

3101 to 3150

Allison V. Armour Expedition of 1933

Begun Summit Panama Canal Zone

March 24, 1933

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3101

Martenesia caryotifolia

The Fish Tail Palm.

Although already a well known palm in South Florida the seed is hard to get and these should go to some nurseryman like Peacock or to the city nurseries in Miami or to Hendrys in Fort Meyers. Send to me and I will see that they get into good hands. D.F.

3102

Philodendron sp

A very pretty species with five parted leaves of a beautiful rather light green color.

Habit of

See Hub Spec. 2

growth is unusually charming. Grows in the forest at the base of trunks of trees.

Deserves to be propagated for use in the ~~tree~~-oak trees of the gardens of Florida where such plants are much appreciated & where they grow well. Summit Garden Canal Zone. 3.23.33

3103

Adansonia mersitts

Arrabidaea pachycalyx

Biguoniaceous vine with small flowers in clusters. It ranks as a very ornamental vine but I have never seen it in bloom. Presented by Mr. Higgins Superintendent of the Summit Experimental Gardens Canal Zone (Panama) 3.23.33

3104

Philodendron warszewiczii sp ?

Very large leaved aroid with much divided leaves making it resemble somewhat the *Monstera* but with no "holes" in its leaves. Grows wild in the rain forest of Panama area and is used by Mr. Higgins very effectively to beautify the bases of his shade trees at Summit Canal Zone. 3.24.33

Philodendron warszewiczii sp

Native of Panama region I understand and one of the spectacular aroids of this zone. Summit Ex. Station Panama Canal Zone. 3.23.33.

3105

Philodendron panamense or hoffmannii

Epiphytic species with cordate leaves very dark green in color. Handsome species for having on trees in Florida. From the Summit Ex. Garden Panama Canal Zone where Mr. Higgins grows it for ornamentals wild in the Zone. 3.23.33

Philodendron panamense or *hoffmannii* sp.

Panama Summit Gardens Canal Zone 3.23.33

3106

Lecythis elliptica

Seed from our S.P.I. 63427 Tree growing in the Summit Canal Zone Garden. This is the first fruit of this tree in Summit. A much smaller podded species. Pods are not over 3 1/2 inches in diameter & seeds are correspondingly small. Might prove better adapted to growth in Florida than the Sapucaia nut and deserves trial there. Rumor has it that a *Lecythis* has fruited in South Florida. Summit Gardens. 3.24.33

3107

Lecythis taylorana

A species ~~ea~~ with pod intermediate in size between the Sapucaia nut *L. zabucajo* and *L. elliptica* being about 6 inches in diameter. The tree however is a ~~be~~ much larger leaved tree and very handsome. It is one of the most striking trees now growing near the Administration building in Ancon. Dr. Pittier is said to have planted this tree from which this seed was collected many years ago when he was on the Zone. Try in South Florida. 9.23.33

3108

Coccothrinax argentea ?

Abundant about the town of Georgetown in Grand Cayman island. After the great hurricane of November '32 scarcely a single palm was uninjured seriously. An ideal palm for ~~households~~ dooryards in South Florida where what I consider is an inferior form of this palm grows native.

Coccothrinax argentea ?

GRAND Cayman Isl. near Georgetown. Abundant.
3.29.33.

3109

Coccothrinax or *Thrinax*

(No seed available so I can't say which.)

"Bull Rush" Palms of the inhabitants of Grand Cayman Island S. of Cuba. A very beautiful fan palm with very dark green leaves like *Thrinax wendlandiana*. Long petioles and a tendency for the base of leaflets to cross over at suture. Not useful for thatch because leaves too brittle. Not tough enough to make rope with. Ornamental however & able to stand long periods of drouth. 3.29.33

Bull Rush Palm of Grand Cayman Island (Georgetown). Probably a *Thrinax*. 3.29.33
D.F.

3110

Aegle marmelos

Bael Fruit

Round fruited variety which has more aroma and flavor than the pear shaped sort. Fruit from tree in Soledad Arboretum which was had a fair crop of fruits on it.

[Ernest Ricbe made a very delicious sherbet of this by beating the fruit flesh up in powdered sugar!!!]

