

50594 and 50595—Continued.

branch stalks, each of which bears 5 to 20 nuts. When the nuts are ripe the stalk falls to the ground, the harvest continuing throughout the year. The estimated average yield of nuts per tree each year is 1,000 pounds, one-half the weight being lost in drying. The kernel represents one-third the weight of the dried nut and contains 60 per cent of palm oil, each tree averaging 100 pounds of oil.

"Machinery has been installed for crushing the nuts and extracting the oil, which finds a market in the United States." (*Frederick W. Goding.*)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 41254.

50595. "*Babassu* nuts from Brazil. (No. 2.)"

See preceding number for description.

50596. ANDROPOGON sp. Poaceæ.**Grass.**

From Kisantu, Belgian Kongo. Seeds presented by Father H. Vanderyst. Received July 29, 1920.

Numbered for convenience in testing by the Office of Forage-Crop Investigations.

50597 to 50607.

From Guayaquil, Ecuador. Seeds presented by James Birch Rorer, Asociación de Agricultores del Ecuador. Received June 14, 1920. Quoted notes by Mr. Rorer except where otherwise noted.

50597. ANNONA SQUAMOSA L. Annonaceæ.

Sugar-apple.

"Seeds from two very good fruits, from Chobo, Las Guayas, Ecuador."

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 47875.

50598. CAESALPINIA PULCHERRIMA (L.) Swartz. Cæsalpiniaceæ.

"*Pride of Barbados*, from Chobo, Las Guayas, Ecuador."

This *Caesalpinia* is widely distributed throughout the Tropics because of the beauty of its blossoms. Where favorably situated, with plenty of light and sunshine and ample space for development, it attains the dimensions of a large shrub or small tree. Its dark-green pinnate leaves are decidedly ornamental, and the flowers, 2 inches in diameter, in magnificent open clusters at the points of the shoots, are scarlet, edged with gold, a striking combination, the effect of which is heightened by the crisping or frilling of the margins of the petals. The long red stamens also form another notable feature. (Adapted from the *Journal of Horticulture and Home Farmer*, third series, vol. 66, p. 204.)

50599. CANNA sp. Cannaceæ.

Canna.

"*Plantanillo*, a wild canna with yellow flowers, from Chobo, Las Guayas, Ecuador."

50600. CANNA sp. Cannaceæ.

Canna.

"*Plantanillo*, a wild canna with red flowers, from Chobo."

50601. CASSIA OCCIDENTALIS L. Cæsalpiniaceæ.

"Small legume possibly good for cover crop, from Pascuales, Las Guayas, Ecuador."

A low shrub with a leaf like the mimosa. The Stinkard's root, as it is sometimes called, is a powerful drastic; homeopaths infuse it in spirits of wine and employ it as quinine; the beans are sometimes made into coffee, as maize is in the United States. (Adapted from *Burton, The Highlands of Brazil*, vol. 2, p. 60.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 42830.