

These melons continue all through August, they tell me, and are grown in open gardens, though I suspect that they are started in frames. They are roundish, a good deal oblate, deeply ribbed, inclined to be rough and warty (but not netted), and have a very distinct 'areole' (or smooth circle) around the calyx, sometimes as much as 2 inches in diameter. They range in size, apparently the same variety, from 4 inches in diameter up to 8 or even 9 inches, and in retail price from 2½ to 12, 14, and even as high as 17 francs for the finest specimens. In good restaurants one portion (about 8 or 10 to a large melon) is served for 4½ francs. The melons are picked when they become a mottled gray-green in color, never being allowed to ripen on the vines. They appear to carry remarkably well, but when well matured they are a dirty yellow color, not very attractive. The flesh is rich orange-yellow, thick, firm, not at all netted, and only moderately sweet but very satisfying. I am sending you the entire lot of seeds from one, of which I had a portion in the Grand Café de l'Alma, close to the Ponte l'Alma. I am sure I have never seen a melon anything like this type in the United States." (*Mason.*)

51103 and 51104. AMYGDALUS COMMUNIS L. Amygdalaceæ.

(*Prunus amygdalus* Stokes.)

From Gedera (Katra), near Jaffa, Palestine. Budwood presented by Amram Khazanoff. Received August 17, 1920. Quoted notes by Mr. Khazanoff.

"The two standard almond varieties of Palestine, which I consider worthy of the interest of almond growers in the United States. This budwood was selected with a view to possible bud variation."

51103. "Greek almond."

51104. "Victoria almond."

51105. PERSEA AMERICANA Mill. Lauraceæ.

Avocado.

(*P. gratissima* Gaertn. f.)

From Rio Frio, near Santa Marta, Colombia. Budwood collected by Wilson Popenoe, Agricultural Explorer of the United States Department of Agriculture. Received August 19, 1920.

"(No. 432. Avocado No. 46. August 5, 1920.) A very choice variety of avocado, said to be the earliest known in the Rio Frio region. This is a fine oval fruit, green in color, about 1½ pounds in weight, with thick meat of excellent quality." (*Popenoe.*)

51106. OTOPHORA FRUTICOSA (Roxb.) Blume. Sapindaceæ.

From Lamao, Bataan, Philippine Islands. Seeds presented by P. J. Wester, agricultural adviser, Lamao Horticultural Station. Received April 24, 1920. Numbered August 30, 1920.

"*Balinaonao*. A small tree with dark-red to black fleshy fruits about one-third the size of grapes, in bunches like grapes, up to 200 fruits in a bunch. The flesh is sweet and edible but rather insipid. The seeds taste like chestnuts roasted and are eaten to a slight extent. The plant is of slight economic value but is quite ornamental in the fruiting season by reason of its large bunches of dull rose-red fruits. The tree grows at Lamao and may succeed in Florida." (*Wester.*)