

45358 and 45359. CASTANEA ALNIFOLIA Nutt. Fagaceæ.

From Gainesville, Fla. Plants and scions collected by Mr. J. E. Morrow at the Agricultural College. Received December 10, 1917.

A low shrub, up to 2 feet in height, and forming wide patches by means of the underground stems. The nut is solitary and very small. (Adapted from *Small, Flora of the Southeastern States*, p. 377.)

To be grown for experimental purposes.

45358. An erect form.

45359. A prostrate form.

45360 and 45361.

From Guatemala. Collected by Mr. Wilson Popenoe, Agricultural Explorer for the Department of Agriculture. Received November 6, 1917. Quoted notes by Mr. Popenoe.

45360. POGONOPUS SPECIOSUS (Jacq.) Schum. Rubiaceæ.

"(No. 191. Finca Chejel, Baja Vera Paz, Guatemala. October 15, 1917.) Cuttings of a handsome flowering shrub from the valley of the Rio Polochic, near Tucuru, Alta Vera Paz. The brilliant scarlet bracts make the plant a striking object among the vegetation along the slopes of the valley, suggesting the poinsettia in color. The plant is bushy in habit, reaching 15 feet in height, the leaves broadly lanceolate, acuminate, 3 to 5 inches long, with margins entire. The flowers are tubular, about an inch long, produced in corymbs 2 to 4 inches broad. Many of the flowers are subtended by ovate, acute bracts, 1 inch to 1½ inches in length, and of brilliant crimson-scarlet color. This species should be tested as an ornamental shrub in Florida and California."

45361. VITIS TILIAEFOLIA Humb. and Bonpl. Vitaceæ.**Grape.**

(*V. caribaea* DC.)

"(No. 182a. Finca Chejel, Baja Vera Paz, Guatemala. October 15, 1917.) Seeds of a wild grape from the vicinity of San Cristobal Vera Paz, where it is known simply as *uva silvestre* (wild grape). Numerous inquiries have failed to bring to light any Indian name for it.

"This seems to be a different form from that sent in under S. P. I. No. 44060; at least, the fruits are much larger and of a different color.

"The plant makes slender growths, with forked tendrils and cordate subserrate leaves 3 to 4½ inches long by 3 to 3½ inches broad. The racemes are 2 to 3 inches long, and compact; the berries are three-eighths of an inch in diameter, dull or rather pale purplish maroon in color, with abundant, very acid juice and only one or two seeds. The fruits seem to be little used in the Vera Paz region as they are too sour to eat out of hand, and the Indians are not accustomed to make jelly or other products of similar nature.

"This grape impresses me as the best which I have seen in the Tropics, and its use in connection with the development of a really choice grape for tropical regions suggests itself. It bears heavily, and the fruits are of fairly good size. They need only to be made sweeter to be of value for table use."

For an illustration showing a cluster of these grapes, see Plate II.