These hard shelled fruits do not seem to color up very well here. They are greenish when ripe and spotted with blotches of sooty mold. However, I ate two of them and found them excellent. They have a new strange & ~~thie~~ very agreeable taste. Mr. Gray thinks this variety comes true to seed. I found very few seeds in it. The cavities containing the seeds are full of pectose like substance. Seed from which the tree in Soledad grew was sent by Westor from Manila in 1924. 4.2.33 Soledad Cuba.

3111

Aegle marmelos

Pear shaped variety. Mr. Gray thinks the round variety is superior in flavor and I presume he is right. Both sorts are said to come tree to seed. Only the round variety was ripe enough to test while I was in the arboretum. The pear shaped one may prove hardier however in South Florida. The tree is a slow grower having been planted in 1924 and being now only 4 inches or so in diameter at the base.

3112

Canavalia gladiata

Although this enormous podded species of bean with pods 14 inches long and 2 inches across seems to be occur spontaneous in waste places in the West Indies and although the peas when green are reputed to be excellent if sliced and used like string beans. I doubt if any Americans in South Florida has ever tasted it. Its ability to grow on sterile rocky limestone soil and bear abundant crops of beans ought to make it worthy of a careful try out by some amateur who will study it for years.

Soledad Garden Cienfuegos. 4.1.35

3113

Citrus decumana

Harvard No. 1 grapefruit. An extremely juicy very sweet medium sized grapefruit with fruit flesh super yellow color than any other grapefruit I have seen. Little rag. tender follicles. The color is almost that of an orange. Originated from nucellar tissue of a

cross between the orange & the grapefruit. No sign of being a hybrid but simple evidence of some disturbance which led to a ~~mutation~~ to nucellar bud mutation. Robert M. Grey originator Soledad Arboretum Cienfuegos Cuba. Presented by Mr. Grey to me. 4.2.33

3114

1 large plant and budwood young

Annona bullata

A native Cuban relative of the Sugar Apple which appears to be unusually well adapted to dry soils and deserves to be tried as a stock for the Cherimoya

(Presented by Robert M. Grey Soledad Arboretum 4.2.33)

& its hybrids with the sugar apple that are attracting some attention in South Florida. Its fruit I learned is not edible but may prove useful as hybridizing material. Its foliage seems closer to the sugar apple than the custard apple. I am very anxious to add this species to the *Annona* collection in Chapman Field & on my own place.

D.F.

3115

Undetermined palms from Barro Colorado forest. *Acrocomia*

I took this to be *A. sclerocarpa* when I first saw it but its orange colored fruits make it a distinct species that I cannot determine from Stauley's Flora of Panama.

Handsome, tall, slender spiny pinnate palm growing in the dense rain forest along the trails on Barro Colorado Island Panama Canal Zone. Handsome when its long pendant clusters of orange yellow fruits are ripe. Each fruit is covered with a thin fleshy fibrous juicy pulp of a sweetish taste. Fruits are 13/4 x 11/8 rugose and mucronate. Leaves were too high up to get. Trunk very spiny. Spine dark brown 3.23.33

3116

Aleurites pentaphyllus

A distinct species of this genus which I had never before seen. It is represented both in the Summit and Soledad gardens by fair sized trees. Soledad Cuba 4.2.33. Neither Mr. Higgins nor Mr. Grey seemed to know much about it. I think it has not yet fruited in either garden yet. In view of the possibilities of hybridization in these cuttings should be grown if possible for the Chapman Field gardens. The leaves have fine leaflets like an aralia but there are two (stacked) nectaries at the base of the leaflets just as in other *Aleurites*. Presented by Mr. Grey of Soledad Arboretum.

3117

Aristolochia argyreoneura

A very interesting species with strange unusual flowers shaped like this. (hand drawn flower) It has fetid odor of the genus but the small wind red flowers are biologically interesting. I would like a plant of this when propagated for my *Aristolochia* collection in Coconut Grove.

Presented by Robert M. Grey curator of the Harvard Arboretum Soledad Cienfuegos Cuba.

3118

Mammea americana

Although one of the handsomest of all the tropical fruit trees and one capable of being grown successfully in South Florida there are only a very few trees of this 3.25.33 species established there. I know of one in Coconut Grove that has fruited in years past. Its dark green leathery leaves make it very striking landscape tree. Its fruit has not been very thoroughly studied by Americans. Stewed it is said to be delicious. Send the seeds to Toni Fennell to establish on Chapman Field Panama Market Cienfuegos Cuba. 4.2.33

3119

Salix humboldtiana s. chileunsis

Cuttings from a tree in the Arboretum ~~garden~~ at Soledad Cuba that grew from material sent to Mr. Grey many years ago, I think from cuttings I collected in 1898 in Chile.

