
Economic Plants Introduced by Walter Hill
between 1855 and 1872.

Walter Hill's Experimental Department:

It may not be out of place here, to give a list of some of the more important plants which the Garden has been the means of introducing to the Colony, and thus collect together information that is scattered through previous reports:-¹

PLANTS PRODUCING SUBSTANCES USED FOR FOOD:

Farinaceous Plants:

Oryza Sativa (Rice plant), *Andropogon Sorghum* (Guinea corn), *Setaria Italica* (Italian millet), *Fagopyrum esculentum* (Buckwheat).

Fleshy Fruits:

Sultana Raisin, Zante Currant, Smyrna Fig, black, brown, and green Ischia Figs, Black Mulberry, Aurantium (Sweet Orange), *Citrus Limonum* (Lemon), *Citrus Limetta* (Lime), *Citrus medica* (Citron), *Tamarindus Indica* (Tamarind), *Psidium [sic] pyrifera* (Pear Gauva), *Mangifera Indica* (Mango), including the Strawberry, Goa, Alphonse, and Bombay varieties, *Garcinia Mangostana*, (Mangosteen), *Persia gratissima* (Alligator Pear [avocado]), *Diospyros Kaki* (Chinese Date Plum), *Acheus Sapota* (Sopadella Plum), *Arduina edulis* (Natal Palm), *Anona Chermolia* (Chermoyer), *Anona reticulata* (Custard Apple), *Anona squamosa* (Sweep Sop), *Anona polustus* (Alligator Apple), *Artocarpua incisa* (Bread Fruit), *Artocarpus integrofolia* (jack fruit), *Durio Zebithenus* (Durian), *Carica Papaya* (Pawpaw), *Nephelium Litchi* (Litchi), *Nephelium Longan* (Longan), *Ceratonia siliqua* (Carob tree), *Musa Sapiantum* (Wise man's Banana), *Ananassa setiva* (Pine-apple), including the smooth-leaved Cayenne, Black Jamaica, Monserrat, Enville, Moscow Queen, Ripley Queen, and White Providence.

Nut-bearing plants:

Amongst these are *Bertholelia excelsa* (Brazil nut), *Lecythes Ollaria* (Sapucaua nut), *Pistacia Lentiscus* (Pistacio nut), *Juglans regia* (walnut), *Carya alba* (Hickory nut), *Carya olive formis* (Pecan nut), *Castanea vesca* (Spanish Chesnut [sic]), *Anacardium occidentale* (Cashew nut), *Corylus Avellana* (Hazel nut), *Corylus Colurna* (Jerusalem Filbert), *Blighia sapida* (Akee), *Arachia hypogaea* (ground nut)

Feculas or Starches:

Maranta arundinaceae (West Indian Arrowroot), *Canna edulis* (East India Arrowroot), *Manihot utilissima* (Brazilian Arrowroot), *Manihot Janipha* (Brazilian Tapicoa), *Tacca pinnetifida* (Tahiti Arrowroot), *Sagus Rumphii* (Sago).

¹ Hill, Walter. [Ann.Rpt.BBG, 28 Mar 1872], in *QLAV&P*, Vol.I, 1872, pp.1316-1317.

Spice-bearing Plants:

Cinnamomum Zeylanicum (Cinnamon), *Nectandra Puchury* (Sassafras nuts), *Myrestica Moschata* (Nutmeg), *Caryophyllus aromaticus* (Clove), *Agathophyllum aromaticum* (Clove Nutmeg of Madagascar), *Eugenia Pimenta* (Allspice), *Piprum nigrum* (Black pepper), *Zingiber officinalis* (Ginger), *Elettaria Cardamomum* (Cardamum), *Amomum Melagueta* (Malaquette Pepper), *Vanilla aromatica* (Vanilla).

Miscellaneous Food Plants:

Thea Bohea (Black Tea), *Thea viridis* (Green Tea), *Thea Assamica* (Assam Tea), *Ilex Paraguensis* (Paraguay Tea), *Theobroma Cacao* (Cocoa), *Erythroxylon Caca* (Caca), *Cappris spinosa* (Caper), *Humulus Lupulus* (Hop), *Coffea Arabica* (Coffee), *Saccharum officinarum* – 36 varieties – sugar-cane.

PLANTS THE PRODUCTS OF WHICH ARE USED IN ARTS AND MANUFACTURES:

Used for Textile Fabrics:

Musa textilis (Manilla hemp), *Crotalaria Juncea* (Bengal hemp), *Cannibis sativa* (India hemp), *Arenga saccharifera* (Ejou fibre), *Linum usiatissimum* (Flax), *Corchorus capsularis* (Jute), *Urtica nivea* (China grass), *Agava Americana* (Pite hemp), *Sanseveria Zeylonica* (Bowstring hemp), *Sanseveria cylindrica* (African hemp), *Paritium elatum* (Cuba bast), *Lagetta lintearia* (Lace bark), *Hibiscus cannabinius* (Sunnee), *Gossypium Barbadosensis* (Sea Island cotton), *Gossypium herbaceum* (New Orleans cotton), *Gossypium arboreum* (tree cotton), *Borassus flabelliformis* (Palmyra fibre), *Calatropis gigantes* (Yercum fibre).

