

51741. ZIZIPHUS SPINA-CHRISTI (L.) Willd. Rhamnaceæ.

From Haifa, Syria. Seeds presented by Amram Khazanoff, Jewish Colonization Association. Received November 11, 1920.

"Fruit of *Ziziphus spina-christi*, locally known as *sidr*, which you may find worth while experimenting with as a stock for the jujube." (Khazanoff.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 44361.

51742. ACROCOMIA SCLEROCARPA Mart. Phœnicaceæ.**Macauba palm.**

From Lavras, Minas Geraes, Brazil. Seeds presented by Escola Agrícola. Received November 15, 1920.

The *gru gru*, an exceedingly handsome palm, native to Trinidad and very common there. It is tall growing, with a single stem about 1 foot in diameter, ventricose, with long black spines all over the stem, and a handsome head of very fine foliage; the leaves, 9 to 12 feet long, are gracefully drooping. The abundant round fruits are yellowish brown and 2 inches in diameter. The pulp of the fruits and kernels of the seeds are edible, and a valuable oil is obtained from the latter. Handsome walking sticks are made from the stems. (Adapted from the *Journal of the Board of Agriculture of British Guiana*, vol. 12, p. 271.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 37382.

51743. PRUNUS BOKHARIENSIS Royle. Amygdalaceæ. Plum.

From Shahjahanpur, United Provinces, India. Seeds presented by N. L. Rockey, district superintendent. Received November 20, 1920.

"Plum seed which I hope may be of some use, although I suppose that California plums may have been derived from them. I do not know whether these would make prunes or not. They are certainly sweet enough." (Rockey.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 43988.

51744 to 51747. ACONITUM spp. Ranunculaceæ. Monkshood.

From Edinburgh, Scotland. Seeds presented by Dr. Isaac Bayley Balfour, director, Royal Botanic Garden. Received November 23, 1920.

51744. ACONITUM FEROX Wall.

A plant with an erect stem 3 to 6 feet high, rounded, palmately trifid leaves cut into irregularly indented lobes. The large pale-blue flowers are in a terminal dense-flowered raceme. The mass of the root sold by Indian druggists as aconite is derived from this species. The active principle in the root is an alkaloid, pseudoaconitine. It is used as a narcotic sedative, as an external application for neuralgia, etc., and internally chiefly in the treatment of chronic intermittent fevers. (Adapted from Watt, *Dictionary of the Economic Plants of India*, vol. 1, p. 87, and *National Standard Dispensatory*, p. 98.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 38993.

51745. ACONITUM FISCHERI Reichenb.

As a garden plant this is at once one of the best, and well worth growing in any collection of hardy plants. The growth reaches 4 to 6 feet, terminated by a fine panicle of large, showy pale-blue flowers. It is an autumn-flowering species from Siberia and Kamchatka.

Medicinally, this plant is known as Japanese aconite and is imported quite largely into Europe, frequently finding its way to the United States. The Japanese aconite contains as its active constituent an alkaloid called japaconitine, which is now generally believed to be identical with aconitine (the alkaloid in *A. napellus*). (Adapted from *Flora and Sylva*, vol. 1, and *National Standard Dispensatory*, pp. 98 and 101.)

51746. ACONITUM SEPTENTRIONALE Koelle.

A plant native to the Himalayas from Chitral to Kumaon, mostly in forests, locally abundant at altitudes of 5,000 to 12,000 feet in Kashmir. The root is perennial, elongate; the stem erect, 3 to 6 feet high, much branched. The flowers are pale yellow or dull purple, with a short-beaked