

Plant Immigrants

The Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction of the Bureau of Plant Industry publishes a list, under the above name, of recently imported plants, many of which are valuable to the gardener, from a decorative or economic standpoint. Through the courtesy of Mr. David Fairchild, who is in charge of this work, we are enabled to reprint notes on such plants as have particular interest to our readers. To all who can demonstrate their fitness to care for these recent introductions, the Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction will send what is available. Recipients of such material, which often requires considerable skill in handling, obligate themselves to report, when requested, as to what the result of their observations has been. It is essential that the numbers assigned by the Office should be firmly attached to the plant. By this the government gets data on hardiness of the new introductions, and the growers have an opportunity for the observation, first hand, of plants that may prove important. Applications for or letters about these plants should not be sent to the Editor but to Mr. David Fairchild, Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction, Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C.



ESCHYNOMENE SP. 44113. Seeds from El Coyolar, Costa Rica. Presented by Mr. Carlos Wercklé. *Yellow sensitiva*. An annual, papilionaceous, dense-growing, nearly trailing plant, finely and densely ramified, resembling the sensitive *Mimosa*; our best plant for enriching the soil. Said to be a good forage plant. (Wercklé.)

AMARANTHUS PANICULATUS L. (Amaranthaceae.) 44176. Seeds of an *amaranth* from India, secured from Kashmir. A tall, handsome plant 4 to 6 feet high, cultivated in eastern and western Asia and Africa. The lance-elliptic leaves are 2 to 6 inches long, and the numerous flowers are borne in dense red gold-colored spikes. The subglobose seeds are white, red or black, and because of their farinaceous nature form the staple food of the poorer classes of the hill tribes in many parts of India, where the plant is known as *Rajgira*.

AMYGDALUS NANA \times PERSICA (Amygdalaceae.) 44177. Bud wood of a *hybrid peach* from Excelsior, Minn. A hybrid be-

tween *Amygdalus nana* and the Bokhara No. 3 peach. This hybrid grows to about 8 feet on *Prunus americana* stock, is perfectly hardy and is the best bloomer in the spring of all stone fruits. The tree produces an abundance of pink blossoms, larger than those of *Amygdalus nana*, but it has never borne any fruit. The foliage is glossy dark green and stays on until the frost gets it in the fall.

CASTANEA MOLLISSIMA Blume. (Fagaceae.) 44197-98. Seeds of a *chestnut* from China. Collected by Mr. Frank N. Meyer, Agricultural Explorer. This Chinese chestnut has shown itself so resistant to the chestnut blight disease that Mr. Meyer has secured additional quantities from the Pangshan district, northeast of Peking.

DAVIDIA INVOLUCRATA VILMORINIANA (Dode) Hemsley. (Cornaceae.) 44127. Seeds from Paris, France. A tree, 40 to 50 feet high, from western China; with alternate, bright green, ovate, coarsely serrate leaves, 2 to 4½ inches long; inconspicuous flowers in terminal, globular heads, about an inch in diameter; enormous white bracts surrounding the flowers; and ovoid, greenish yellow fruits with brown dots, about 1¾ inches long. In the British Isles this tree is quite hardy, and though it can be propagated by cuttings, the plants raised from seeds show the greatest vigor.

FAGOPYRUM VULGARE Hill. (Polygonaceae.) 44208. *Buckwheat* seeds from Malanyü, Chihli province, China. Collected by Mr. Frank N. Meyer, November 25, 1916. *Ch'iao mai*, meaning "Triangular wheat." Chinese buckwheat grown as late crop on poor lands and on mountain slopes. From the flour a very thin and brittle vermicelli is manufactured, from which a meal can be prepared within a few minutes.

JUGLANS MANDSCHURICA Maxim. (Juglandaceae.) 44233. Seeds of *Manchurian walnut* from Shinglungshan, Chihli province, China. Collected by Mr. Frank N. Meyer, December 3,

1916. *Shan ho t'ao*, meaning "Mountain or wild walnut," occurring in Manchuria and Northern China, growing into a stately tree. The nuts are small and contain but little meat, but they are eagerly eaten by the people. The young foliage is very sensitive to frosts, and the tree can be grown successfully only in such localities where late frosts are of rare occurrence. Of value as a hardy shade tree; possibly also as a stock for Persian walnuts, in cold localities.