Used in Dyeing:

Caesalpinia echinate (Peach wood), *Caesalpinia crista* (Brazil wood), *Caesalpinia Sapan* (Sapan wood), *Baphia nitida* (Cainwood), *Pterocarpus santalinus* (red sandal), *Maclura intoria* (Old fustic), *Rhus Cotinus* (Zante fustic), *Jacaranda ovalifolia* (Green ebony), *Rubia tinctorium* (madder root), *Curcuma longa* (Turmeric), *Quercus tinctoria* (Quercitron bark), *Caarthamus tinctorius* (Safflower), *Crocus sativus* (Saffron), *Bixa ovilliana* (Anatto), *Indigofera tinctoria* (Indigo), *Anchusa tinctoria* (Alkanet root), *Hebradendron cambogeoides* (Gamboge), *Lawsonia enermis* (Henna plant), *Opuntis cochinillafera* + cochineal insect

Used in Tanning:

Quercus pedunculata (oak bark), *Quercus suber* (cork-tree bark), *Acacia Catechu* (Babool bark), *Caesalpinia coriaria* (Divi Divi).

Gums used in Arts: *Acacia Arabica* (Gum Arabic), *Ferenia elephantum* (East India gum), *Starculio?* [obscure] *urens* (Kuteera gum), *Pistacia Lentiscus* (Gum Mastic), *Callitris qaudrivelsis* (Gum Juniper), *Siphonia elastic* (Gum elastic), *Isonandra Gutta* (Gutta percha).

Hill added a reminder at the end of this list that it covered only economic plants:

The foregoing list could be extended by the addition of hundreds of other useful and ornamental plants which this establishment has been the means of introducing into the Colony; but sufficient space has been occupied to give an idea of what has been done in this respect.²

It is suspected that an analysis of agricultural industries today in 2006 in Queensland would still not include this huge range of products.

PLANTS PRODUCING OIL, TALLOW AND WAX:

Oils:

Elais Guinensis (Palm oil), *Cocos nucifera* (Cocoa-nut oil), *Olea Europea* (Olive oil), *Amygdalus communis* (Almond oil), *Sesamum Orientale* (Teel seed), *Papava somniferum* (Poppy seed), *Lavendula spica* (Lavender), *Andropogon Schaenanthus* (Lemon grass), *Aleurites triloba* (Candle-nut of the Polynesians), *Parmentaria cerifera* (Candle-nut, Isthmus of Panama)

Vegetable Tallow and Wax:

Stillingia sibirum (vegetable Tallow), *Ceroxylon andicola* (Wax tree of the Andes of Columbia), *Corypha cerifera* (Wax of South America), *Myrica cerifera* (Myrtle Wax of North America)

MISCELLANEOUS PLANTS AND PRODUCTS:

Dipteryx odorata (Tonquin Bean), *Pagostemon patchouli* (Patchouli), *Phytelephis macrocarpa* (vegetable Ivory), *Areca catechu* (Areca nut), *Elais melanocca* (Wine Palm of Brazil), *Dracaena draco* (Dragon Blood-tree), *Jubaea spectabilis* (Chili Palm), *Chamaerops fortunea* (Fan Palm of Northern China), *Adansonia digitata* (Baobab), *Aralia paprifera* (Rice Paper), *Antiaris toxicaria* (Poison-tree of Java), *Salvadora Persica* (Mustard-tree of Scripture); Manilla, Havannah, Shiraz Tobaccos.

TREES VALUABLE FOR THEIR TIMBER:

Used for Building Purposes, Furniture, etc.:

Tectonia grandis (Teak), *Diospyros melanoxylon* (Black Ebony), *Dalbergia latifolia* (East Indian Ebony), *Santalum album* (Sandal Wood), *Sweetiana chloroxylon* (Satin Wood), *Sweetiana mahogoni* (Mahogany), *Oldfieldia Africana* (African Oak), *Quercus alba* (Quebec Oak), *Hymenaea Courbaril* (Locust Wood), *Gudiactum officinale* (Lagnum vitae), *Cedrela odorata* (Jamaican Cedar), *Hersteria coccinea* (Partridge Wood), *Guttarda speciosa* (Zebra Wood), *Jacaranda mimosaeifolia* (Brazilian Rosewood).

GRASSES:

Panicum jumentorum (Guinea Grass), *Panicum spectabile* (Angela Grass), *Bromus Schraderi* (Prairie Grass), *Stenatophrum camplanatum* (Buffalo Grass), *Sorghum saccharatum* (Sugar sorghum).

² Hill, Walter. [Ann.Rpt.BBG, 28 Mar 1872], in *QLAV&P*, Vol.I, 1872, p.1317

MEDICINAL PLANTS AND PRODUCTS:

Amongst these may be specified:

Cinchona calisaya (Yellow Bark), *C. succerubra* (Red Bark), *C. micrantha* (Grey Bark), *C. officinalis* (Crown Bark), *C. Pahudiana* (Java Bark). The foregoing yield Quinine. *Cephaelis ipecacuantha* (Ipecacuantha), *Oeglea marmelos* (Bael or Bela of India), *Exogonium purgans* (Julap), *Croton tiglium* (Croton Oil), *Jatropha curcus* (Physic Nut), *Quassia amara* (Bitter Bark), *Kaempferia galanga* (Galangale), *Jateorrhiza palmata* (Columa Root), *Cassia elongata* (Tinnevelly Senna), *Cassia obovata* (Aleppo Senna), *Glycyrrhiza glabra* (Liquorice Root), *Strychnus Nux-vomica* (Nux-vomica), *Rheum undulatum* (Turkey Rhubarb), *Colchicum autumnale* (Meadow Saffron).



'Scholar's Banyan' (tree #0327)
Ficus benghalensis, near QUT border
with the Gardens (December 2004).

EXTRACTED FROM incomplete and unpublished manuscript...

Cultivating Queensland in the Old Brisbane Botanic Gardens, from the Dreamtime to the 1880s

*Old Brisbane Botanic Gardens
History Series*

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