

## 44774 to 44776.

From Guatemala. Collected by Mr. Wilson Popenoe, agricultural explorer. Received May 24, 1917. Quoted notes by Mr. Popenoe.

44774. *ANNONA TESTUDINEA* Safford. Annonaceæ.

## Tortoise-shell custard-apple.

"(No. 123a. From the city of Guatemala, May 15, 1917.) The tortoise-shell custard-apple, from the town of El Rancho, in eastern Guatemala. It may not have been grown at this place, as it was purchased in the market, but it was probably grown somewhere in the immediate vicinity.

"This interesting anona belongs to the section *Chelonocarpus*, or hard-shell custard-apple group, established by Safford (Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences, vol. 3, no. 4, Feb. 19, 1913). The tree, which has not been seen by me, is described as 12 to 15 meters high, with oblong or oblong-elliptic leaves, acuminate at the apex, and 25 to 35 cm. long.

"The fruit is more or less globose in form, about 4 inches in length, with a hard shell divided on the surface into polygonal areoles by slightly raised ridges. It strongly resembles the common custard-apple, being dull green and somewhat pruinose. The seeds, also, are quite different from those of the common custard-apple (*Annona reticulata*), being considerably larger and pointed at the apex. The flesh is white, soft, watery, free from the grittiness which is so objectionable in *A. reticulata*, sweet, and of pleasant flavor. The pulp does not adhere to the seeds in the ripe fruit.

"This species seems worthy of a trial in southern Florida. It will probably be too tender for cultivation in California, except in the most favored locations, such as Santa Barbara."

44775. *PHYLOCARPUS SEPTENTRIONALIS* Donn. Smith. Cæsalpiniaceæ.

"(No. 124a. From El Progreso; sent from the city of Guatemala, May 15, 1917.) *Flor de mico* (monkey flower). A magnificent flowering tree found in sandy loam along watercourses near El Progreso, in eastern Guatemala, at altitudes of 1,500 to 2,000 feet. It is of broad, spreading habit, reaching a height of 40 to 50 feet, and is semideciduous at the time of flowering, which is in January and February.

"The leaves are compound, composed of three or four pairs of alternate leaflets oblong-elliptic to obovate in form, an inch to 1½ inches in length, rounded to acute at the apex, glabrous, and light green in color. During the flowering season the tree is a mass of crimson-scarlet flowers, which are produced in small clusters and are individually about an inch broad, with a tuft of crimson stamens up to 2 inches long. When in flower the tree may be compared to the royal poinciana, but the flowers are individually much smaller, and the color is deeper than in the poinciana. This tree should be given a trial in southern Florida, where it seems likely to succeed, and also in the most favored sections of southern California. As it grows along the banks of streams, it will probably demand a good deal of water."

44776. *PERSEA SCHIEDEANA* Nees. Lauraceæ.

## Coyó.

"(No. 125a. From the city of Guatemala, May 15, 1917.) *Coyó*, *shucte*, or *chucte*. Seeds from specimens purchased in Zacapa. It is still too early for this fruit to be abundant, but the first of the season are now commencing to appear in the lowlands around Zacapa. The ones from which these seeds were taken were slender pyriform, rather pointed at the apex, over 5 inches long, and about 10 ounces in weight.