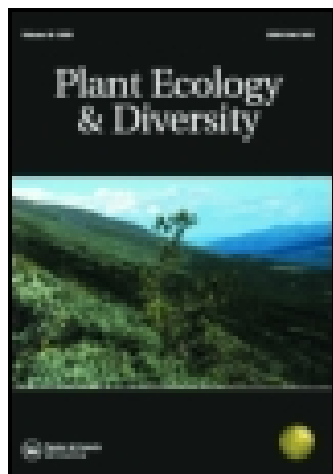


This article was downloaded by: [New York University]

On: 14 December 2014, At: 20:30

Publisher: Taylor & Francis

Informa Ltd Registered in England and Wales Registered Number:  
1072954 Registered office: Mortimer House, 37-41 Mortimer Street,  
London W1T 3JH, UK



## Transactions of the Botanical Society of Edinburgh

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/tped18>

### II. On the Species of Dioscorea (yams) occurring in South India

Dr Cleghorn

Published online: 01 Dec 2010.

To cite this article: Dr Cleghorn (1863) II. On the Species of Dioscorea (yams) occurring in South India, Transactions of the Botanical Society of Edinburgh, 7:1-4, 152-152, DOI: [10.1080/03746606309467810](https://doi.org/10.1080/03746606309467810)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03746606309467810>

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN FOR ARTICLE

Taylor & Francis makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of all the information (the "Content") contained in the publications on our platform. However, Taylor & Francis, our agents, and our licensors make no representations or warranties whatsoever as to the accuracy, completeness, or suitability for any purpose of the Content. Any opinions and views expressed in this publication are the opinions and views of the authors, and are not the views of or endorsed by Taylor & Francis. The accuracy of the Content should not be relied upon and should be independently verified with primary sources of information. Taylor and Francis shall not be liable for any losses, actions, claims, proceedings, demands, costs, expenses, damages, and other liabilities whatsoever or howsoever caused arising directly or indirectly in connection with, in relation to or arising out of the use of the Content.

This article may be used for research, teaching, and private study purposes. Any substantial or systematic reproduction, redistribution, reselling, loan, sub-licensing, systematic supply, or distribution in any form to anyone is expressly forbidden. Terms & Conditions of access and use can be found at <http://www.tandfonline.com/page/terms-and-conditions>

II. *On the Species of Dioscorea (yams) occurring in South India.* By  
Dr CLEGHORN.

The author adverted to the great importance of these tropical esculents, which are of such value in eastern countries, particularly in seasons of famine like the present, when the rice crops have failed and the suffering population resort to the forests in quest of yams and other indigenous roots. The *Araceæ* and *Dioscoreaceæ* yield starchy tubers, which are much more wholesome than the *cucurbitaceous* fruits so extensively used by the natives. The former contain a large amount of nutriment, and when roasted or steeped in cold water are deprived of their acidity; but the latter are a fruitful source of diarrhoea and mischief. A good conspectus of the genus is still a desideratum. The best description of the Asiatic species was given forty years ago by Roxburgh, who cultivated seventeen species in the Botanic Garden, Calcutta, the roots having been transmitted to him from different districts of Bengal. Of these, thirteen species are now recognised in the public gardens. The student will find representations of these in Wight's "Icones," and in Rheede's "Hortus Malabaricus." The growth of some of the yam tribe is very remarkable. A tuber of *Dioscorea alata*, 1 lb. in weight, was planted at Madras in June, and lifted at the end of nine months, when the weight was found to be 27½ lbs. The best known and most esteemed kinds are *D. aculeata*, "Goa potato;" *D. Batatas*, "Chinese yam;" *D. purpurea*, "Pondicherry potato;" and *D. fasciculata*, "Tenasserim yam." Besides these, *D. globosa* and *D. alata*, with *Arum campanulatum*, are much cultivated; whilst *D. bulbifera*, *pentaphylla*, and *oppositifolia* are common species in the jungles.

III. *Effects of the late Winter on the Coniferae and other Trees and Shrubs at Belstane.* By Mr P. S. ROBERTSON.

This communication will be found at Page 97 of the present Volume of Transactions.

IV. *Notes, by Mr WM. GORRIE, as to the Effects of the late Frost on the Plants at Borthwick Hall, the seat of Charles Lawson, Esq.* (See Page 106).

T. C. Archer, Esq., sent for exhibition sections of the stems of *Bignonia* and *Heteropterys anomala*. Mr Gorrie exhibited a cone of *Pinus Mantchurica*, an edible seeded pine from the province of Mantchooria, on the Amoor River, Eastern Siberia.