

55579. CYRTOSTACHYS LAKKA Beccari. Phœnicaceæ. **Palm.**

From Singapore, Straits Settlements. Seeds presented by I. Henry Burkill, superintendent, Botanic Gardens. Received July 24, 1922.

A stately and elegant palm, native to the East Indies, with a slender spineless stem crowned by a cluster of boldly arched pinnate leaves 3 to 4 feet in length. It is distinguished by its red leaf sheaths. The fruits are elongate egg-shaped and about half an inch long. (Adapted from *Beccari, Annales du Jardin Botanique de Buitenzorg, vol. 2, p. 141*, and *Bailey, Standard Cyclopædia of Horticulture, vol. 2, p. 947*.)

J. F. Rock recommends this as a handsome ornamental plant, probably suitable for cultivation in southern Florida. It is doubtful whether it will withstand heavy frosts.

For previous introductions, see S. P. I. Nos. 49530 and 51870.

55580 to 55584.

From Canton, China. Plants presented by the Canton Christian College, through F. A. McClure. Received July 29, 1922. Quoted notes by Mr. McClure.

55580 and 55581. FORTUNELLA spp. Rutaceæ. **Kumquat.**

Introduced for department specialists engaged in citrus-breeding experiments.

55580. FORTUNELLA sp.

"(C. C. C. introduction No. 793.) Obtained from near a Chinese village (Sants'u'en) in the island of Hainan, where it is found in a semicultivated state. The natives gather the fruits, which ripen in November, and eat them fresh or candy them. Some few of the fruits find their way to the markets, although they are not generally much in favor with the Chinese, owing to their acid taste. They have almost no seed, and in this respect are excellent for candying. The fruits are small, seldom attaining a size of more than an inch in diameter; the segments adhere to each other very firmly. The plants are never grafted, but are allowed to spring up from scattered seed."

55581. FORTUNELLA sp.

"(C. C. C. introduction No. 794.) Obtained from the wild in the Five Finger Mountains of the island of Hainan. I found the plant in flower in May. A few fruits at that time were brought to me by the natives. The flavor is rather sweeter than one would expect to find in wild fruits; these are not of commercial importance, as they are known only by the primitive tribes that inhabit the interior of the island. They gather the wild fruits and evidently consider them quite a delicacy, although they never take the trouble to plant the seeds near their houses. There is a slight prominence on the fruit at the stem end, which is characteristic."

55582 and 55583. PHYLLOSTACHYS spp. Poaceæ. **Bamboo.**

"These are grown for timber and also for food, the young shoots being eaten."

55582. PHYLLOSTACHYS sp.

"(C. C. C. observation No. 901.2.) *Tai tau tim chuk.*"

55583. PHYLLOSTACHYS sp.

"(C. C. C. observation No. 901.2.) *Ma chuk.*"

55584. ZIZANIA sp. Poaceæ. **Wild rice.**

"(C. C. C. introduction No. 860.) *Kau sun.* This is grown by the Chinese in wet culture. The stock at the crown becomes infected with a smut, and the enlarged growth at that point is used as food. This product is very similar in appearance, texture, and flavor to the bamboo shoots and is prepared in the same manner."