

as the plant grows older, usually set at a rather acute angle; leaves 2 to 4 inches long, light green above, grayish beneath, one edge serrate, the other smooth; sheaths deciduous, marked with purplish spots and blotches.

"A handsome ornamental form, fairly hardy, and grown generally in public gardens throughout the world. This was one of the earliest introduced forms in California and is found there in many gardens. It is said to be quite drought resistant and with a little protection will survive the winters as far north as Washington, D. C." (*B. T. Galloway*.)

55976. ZEA MAYS L. Poaceæ.

Corn.

From Buenos Aires, Argentina. Presented by D. S. Bullock, Agricultural Commissioner, Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Received November 28, 1922.

"From Entre Rios, Argentina." (*Bullock*.)

Maiz amargo (bitter corn). A variety of corn said to have been introduced into Argentina from Hungary in 1902, since which date it has become quite popular in some parts of northern Argentina because of its resistance to the attacks of locusts. A characteristic of this variety which distinguishes it from other varieties is its tendency to stool or produce side shoots. Unless planted close, each plant will produce under favorable conditions from 4 to 10 of these shoots. The leaves are often over 3 feet long and sometimes 4 inches wide and the stalks from 6 to 10 feet tall. There are two forms noted in Entre Rios, one with grayish white kernels and one with yellow kernels, the latter having longer ears than the former. Because of the numerous intergradations, however, it is very difficult to obtain typical ears of either form. The growing season of *maiz amargo* is long, sometimes as long as nine months. In Entre Rios it is sown in November. (Adapted from *Report No. 76, D. S. Bullock, Agricultural Commissioner*.)

55977. ARACHIS HYPOGAEA L. Fabaceæ.

Peanut.

From Sydney, New South Wales. Seeds presented by G. W. Valder, under-secretary and director, Department of Agriculture. Received November 28, 1922.

"These seeds were originally sent from the United States under the name 'Mammoth.' The Chinese claim that this variety is too large for their purpose." (*Valder*.)

Introduced for the use of specialists in the Department of Agriculture.

55978. EUGENIA DOMBEYI (Spreng.) Skeels. Myrtaceæ.

(*E. brasiliensis* Lam.)

Grumichama.

From Hilo, Hawaii. Seeds presented by Bro. Matthias Newell. Received October 23, 1922.

"The grumichama is found both wild and cultivated in southern Brazil, particularly in the States of Parana and Santa Catharina. Elsewhere, with the exception of Hawaii, it is scarcely known.

"The tree, which grows to the same size as the orange, is shapely and attractive in appearance, with ovate-elliptic, glossy deep-green leaves 2 to 3 inches long. The small white flowers are followed by pendent fruits, round or slightly flattened, the size of a cherry and deep crimson in color. The persistent green sepals which crown the apex are a distinguishing characteristic. The skin is thin and delicate, the flesh soft, melting, of a mild subacid flavor suggesting that of a Bigarreau cherry. The seeds are round or hemispherical when one or two in number; sometimes there are three or more, in which case the size is reduced and they are angular.

"The rapidity with which the fruits develop is surprising; within a month from the time of flowering they have reached maturity and are falling to the ground. Father Tavares states that all the trees do not ripen their crops at the same time, some blooming later than others and thus extending the fruiting season from November to February (in Brazil). Three varieties are distinguished by him, one with dark-red flesh, another with vermilion, and the third with white. All three are said to be equally good in quality. The fruit is usually eaten fresh, but may also be used to make jams and preserves.