

45349 to 45357—Continued.

in general appearance that it would not be taken by one unfamiliar with avocados for a distinct species, but the flavor is so distinct that the difference can be recognized at once.

"In general, the coyó does not seem to be nearly so productive as the avocado. Occasionally trees bear heavily, but most of them do not produce good crops. The season of ripening is much shorter than with the avocado; mature fruits will rarely hang on the tree more than six weeks, while avocados often remain three or four months. When picked and laid away to ripen, the coyó requires only three or four days to soften, while the avocado sometimes takes eight or nine days. Among the Indians of the Vera Paz region the coyó seems to be preferred to the avocado."

45355. *PIMENTA* sp. Myrtaceæ.

"(No. 185a. Finca Chejel, Baja Vera Paz, Guatemala. October 15, 1917.) A small tree grown in the gardens of San Cristobal Vera Paz for its aromatic seeds, which are known as *pimienta* and are much used by the natives for seasoning. This is possibly the common allspice, *Pimenta officinalis*, but on the chance that it may be a different species a few seeds have been obtained."

45356. *RUBUS URTICAEFOLIUS* Poir. Rosaceæ.

"(No. 186a.) Seeds of a very interesting species of *Rubus*, which I have seen only in the Vera Paz region. It is common about Purula, Tactic, and San Cristobal, and I have seen it as far east as Sepacuite. It occurs at altitudes of approximately 3,000 to 6,000 feet. There is another wild *Rubus* in this region which is more common, but its fruits are much more seedy and of acid flavor.

"This plant sends up strong, rather stiff canes, sometimes 10 or 15 feet in length. They are covered abundantly with reddish spines, the young branchlets appearing coarsely hairy. The leaves are trifoliate (distinguishable by this means from the other species, whose leaves are composed of five leaflets) and velvety in texture. The leaflets are ovate acuminate, about 3 inches long, and finely serrate.

"The flowers, which are rather small, are produced in large terminal racemes. The fruits are not as large as in many wild blackberries, being scarcely more than half an inch in length; but they are of delicious flavor, and the seeds are so soft that they are scarcely felt in the mouth. In this latter respect the species is a marked contrast to the others seen in Guatemala, the seeds of wild blackberries being usually very large and hard.

"The plant bears abundantly, and the sweetness of the fruits makes them very desirable for eating in the fresh state. This *Rubus* can be strongly recommended for trial in the southern United States."

45357. *SOBRALIA* sp. Orchidaceæ.

"(No. 187. Finca Chejel, Baja Vera Paz, Guatemala. October 15, 1917.) Plants of a handsome terrestrial orchid found on rocky banks in the vicinity of Tucuru, Alta Vera Paz. It grows about 3 feet in height, and produces at the apex of each stalk a handsome lilac-purple flower, 2 to 3 inches in diameter. Should be tried in southern Florida."