JUGLANS REGIA L. (Juglandaceae.) 44199-44200. *Walnut* seeds from Peking, China. Collected by Mr. Frank N. Meyer, November 10, 1916. Walnuts of large size, said to come from the mountains west of Peking. Chinese walnuts seem especially adapted to semiarid regions with warm summers and dry cold winters.

JUNIPERUS CHINENSIS L. (Pinaceae.) 44234. *Juniper* seeds from Peking, China. Collected by Mr. Frank N. Meyer, December 27, 1916. *Pai shu*. Berries of the North Chinese juniper, a hardy, drought and alkali-resistant evergreen tree, living to be many centuries old. Especially suited for dry climates with winters not too severe.

PHASEOLUS ANGULARIS (Willd.) W. F. Wight. (Fabaceae.) 44232. *Adzuki beans* from Malanyü, Chihli province, China. Collected by Mr. Frank N. Meyer, November 25, 1916. *Hei hsiao tou* meaning "Black small bean." An adzuki bean of marbled, blackish color, used mostly to produce first quality beansprouts. These beansprouts can be produced by putting the beans in an earthen crock well drained by means of holes in its bottom and keeping them moist until they sprout and produce roots $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long. These sprouted adzuki beans when blanched by immersion for a few minutes in boiling water, and cooling in cold water make a delicious vegetable, when fried in butter until they begin to brown.

PERILLA FRUTESCENS (L.) Britton. (Menthaceae.) 44205. Seeds from Malanyü, Chihli province, China. Collected by

Mr. Frank N. Meyer, November 25, 1916. *Su tzu*. An odoriferous annual, the seeds of which contain a great percentage of oil which is used in waterproofing paper and cloth. They are also fed to song birds in winter time. The young tops are employed in giving flavor to certain pickles.

PICEA MEYERI Rehder and Wilson. (Pinaceae.) 44149. *Spruce* seeds from Shinglungshan, Chihli province, China. Collected by Mr. Frank N. Meyer, December 3, 1916. "A tall-growing spruce, often having bluish needles." (Meyer.)

PYRUS LINDLEYI Rehder. (Malaceae.) 44164-44168-44170-44174. Seeds and cuttings of *Chinese pears* from China. Collected by Mr. Frank N. Meyer. Among these are some of the best cultivated pears of northern China; most of them excellent keepers and all of value in breeding experiments.

PYRUS USSURIENSIS Maxim. (Malaceae.) 44151-44163. *Pear* seeds from Malanyü, Chihli province, China. Collected by Mr. Frank N. Meyer. *Suan li*, meaning "Sour pear." A medium-sized Chinese pear, of globose form and of green color. Calyx persistent, length of peduncles varies considerably in different specimens. Flesh somewhat gritty and quite sour. These pears cannot be eaten raw, except after having been frozen, when they become melting. By cooking them, however, a sour sauce can be obtained which missionaries found acceptable as a substitute for sour apple sauce. Possibly these may also prove to be blight-resistant.

CALLICARPA GIRALDIANA Hesse. (Verbenaceae.) 44076. Cuttings from Jamaica Plain, Mass. Presented by the Arnold Arboretum. An ornamental shrub from western China, with dentate leaves 2 to 4 inches long, dense cymes of pink flowers on hairy stalks, and violet fruits. If sheltered this shrub will grow in the northern parts of the United States, and if killed to the ground, young shoots will spring up vigorously, producing flowers and fruit in the same season.

CASTILLEJA INDIVISA Engelm. (Scrophulariaceae.) 43985. Plants grown at the Plant Introduction Field Station, Chico, California, from seed collected by Dr. David Griffiths, of this Bureau, at Lyford, Texas, May 2, 1915. "One of the most showy of the winter annuals of southern Texas. The seedlings come up very abundantly upon the sandy coastal plain in autumn, developing slowly during the winter but rapidly in early spring, and dominating the color of acres of the landscape in late March and early April. Here its seeds are matured in late April and early May. There are few native plants more showy than this one. This whole group of painted cups, however, are considered somewhat difficult to grow, and are consequently little handled in the trade in this country, although commonly grown in England. Our efforts have met with success and failure in their handling. Recent trials indicate that the habits of the plant, as depicted above, should stand winter handling, and that they can be grown successfully as winter annuals in regions having mild winters with sufficient moisture for seed germination in autumn. It requires a comparatively low temperature for their development, experience at Chico, California, showing that the sudden transition from winter to summer, such as we have, dwarfs the plant before maturity, so that they produce but few of the colored bracts which are so attractive in all of the painted cups or Indian paint brushes." (Griffiths.)

