

INVENTORY¹

61738 and 61739.

From China. Seeds collected by P. H. Dorsett, agricultural explorer, Bureau of Plant Industry. Received December, 1924.

61738. AMPELOPSIS ACONITIFOLIA Bunge. Vitaceæ.

No. 904. Near Laochun. October 10, 1924. The bright-blue fruits make this vine a good ornamental. (Dorsett.)

61739. AMYGDALUS PERSICA L. (*Prunus persica* Stokes). Amygdalaceæ. Peach.

No. 761. Peking. October 6, 1924. Seeds of a domesticated peach. (Dorsett.)

61740. PERSEA AMERICANA Mill. (*P. gratissima* Gaertn. f.). Lauraceæ.

Avocado.

Fruits from the Plant Introduction Garden, Miami, Fla. Received at Washington, November 20, 1924.

A cross between the Collinson and Trapp avocados, made at the Plant Introduction Garden, Miami, February, 1921, by Edward Simmonds. Fruited first time this year [1924].

Fruits about 4 inches long and 3½ inches wide, roundish obovate, slightly oblique; stem short, thick, inserted at a slight angle; cavity small, shallow, wrinkled; apex obliquely flattened, slightly depressed at stigmatic point; surface smooth, light green; dots numerous, yellowish, conspicuous; skin of medium thickness, adhering rather closely to the flesh; flesh creamy yellow, greenish near skin, smooth, buttery, with rich, nutty flavor and no fiber; seed large, tight¹ in the cavity, free from seed coats.

61741. CAMPANULA sp. Campanulaceæ. Bellflower.

From China. Seeds collected by P. H. Dorsett, agricultural explorer, Bureau of Plant Industry. Received December 8, 1924.

No. 712. October 10, 1924. Seeds of a plant with very pretty purple, bell-shaped flowers, collected along the trail from the Ming tombs to Silver Mountain. (Dorsett.)

61742 to 61746.

From Darjiling, India. Seeds presented by G. H. Cave, curator, Lloyd Botanic Garden. Received December 24, 1924.

61742. ACER OSMASTONI Gamble. Aceraceæ. Maple.

A large Himalayan maple, described (Kew, Bulletin of Miscellaneous Information, 1908, p. 446) as a tree up to 100 feet tall, growing wild in Sikkim, India, at an altitude of about 7,000 feet. The leaves, 1 to 3 lobed, are papery and about 5 inches long.

61743. ACER STACHYOPHYLLUM Hiern. Aceraceæ. Maple.

A small maple, native to Sikkim, India, at an altitude of 10,000 feet.

61744. ALANGIUM ALPINUM (C. B. Clarke) Smith and Cave. Corniaceæ.

A deciduous tree, about 40 feet high, native to the eastern Himalayas and related to the dogwood. The white flowers are in lax 3-flowered, axillary clusters, and are succeeded by black fruits.

61745. DECAISNEA INSIGNIS (Griffith) Hook. f. and Thoms. Lardizabalaceæ.

An upright, sparingly branched shrub, much resembling a large-leaved sumac, found in the eastern Himalayas. The leaves, often 3 feet long, are made up of 13 to 25 elliptic, acuminate leaflets, bright green above and slightly glaucous beneath. The racemes of pendulous, greenish flowers resemble those of a yucca, but are smaller. These are followed by edible, yellow fruits, 3 to 4 inches long and about 2 inches thick, filled with a whitish pulp and black seeds.

61746. GAULTHERIA FRAGRANTISSIMA Wall. Ericaceæ.

A very fragrant evergreen shrub or small tree found in the mountains of India from Nepal eastward to Bhutan. In summer it is loaded with white or pinkish flowers, which are followed by beautiful racemes of blue-purple fruits.

¹ It should be understood that the names of horticultural varieties of fruits, vegetables, cereals, and other plants used in this inventory are those under which the material was received when introduced by the Office of Foreign Plant Introduction and, further, that the printing of such names here does not constitute their official publication and adoption in this country. As the different varieties are studied, their entrance into the American trade forecast, and the use of varietal names for them in American literature becomes necessary, the foreign varietal designations appearing in this inventory will be subject to change with a view to bringing the forms of the names into harmony with recognized horticultural nomenclature. It is a well-known fact that botanical descriptions, both technical and economic, seldom mention the seeds at all and rarely describe them in such a way as to make possible identification from the seeds alone. Many of the unusual plants listed in these inventories are appearing in this country for the first time, and there are no seed samples or herbarium specimens with ripe seeds with which the new arrivals may be compared. The only identification possible is to see that the sample received resembles seeds of other species of the same genus or of related genera. The responsibility for the specific identifications therefore must necessarily often rest with the person sending the material. If there is any question regarding the correctness of the identification of any plant received from this office, herbarium specimens of leaves and flowers should be sent in so that definite identification can be made.