

TWIN NUTMEG SEEDS.

On a tree of the Nutmeg, *Myristica fragrans*, Linn., growing in the Botanic Gardens, Singapore,, one fruit in about a thousand has been found with two seeds. The seeds, each wrapped in its mace, had flattened each other so as to be completely scaphoid. They stood arising from the base of the ovary with their raphes opposed. It is not known if such a condition has been observed in the *Myristicaceae*; but for two seeds to stand similarly is normal in some genera of the allied order *Anonaceae*.

I. H. BURKILL.

DIOSCOREA ALATA, THE GREATER YAM, RACE No. 50.

On p. 131 of the last issue of this Bulletin it was stated that a particularly large tuber of the White Manila Yam, Gardens' No. 50, had been raised in Singapore by Mrs. W. E. Hooper. The opportunity is here taken of figuring it along with some other yams, the figure being the topmost of the three upon the accompanying plate. The tuber weighed 29 lbs. or 13.16 kilograms after being nine months in the ground.

The measure encircling the tuber is in inches.

I. H. BURKILL.

DIOSCOREA KEGELIANA, GRISEB., THE "YAM POULE" OF THE WEST INDIES.

Dioscorea kegeliana is a yam of only slight utility, found wild in the island of Trinidad and in British Guiana. Its tuber is a curious disc-like body at the end of a slender root, with a surface thickened in lozenges just as in the South African *Testudinaria*, so as to present the appearance of the shell of a tortoise. The opportunity is taken here of figuring it on account of its botanic interest.

It lies horizontally in the soil and produces abundant secondary roots from its surface. Its flesh is scarcely fit for human food, but in the West Indies is said to be fed to pigs.

I. H. BURKILL.