Stanley says this willow is the common willow of Central America and the only one native to the region except two in Guatemala. Graceful evergreen species of attractive appearance.

May already be in Florida but it is not at Chapman Field. Seed to Toni Fennell to grow. 4.2.33

3120

Casimiroa edulis

Bud wood of a seedling tree at the Soledad Arboretum Cienfuegos Cuba which bears unusually long ~~spe~~ almost pointed fruit that Mr. Grey says are of good quality with no suggestion of bitter about them.

The tree did not appear very happy in the situation it occupied in the garden. Rather too dry Grey thought I would like this bud wood for my collection of *Casimiroa* at Coconut Grove. 4.2.33

3121*Garcinia xanthochymus*

From fruit gathered off a tree at the Soledad Arboretum Cienfuegos Cuba which appears to bear extraordinary crops of fine flavored fruits which are sour but of a fine distinctive flavor and a gorgeous yellow color. Ernest Rube is making a sherbet from the fruits. It is a great pity that so remarkable a fruit as this cannot be utilized by man. Send to Toni Fennell or to me personally D.F. 4.1.33

3122*Cyrtosperma senegalense*

The giant aroid of Cameroon whose red & yellow & green spathes a foot long are born on square spiny stems eight feet high. Forms a large colony of striking appearance in ~~the~~ a shallow pond in the Solidad Arboretum . These plants came from seed sent by the West African Expedition of 1927. 75271 SPI. So striking does this plant appear that it deserves a trial in the fresh water canals of South Florida along with the other water plants that make them attractive. Mr. Grey had difficulty in growing seedlings in the greenhouse. Send to Toni Fennell to propagate. 4.2.33

3123

1 pot full of plants

Drymaria cordata

Small creeping annual which Mr. R.N. Grey called to my attention with the remark that it was a valuable cover plant for shady areas under the trees in the Solidad Harvard Arboretum. It is a native plant of the Caryophyllaceae might possibly become something of a nuisance in shady lawns so it should be watched for several years.

3124*Cactus harlowii*

Charming dwarf cactus resembling the Turks Head Cactus but much smaller x. When only five inches through the individual plants have a pink & white cap like a Turkish fez somewhat that is very pretty. This species would make a good pot plant for greenhouses and might stand much more watering than the forms from drier regions. Presented by R.M. Grey of Solidad Arboretum Cuba. 4.2.33

3125*Syngonium auritum*

Handsome climbing aroid for use on trellises and tree trunks in South Florida. Of loose growth & resembling *S. podophyllum* but more interesting with smaller foliage of a darker green color. Propagated easily from cuttings. Presented by Robert M. Grey of Harvard Arboretum Soledad Cuba. 4.2.33

3126*Annona reticulata*

An unusually large and attractive fruited custard apple of good quality which appears to be in Soledad Arboretum a good bearer.

4.2.33

Fruit smooth with reddish tinge and almost no bloom. Mr. Robert Grey says it came to him from Santo Domingo.

4.2.33

3127*Hohenbergia sp.*

A very large leaved striking species with leaves 2 feet or more long and 4 to 5 inches wide and bearing large ~~panicle~~ of fruit clusters of light green fruits. Found in the forest back of Georgetown Grand Cayman Island. 3.29.33 Suitable for use in large oak trees in Florida.

Hohenbergia sp.?

In ~~lare~~ small tree forest or brush at Grand Cayman Island back of Georgetown. 3.29.33

3128*Passiflora pedata*

A species which struck my fancy because of its particularly attractive foliage and the fact that its fruits were quite dark green when ripe. I did not see the flowers. Would be a grand arbor vine. For my collection of *Passifloras* in Coconut Grove. 4.2.33 D.F.

Soledad Arboretum Cuba. 4.2.33

3129*Espadaea amoena*

Remarkable *Solanaceae* ~~note~~ endemic to Cuba and a monotypic genus. A slow growing ~~spi tree~~ small tree with glossy foliage like an Ilex (hand drawn image) having spine pointed leaves. It bears small fruits of the most remarkable color I have ever seen among fruits. They are of an indescribable almost hypnotic luminous orange and a texture of the softest velvet. I could not keep my eyes off of these charming little fruits. Would be an ~~excellent~~ attractive dooryard shrub. Fruits not edible.