COTONEASTER DIVARICATA Rehder & Wilson. (Malaceae.) 43991. Seeds from Jamaica Plain, Mass. Presented by the Arnold Arboretum. A deciduous upright shrub from central and western China, with shining oval leaves $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch long. The pink flowers are usually in threes, and the bright red fruit, containing 2 stones, is $\frac{1}{3}$ inch long. A very handsome shrub when studded with its bright red fruits, and hardy at the Arnold Arboretum.

COTONEASTER HORIZONTALIS PERPUSILLA Schneider. (Malaceae.) 43992. Seeds from Jamaica Plain, Mass. Presented

by the Arnold Arboretum. A low Chinese shrub of prostrate habit with almost horizontal branches in two dense series and roundish oval leaves less than $\frac{1}{3}$ inch long. The flowers are erect, pink, and either solitary or in pairs, and the bright red oval fruit, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter, usually contains 3 stones. One of the most effective fruiting shrubs for rockeries.

COTONEASTER HUPEHENSIS Rehder & Wilson. (Malaceae.) 44079. Cuttings from Jamaica Plain, Mass. Presented by the Arnold Arboretum. A shrub, native of central and western China, up to 5 feet in height, with slender spreading branches oval or elliptic leaves with gray wool on the lower surfaces, 6 to 12 white flowers in each of the numerous cymes, and red, nearly globular fruits about $\frac{1}{3}$ inch in diameter. This is one of the handsomest of Cotoneasters in bloom, and is hardy as far north as Massachusetts.

COTONEASTER TENUIPES Rehder & Wilson. (Malaceae.) 43995. Seeds from Jamaica Plain, Mass. Presented by the Arnold Arboretum. A gracefully-branched, deciduous shrub, from western China, up to 7 feet high, with oval or elliptic-oval, sharp-pointed leaves, about $1\frac{3}{5}$ inches long. The flowers are unknown as yet, but the fruits are nearly black, usually solitary, and contains 2 stones.

DAHLIA IMPERIALIS Roezl. (Asteraceae.) 43981. Cuttings of *dahlia* from Tactic, Depto. de Alta Verapaz, Guatemala. Collected by Mr. Wilson Popenoe, Agricultural Explorer. Double white variety. The pink tree Dahlia is common throughout a large part of Guatemala. I have seen it from Antigua to Coban often in great abundance, its huge single pink flowers, 4 inches in diameter, making it a very striking thing. The pink form, which apparently is the typical one, is the only form which I have seen in the southern part of Guatemala, but in the vicinity of Tactic there are three other forms. None of these is so common as the pink form, but all are seen occasionally in gardens. The forms in question are: a single white, identical

with the typical single pink except in its color, which is pure white; a double pink, of the same lilac pink shade as the typical form but with double flowers, 3 inches in diameter; and a double white form, of the same character as the double pink but with double flowers, 3 inches in diameter; and a double white form, of the same character as the double pink but pure white. The tree dahlia is called *shikar* in the Pokomchi dialect, which is the language of the Indians at Tactic. It is very commonly planted around gardens and dooryards to form a hedge; large cuttings, 3 to 4 feet long and of stems 1 to 2 inches in diameter, being inserted in the ground, and apparently rooting very readily. The plants grow to 15 feet in height, and when in full bloom, as they are at this season of the year, are a glorious sight. Tactic is made beautiful by this common plant, and it would seem well worth while to test it for hedges in California, where the pink form has already been introduced and is offered in the trade. The variety sent in under this number is the double white, which seems to be one of the most beautiful of all. The flowers of this form are extensively used by the Indians of Tactic for decorating the images of saints which they have in their houses and in the churches.

