

54890 to 54895—Continued.**54895. SIDEROXYLON MACRANTHUM** Merr. Sapotaceæ.

"Collected in the Philippine Islands by F. X. Williams."

A large Philippine tree with somewhat leathery, shining leaves up to 7 inches in length and small creamy white flowers which are crowded in clusters at the tips of the branches. The roundish fruits, slightly over an inch in diameter, are two to three seeded. (Adapted from *Merrill, New or Noteworthy Philippine Plants No. 4, Manila Bureau of Government Laboratories, No. 35, p. 56.*)

54896 to 54898. ERYTHRINA spp. Fabaceæ.

From Honolulu, Hawaii. Seeds presented by Dr. H. L. Lyon, in charge, Department of Botany and Forestry, Experiment Station of the Hawaiian Sugar-Planters' Association. Received March 7, 1922.

"Seeds collected in Honolulu, February, 1922." (*Lyon.*)**54896. ERYTHRINA VARIEGATA** Stickm.
(*E. indica* Lam.)

For description, see S. P. I. No. 54898.

54897. ERYTHRINA MONOSPERMA Gaud.

Wiliwili. A tree 6 to 10 meters (20 to 33 feet) in height, with a spreading crown of stiff, gnarled branches and terminal clusters of brick-red, orange, or pale-yellow flowers. The pods contain scarlet or dark-red seeds. The wood is soft and very light and was used by the Hawaiians for the float on the outrigger of their dugout canoes. The tree inhabits dry regions on all the Hawaiian Islands, though cattle have nearly exterminated it on Kauai, Molokai, and Oahu. (Adapted from *Rock, Leguminous Plants of Hawaii, p. 181.*)

54898. ERYTHRINA VARIEGATA Stickm.
(*E. indica* Lam.)

Indian coral tree, or tiger's-claw. A moderate-sized, quick-growing, deciduous tree, native throughout India from the foot of the Himalayas into Burma, but cultivated all over the Tropics. The clusters of large, bright-red flowers appear before the leaves. The pods, 4 to 8 inches long, contain several dark-carmine seeds. The flowers are dried for use as a dye; the bark is used for tanning and dyeing and yields an excellent, pale straw-colored fiber. The leaves are used as cattle fodder; the bark and leaves are also used medicinally. The open-grained, light wood is durable and does not split or warp; it is used for boxes, toys, trays, and also for firewood. Much of the lacquered ware of India is made of the wood of this tree. (Adapted from *Rock, Ornamental Trees of Hawaii, p. 119.*)

54899. ZINZIBER sp. Zinziberaceæ.**Ginger.**

From Canton, China. Seeds presented by F. A. McClure, instructor, Canton Christian College. Received February 20, 1922.

"*Ye Kaung.* A species of ginger with deep-yellow flowers borne on leafless stalks and black seeds in a red receptacle. Found at the edge of a thicket at Patkaleng." (*McClure.*)

54900 and 54901.

From Mayaguez, Porto Rico. Tubers presented by T. B. McClelland, horticulturist, Porto Rico Agricultural Experiment Station. Received March 16, 1922.

54900. DIOSCOREA ALATA L. Dioscoreaceæ.**Greater yam.**

Purple Ceylon. This yam, so called because of the purple color of its flesh, was imported in 1908 from Ceylon for the experiment station, and, on account of its pleasing flavor, has become a favorite variety. Any part of the tuber may be utilized for planting with the assurance that it will yield a profitable crop. At the experiment station half-pound seed pieces cut from the lower part of the root produced an average of nearly 5 pounds per plant. This is a splendid weight for a