

for propagating this variety vegetatively.

The Haitian star-apple is being propagated by a Florida nursery, and grown as a dooryard tree both in Florida and in the Bahamas. The quality of the fruit, like that of other star-apples, tends to be best during or after a warm winter.

### Seedless Cuban Sugar-Apple

The Seedless Cuban sugar-apple was introduced from Cuba into Florida in 1955. Two years later, the first fruit developed. This was irregularly shaped, and thought to be slightly inferior in flavor to that of the common seeded varieties, probably due to the presence of abortive seeds, which looked like thin, minute pieces of bran flakes. In spite of this, the novelty of a seedless sugar-apple has had wide appeal. It has been propagated in Florida and sent to South and Central America, India, and the Far East.

The Seedless Cuban is not as productive as the seeded types, but is identical to them in most other respects. It is said to be resistant to the Chalcid fly which destroys many fruits by infesting the seeds.

### Seedless Indonesian Guava

The Seedless Indonesian guava was introduced into Florida from Java in 1954 as a grafted plant. The fruit that were produced by this tree the following year was yellow-skinned, white-fleshed, sweet, and of excellent flavor. When grown by itself, without cross-pollination from other guavas, a large percentage of the fruit tend to be completely seedless and frequently irregular in shape.

This variety is vigorous, and inclined to be more upright than spreading. Without cross-pollination, it is usually a shy bearer. The fruit are

large, up to tennis ball size, remaining firm when fully ripe, the major crop coming in mid-summer.

Seedless Indonesian may have possibilities for use in canning of guava shells. It is fairly widespread in the Far East, and in Florida has been propagated and redistributed to the same tropical countries as was the Cuban Seedless sugar-apple.

The above four varieties were first introduced by the author into Florida, and subsequently sent by him to tropical areas showing an interest in these improved clones. With Florida's acquisition of most of the common tropical fruits of the world nearing completion, more emphasis is now being placed on a search for improved varieties, a trend that will accelerate with each passing year. The potential in this area for variety improvement appears to be unlimited.



### Nuts for Pennsylvania

Test nut plantings were established at University Park, Penna., in 1950, by W. S. Clarke, Jr., of Pennsylvania State University. Chinese chestnuts in this test did not generally do well. Only one group of eight seedlings obtained from the Tennessee Valley Authority, showed any promise. It is hoped that seedlings from these trees will eventually provide selections adapted to the heavier more alkaline Pennsylvania soils.

A few black walnut varieties have performed well at University Park. These bloom late enough to escape spring frosts. According to Mr. Clarke, the variety Hare produced the best nuts in terms of size, percent of kernel, and ease of cracking. Thomas has also yielded sizable crops of good nuts. The variety Ten Eyck has produced well, but the nuts have been small. The nuts of Snyder did not fill well.