3130

Synadenium grantii

A Madagascar species of shrub that contains latex and that grows wild (but not a weed) on lowlands along the sea coast and on rock heaps. It is an *Euphorbiaceae* in the Soledad Arboretum when I saw it, it struck me as interesting enough to try on the low lands of East Florida. 4.2.33

3131

Stigmaphyllon sagraeanum

A pretty climbing vine with glossy green leaves and interesting regular flowers characteristic of the *Malpighiaceae*. The delicate lace like flowers are borne in scattered clusters and in this species are of a delicate lavender hue. In other species a deep yellow. I have long thought some interesting work at crossing of these *Stigmaphyllons* might be done. Harvard Bot. Gard. Soledad Cuba. 4.2.33.

3132

Trioptyris jamaicensis

A towering globulous vine with glossy foliage native to the Bahamas & W.I. It bears pretty little violet flowers that are very delicate & beautiful. (*Malpighiaceae*.) Will be very useful for covering walls and combining with other vines or trellises. A pretty dooryardvine.

From Robert M. Grey Harvard Botanical Garden Soledad (Cienfuegos Cuba) 4.2.33

3133

Portlandia grandiflora

Habit more like *P. platantha* This being only about 3 ½ feet high. A striking shrub reminding me of the nice *Solandra* somewhat with numbers of long funnel shaped flowers 4 inches long marked with purple red calyx stripes but with a very beautiful cream colored corolla. This shrub should be in the dooryard of the garden lovers in Florida & its hardiness should be thoroughly tested by a distributor from throughout the state. Soledad Harvard Botanic Gardens Cuba. 4.2.33

3134

Stigmaphyllon puberulum

Woody evergreen vine of *Malpighiaceae* with attractive flowers and good habit. Suited for walls and to cover rock piles etc. in yards in S. Florida.

Its dark green leaves & pretty flowers are a cheerful touch of green & color in the rather monotonous brush vegetation of the Bahamas and other islands of the West Indies. Soledad Arboretum 4.2.33.

3135

Solanum pierreanum

Low shrub with rather large leaves and when in fruit strikingly decorative because of its brilliant luminescent scarlet fruits the size of pullet's eggs.

Oval in shape with green calyx lobes. The color of their fruit is almost precisely lacquer red such as the Chinese are so fond of using. Ladies would decorate their houses with sprays of these fruits in late winter in Florida.

If in fruit at Christmas they would be used on Christmas trees. A most brilliant thing. Fruits edible but of poor quality. Soledad Arbortum 4.2.33

3136

Hybrid Citrus, "Fortuno Citrus"

Fortunella japonica X *Citrus decumana*

Robert M. Grey has several trees of this Hybrid so called. He informs us that he is not certain of its parentage but thinks that the trees are from seeds of this species cross. The fruits are small (1 ½ inch diameter) very bright orange and full of a rather pleasant aromatic juice. Heavy bearer. Leaves quite small. Possibly Mr. Robinson might want these seeds for his collection. I have a photo of the trees in fruit at the Harvard Gardens Soledad Cuba. 4.2.33

3137

Clerodendrum anafense

The color of the ripe fruits of this *Clerodendrum* are a brilliant blue and very striking & attractive. It should make a very acceptable shrub for dooryard gardens in south Florida. I believe Tom Fennell got seed last year. He may want more of them to grow. D.F.

3138

Kopsia fruticosa

Handsome white flowered shrub of the family Apocynaceae with large white flowers and that are followed by olive shaped purple fruits. *K. arborea* has done so particularly well at Chapman Field and has been so popular among visitors that perhaps this too will be appropriated although its fruits are not showy. Seeds to Tom Fennell to grow. Soledad Arboretum. 4.2.33

3139

Cochlospermum vitifolium

Seeds from a tree of this attractive species that Mr. Grey thinks is different from the smaller less tree like form which is so common in Panama as to be a weed. Its flowers are larger & of a darker yellow color. This species has bloomed well in Miami and it is

time the Oriental and African species were tried there too. A rapidly growing interesting small tree that flowers in January to April when leafless & is very attractive for a short period. Soledad Arboretum. 4.2.33

3140

Stigmaphyllon ledifolium

A pretty evergreen glossy leaved ? with ? of very pretty yellow flowers with characteristic ~~malastonic~~ *Malpighaiceae* shaped petals giving them a lace like effect. Used for safe pillars and trellises where a low growing definitely limited climber is required. Harvard Arboretum at Soledad Cuba. 4.2.33

3141

Lucuma serpentaria, H.B.K.