PRUNUS BOKHARIENSIS Royle. (Amygdalaceae.) 43988. Cuttings of *plum* from Saharanpur, India. "Alucha black." A plum from Chinese Turkestan, with medium-sized golden-yellow, cling-stone fruits of fine flavor, which ripen late in July. They are excellent for preserves and jellies.

PYRUS AMYGDALIFORMIS Villars. (Malaceae.) 44041. Cuttings of *pear* from Jamaica Plain, Mass. A small tree, native of southern Europe, occasionally 20 feet or more high, or sometimes merely a large rounded shrub. The leaves, which are very variable in shape and size, are from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, the white flowers, 1 inch wide, are produced in April in corymbs, and the round, yellowish-brown fruits are about an inch in diameter. The chief merit of this tree is its picturesqueness in age.

PYRUS BETULAEFOLIA Bunge. (Malaceae.) 44042. Cuttings of *pear* from Jamaica Plain, Mass. A slender, fast-growing graceful tree from northern China, attaining a height of 20 to 30 feet, with the young shoots thickly covered with a persistent gray felt. The dark green oval or roundish, dentate, long-pointed leaves are 2 to 3 inches long, the white flowers, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch wide, occur eight to ten in corymbs, and the grayish-brown roundish fruits are about the size of a pea. The Chinese use this as a stock on which to graft fruiting pears.

PYRUS CALLERYANA Decaisne. (Malaceae.) 43987. Scions of *pear* from Jamaica Plain, Mass. This wild Chinese pear is not uncommon in western Hupeh at an altitude of from 1000 to 1500 cm., and is easily recognizable by its comparatively small, crenate leaves and small flowers. This pear maintains a vigorous and healthy appearance under the most trying conditions, and might prove to be a very desirable blight-resistant stock. Also the woolly aphis, which attacks other species of pears, has not been known to touch this species.

PYRUS OBLONGIFOLIA Spach. (Malaceae.) 44050. Cuttings of *pear* from Jamaica Plain, Mass. A small tree, occasionally 20 feet or more high, common in Provence, France. The leaves are oval or oblong, and the fruits, which are yellowish, tinged with red on the sunny side, are about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. In Provence it is known as the *Gros Perrussier*.

PYRUS OVOIDEA Rehder. (Malaceae.) 44051. Cuttings of *pear* from Jamaica Plain, Mass. A Chinese tree of pyramidal habit, 30 to 50 feet high, with oval-oblong, sharply serrate leaves 3 to 5 inches long, white flowers in 5 to 7 flowered racemes, yellow, juicy, somewhat astringent exactly egg-shaped fruits up to $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches long. In autumn the foliage turns a bright scarlet, and the flowers appear a week ahead of other species of pears.

