuttings of a very low-growing perennial herb, which makes a single, vertical root like a yuca (manioc), which enters into the soil to a great depth. I do not know whether it is edible or poisonous. The soft herbaceous plant spreads over the ground at a height of a few inches; the large, solitary, night-blooming flowers are a beautiful pure white and have a very fine fragrance, which, however, is only noticeable at a very short distance from the plant, though it is not mild."