A native fruit tree of Cuba quite closely related to the *Canistel* (*L. nervosa*), but bearing smaller fruits (2 inches across and flattened to an oblate spheroid.) These are a bright yellow when ripe. Of a firmer texture than the *Canistel* and a good flavor much like the *Canistel*. Fruits ripen in March – April. Each fruit has a distinct areole band or ring around the blossom seed. The skin is as edible as the pulp but there is not so much to it as to the *Canistel*. The tree resembles the latter species and I should think the two species might cross *L. salicifolia* from Panama ought to be secured too for breeding purposes. Harvard Arboretum Soledad.
4.2.33

3142

Undetermined Fern

On the rocks in a very dry exposed situation on the island of Old Providence where it is exposed to the most intense sunlight I found a remarkable looking fern. It had formed a perfect network of creeping rhizomes fern which rose decorative leaves that were strikingly like the leaves of the *Ficus repens* (when old.) It was so decorative & evidently so resistant to drouth & sun that I could not help collecting it. Old Providence Isl. Columbia Dependency. (Caribbean) 3.13.33

3143

Manihot utilissima

Var. "Silver Leaf"

On the island of Grand Cayman this variety is preferred for cooking.

Note:

Could 2 sticks of this be sent to Ochse in Buitenzorg? Because of its unusually tender flesh that does not get hard in cooking. I find the varieties grow in Florida are pretty hard when cooked as a vegetable. I'd like one or so. Send to Chapman Field to propagate.

3.29.33

3144

Manihot utilissima

“White Sweet”

One of the standard varieties of Cassava on Grand Cayman Island when the soil & climate conditions are much like they are in Florida. 3.29.33

Note: Mr. Ochse of the Department of Agriculture in Buitenzorg Java might be sent two sticks of this variety of Cassava. He has begged us for W.I. variety of Cassava for some time. D.F.

3145

Manihot utilissima

“Tampa” a variety from Florida originally which on Grand Cayman Island is said to be a tremendous yielder but not of such tender quality as others. Sent in for a comparison.

3.29.33

Note: Two sticks of this Cassava might be sent to Mr. Ochse of the Dept. of Agriculture in Buitenzorg Java. He has begged us for W.I. Cassavas for years. D.F.

3146

Carica papaya

“Red fleshed variety from Panama. Medium size obovate in shape. Many of the papaya enthusiasts in Panama declare this type of papaya is the best of them all. So far as I know it has not been inbred and made as much of a variety as Higgins Solo which too varies a good deal but has the deep red, almost salmon color of its flesh and its superb quality make it worthy of the plant breeders attention. From market in Panama. May not come true to seed. March 29.1933.

3147

Carica papaya

Old Providence Island variety. This is a distinct strain, perhaps originated by isolation on the little island of Old Providence (Columbia’s dependence).

It attracted our attention from the fact that although dead ripe when cut the cut surfaces of the fruit exuded innumerable drops of papai? which is not usual with ripe papayas. Its texture was mealy. Its flavor very sweet and agreeable . If it contains papai? when ripe the theory was the ripe fruit has no papain effect on the later breakdown. 3.21.33

3148

Tillandsia sp?

This small epiphytic *Tillandsia* strikes me as very distinct from any we have in Florida and as being unusually attractive with its transverse markings. It may be a new form in culture & one particularly well suited to cultivation in South Florida. Gathered back of Georgetown in the dense bush of Grand Cayman Island. 3.29.33

3149

Aeranthus sp

Epiphytic orchid that forms strand like roots and covers the bark of trees with its interesting growth in the dry brush of Grand Cayman Island. Its flower is large (2 in.) and delicate white and fragrant in the evening. It may be new to orchid fanciers.

M. Robert Grey of Soledad the old orchid collector said he had not seen it before but that it was an *Acanthus*. 3.29.33

3150

Crinum ?

Quantities of these bulbs were growing in the deep sand back from the coast of Grand Cayman. They seemed different from the ordinary *Crinum* that occurs everywhere throughout the West Indies. So, on a chance that they may be a local island strain I am sending them along. 3.29.33