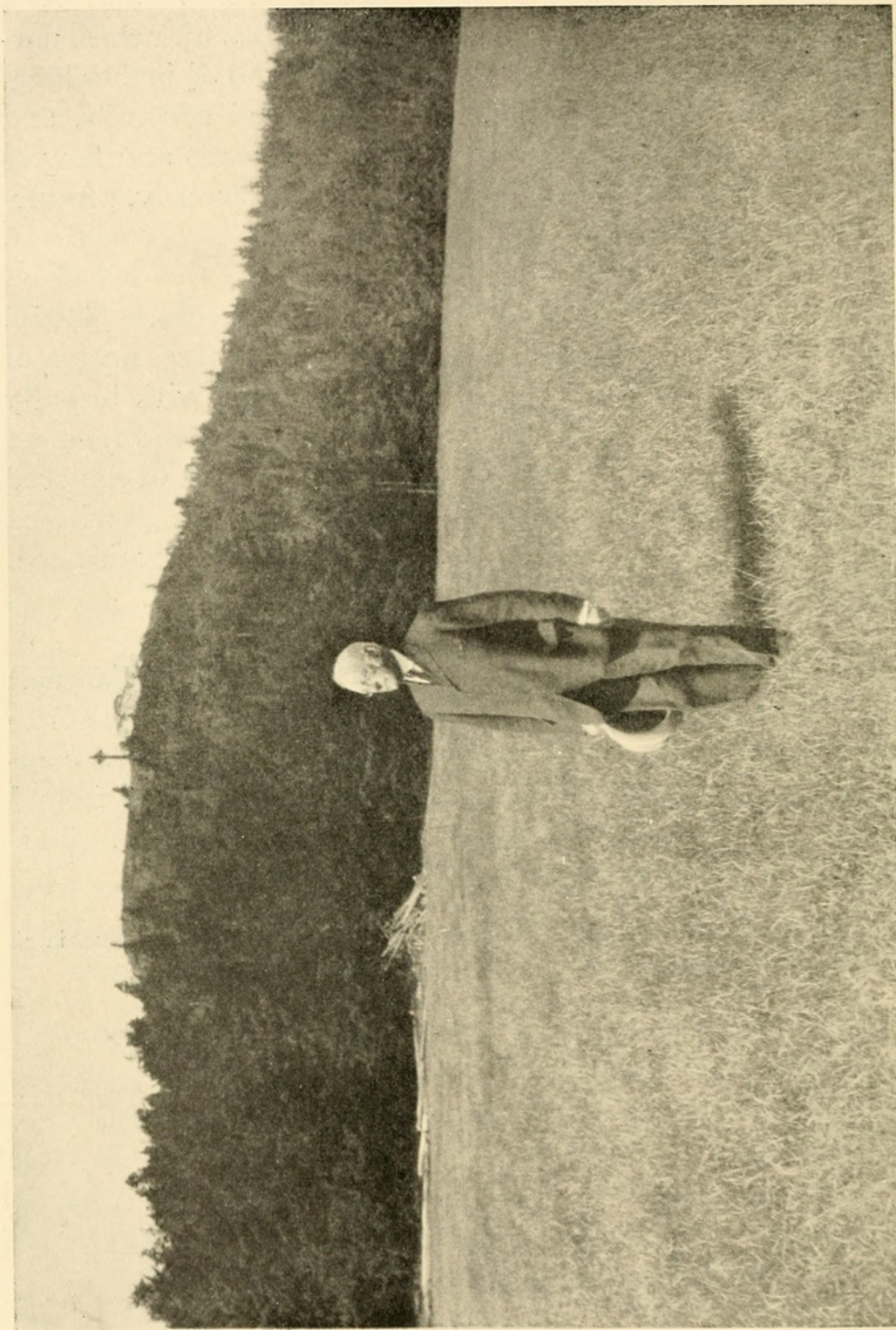
PYRUS SALICIFOLIA Pallas. (Malaceae.) 44053. Cuttings of *pear* from Jamaica Plain, Mass. Var. *pendula* Hort. A

very elegant tree, native of southeastern Europe and Asia Minor, from 15 to 25 feet high, with pendulous branches, narrow lance-shaped, finally shiny green leaves $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, pure white flowers, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch wide in dense small corymbs, and pear-shaped fruits 1 to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches long. The leaves and flowers of this very ornamental pear often open simultaneously, producing a charming effect.

PYRUS USSURIENSIS Maximowicz. (Malaceae.) 44056. Cuttings of *pear* from Jamaica Plain, Mass. A tree, native of Amur and Ussuri, Siberia, from 20 to 30 feet high, with broadly oval, sharply serrate, acuminate leaves, many-flowered racemes of white flowers, and roundish-oval, umbilicate, mild-flavored fruits over an inch in diameter, crowned by the persistent calyx. In autumn the foliage turns a shining brownish-red, making the tree very ornamental.

SORBUS POHUASHANENSIS (Hance) Hedlund. (Malaceae.) 43996. Seeds from Jamaica Plain, Mass. An evergreen shrub from northern China, with reddish-brown twigs, leaves composed of 6 to 7 pairs of elliptic or lance-elliptic leaflets from $\frac{3}{5}$ inches long, and red fruits about $\frac{1}{3}$ inch in diameter. This shrub is in cultivation at the Arnold Arboretum.

Do not fail to mention the number assigned by the Office and printed above, in all correspondence about these plants.



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PRESIDENT OF THE WILD GARDENS OF ACADIA
ON THE SITE OF THE FRENCH MISSIONARY COLONY



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