

drought-resistant qualities. Although producing a larger crop than most varieties on poor, dry upland, it responds well to better conditions. Forty bales have been produced on 14 acres. Plant in drills 4 feet apart, leaving plants 15 inches apart. Give thorough surface cultivation until the time of flowering. Keep the picking up as closely as possible to prevent loss from lint falling out, although the loss from this source is not likely to be greater than in other big boll varieties. Save seeds for planting from early pickings from the best plants." (*Devey.*)

**4328. GOSSYPIMUM BARBADENSE.**

**Egyptian cotton.**

From Texas. Received January, 1900.

*Matafifi.* "The leading variety of Egyptian cotton imported by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and acclimated by five generations of cultivation by W. H. Wentworth in southern Texas. Plants robust, 4 to 7 feet high, with numerous spreading branches; leaves deeply 3-lobed; flowers large, yellow; bolls rather small, three-locked, numerous, scattered along the branches; lint light brown—lighter than the imported Egyptian cotton—soft, oily, strong, with well-developed twist, clinging together and remaining compact after the boll opens; staple about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches long. A long, warm season is required for the growth of this cotton. It is desirable to have sufficient moisture during its early growth to induce a rapid development of the plant, followed by warm, dry weather while the bolls are forming, and to plant before the end of March, if possible, on an upland loamy soil long under cultivation. The bolls do not begin to form until the plant has attained nearly its full size, and in rich, moist land it continues to grow too long, producing large plants with few bolls. Plant in drills 6 feet apart, leaving plants about 30 inches apart in the row. Give frequent surface cultivation until time of flowering. Pick the cotton as soon as possible after the bolls open, as the fiber loses its luster and soft, oily qualities by long exposure to the weather. A roller gin must be used to obtain the fiber without injury and produce a good quality of cotton that will compare favorably with that imported from Egypt. Seed for planting should be saved from the early pickings from selected plants of the best type. A peck of seed should plant three-fourths of an acre, and under favorable conditions the yield should beat least three-fourths of a bale per acre." (*Devey.*)

**4329. GOSSYPIMUM BARBADENSE.**

**Egyptian Cotton.**

From Egypt. Received through Vilmorin, February, 1900.

*Matafifi.* The leading variety grown in Egypt, where it is supposed to have developed from American Sea Island, early introduced there. A robust plant 4 to 7 feet high, pyramidal, with numerous spreading branches; leaves deeply three-lobed; bolls numerous, scattered along the branches, small, three-locked; seed black, with small tufts of green fiber at the ends; lint yellowish brown, fine, oily, soft, very strong, with well-developed twist making it cling together like wool, remaining compact after the boll opens; staple about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches long. The lint averages about 33 per cent of the weight of seed cotton. The yield of this variety is usually higher than that of other Egyptian cottons. There is a demand for it at prices about double those of ordinary upland cotton. In Egypt it is cultivated throughout the cotton-growing region of the Nile delta, where very little rain falls from the time of planting in March to harvest time in November, but it is irrigated early in the season. It requires a long, warm, dry season and is recommended only for the southern part of the cotton belt in this country. It should be planted on upland sandy loam, in old cultivated land, in drills 5 or 6 feet apart, with plants about 30 inches apart in the drill. In rich moist soil more room will be needed, as large plants may be produced with few bolls. Frequent cultivation should be given until time of blooming. Picking should follow the opening bolls as soon as possible to prevent injury to the soft, oily qualities of the fiber by exposure to the weather. A roller gin must be used to obtain the fiber in a condition that will compare with that of the imported Egyptian cotton. The yield from the first planting of imported seed is likely to be less than that of later generations that have become acclimated. Seed for planting should be saved from early pickings from early maturing plants of the best type. (*Devey.*)

**4330. GOSSYPIMUM BARBADENSE.**

**Egyptian Cotton.**

From Egypt. Received through Vilmorin, February, 1900.

*Abasi.* "A variety of long staple cotton developed by selection in Egypt from the variety known as "Kafiri," which in turn was obtained from Matafifi. It has a spreading habit, branching from near the base; leaves rather deeply three-lobed,