

## INVENTORY.<sup>1</sup>

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### 48427. ECHINOCHLOA STAGNINA (Retz) Beauv. Poaceæ.

(*Panicum stagninum* Retz.)

**Maruka grass**

From Rizal, Luzon, Philippine Islands. Presented by Mr. Adn. Hernandez, Director of Agriculture, Manila, through Prof. C. V. Piper. Numbered November 12, 1919.

"A tall-growing grass much resembling Japanese millet but with longer awns. The grass is native in the Philippines, Africa, India, and probably most of the Indo-Malayan region. It was originally described by Rumphius from specimens from Batavia, Java. The grass commonly grows in shallow water or on very marshy ground. In the Philippines it covers large areas of nearly pure growth, and at the lower end of Laguna de Bay extensive areas are found on a floating mass of vegetable matter. Quantities of this green grass are sold in the Manila market, where it is known as *balili*. The grass has many vernacular names in India, among which are the following: *dul*, *dula*, *pedda-uda*, *nari*, *shangalligaddi*, *pedda-woondoo*; in Sunda, *tjampea*; in Ceylon, *maruka*. The common name used in Ceylon is chosen as a common name for this grass, which therefore may be called '*maruka grass*.' *Panicum burgu* Chev., of the Niger River, is considered identical by some botanists, but others regard it at least sub-specifically distinct. The grass is introduced in the hope that it may be valuable on extensive areas of land in Florida periodically overflowed. In most regions it is reported to be not particularly palatable." (Piper.)

### 48428 to 48503.

From Johannesburg, Transvaal. Collected by Mr. J. Burt Davy. Received October 29, 1919. Quoted notes by Mr. Davy, except as otherwise stated.

### 48428. ACACIA PALLENS (Benth.) Rolfe. Mimosaceæ. **Knob thorn.**

"(No. 207.) From Bosoli Siding, Southern Rhodesia. One of the more valuable timbers for mine props."

A valuable timber tree, 30 feet in height, with a heavy wood, used for making clubs; the timber is exceedingly hard and is durable under ground. It is considered to be one of the most valuable hardwood trees in the Transvaal and is cut extensively for mine props for the Rand. It is

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<sup>1</sup> All introductions consist of seeds unless otherwise noted.

It should be understood that the varietal names of fruits, vegetables, cereals, and other plants used in these inventories are those which the material bore when received by the Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction; and further, that the printing of such names here does not constitute their official publication and adoption in this country. As the different varieties are studied, their identity fully established, their entrance into the American trade forecast, and the use of varietal names for them in American literature becomes necessary, the foreign varietal designations appearing in these inventories will in many cases undoubtedly be changed by the specialists interested in the various groups of plants and the forms of the names brought into harmony with recognized American codes of nomenclature.