

**54497 and 54498—Continued.**54498. *RUBUS* sp. Rosaceæ.

Raspberry.

*Perfection* (Marlboro). George Bunyard & Co. give a description and the history of this raspberry as follows: "Fruit large, red, of excellent flavor and vigorous growth; canes very stout, bright crimson. Raised by A. J. Caywood of Marlboro, N. Y.; introduced in 1884, and named by him *Marlboro*."

**54499. DIOSCOREA JAPONICA** Thunb. Dioscoreaceæ. **Japanese yam.**

From Hereford, England. Bulbils presented by Dr. H. E. Durham, "Dunelm." Received November 22, 1921.

"*Japanese round yam*. This yam seems so far as one can see from a single season's trial, to be the most promising variety I have yet tested. It grows more freely and regularly than the round *Upch*. The rate of growth, both in a cool house, was about double that of the *Chappellier*." (Durham.)

**54500. PISONIA ALBA** Span. Nyctaginaceæ. **Lettuce tree.**

From Lamao, Bataan, Philippine Islands. Cuttings presented by P. J. Wester, agricultural adviser, Lamao Horticultural Station. Received November 16, 1921.

"The *lettuce tree* is fairly common in Manila, but I have never seen it flower and do not believe seeds are obtainable in the Philippines. As to the value of the tree for Florida, I am in doubt. The leaves are too thin and therefore likely to be easily injured by frost and would probably also be torn to shreds by the fall and winter winds, in which event the tree would be of little value as an ornamental, at least during the tourist season. The tree may do well in Porto Rico. I have tried the leaves boiled as turnip greens and they are remarkably good as a potherb, so good, in fact, that if on analysis they are found to have a fair amount of nutrients and vitamins the plant is certain to become widely grown in the Tropics. The leaves can not be eaten raw, however. I am using the common name *Maluko* for it. The tree is easily propagated, and once it gets a start can be broadcasted within a very short time." (Wester.)

**54501. GOSSYPIMUM** sp. Malvaceæ.

Cotton.

From Ceiba, Honduras. Seeds presented by Alexander K. Sloan, American consul. Received December 6, 1921.

Cotton seeds from the Aguan Valley near Trujillo.

"The natives make very little attempt to cultivate cotton, as the only use they put it to is as a binding for cuts in order to check the flow of blood. As a consequence the bush is undisturbed and grows in the course of six or seven years into a tree some 8 or 10 inches in diameter and from 25 to 30 feet in height. As the tree grows larger, the bolls become smaller and the yield in quantity and quality less. In those places where the native wants to obtain a larger crop than usual, the bush is cut to the ground each year and allowed to reseed itself. In that way the bolls are kept at their largest size." (Sloan.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 28364.

**54502. QUERCUS LANUGINOSA** Thuill. Fagaceæ.

Oak.

(*Q. pubescens* Willd.)

From Nice, France. Seeds presented by Dr. A. Robertson Proschowsky. Received December 8, 1921.

A southern European oak which varies in size from a large shrub to a tree 40 feet in height. The grayish green leaves are deciduous and have very wavy margins. (Adapted from *Bean, Trees and Shrubs Hardy in the British Isles*, vol. 2, p. 314.)

This oak may prove to be a valuable ornamental for regions of mild winters.