ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THE INTRODUCTION OF MILO INTO THE UNITED STATES

Since the publication of the early history and of the evolution of milo in the United States, additional information has come to light concerning the introduction of the crop and how it derived its name. The late B. G. Pratt, who for many years was engaged in the manufacture of insecticides at Hackensack, N. J., and who recently died at the age of 85 has furnished the writers of this article with the following information.

The father of B. G. Pratt, the Rev. H. B. Pratt, a graduate of Princeton Seminary, went to Barranquilla, Colombia, as a missionary in 1869. The Rev. Pratt was interested in plant life and became acquainted with the numerous sorghum varieties being grown in his vicinity under the name of "Maiz Millo". There is no available information concerning the introduction of Maiz Millo into Colombia. Upon returning to the United States about 1879, he brought seed of one variety of sorghum and planted it in his garden at Winnsboro, S. C., where he was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. As a Christmas present he wrote an advertisement for the Winnsboro News and Herald on "Millo Maize" and gave it to his 18-year-old son, B. G. Pratt, along with 45 pounds of seed. The seed was sold at 25 cents for 2 ounces. In 1881, B. G. Pratt rented a small piece of land to grow a seed crop and in 1882 applied for a patent on the name "Millo maize" which was granted by the Patent Office but was later revoked apparently at the instigation of J. H. Alexander, a seedsman, of Atlanta, Ga. Alexander claimed that the Millo Maize introduced by Rev. H. B. Pratt and Rural Branching Sorghum were identical varieties.

In the years immediately following the introduction of "Millo maize" by Rev. H. B. Pratt, B. G. Pratt purchased all of the "Millo maize" he could and sold it through an Atlanta, Ga., office operated by an uncle Charles Pratt. By 1885 or 1886, however, the identity of the original introduction was lost since seedsmen had been selling seed as Rural Branching Sorghum or Millo Maize, and B. G. Pratt went out of the seed business.

Apparently there can be no question but what the name "Millo maize" was originated by Rev. H. B. Pratt who anglicised the Spanish name "Maiz Millo" which means corn millet. There is, however, some question whether or not the variety brought into the United States from South America was a new variety or was actually identical to Rural Branching Sorghum. The original introduction of Rev. H. B. Pratt was a yellow variety. Within a year or two after the sale of the first "Millo Maize", Rev. H. B. Pratt sent to the same

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