

MAINLY HORTICULTURAL

Mr. R.O. Gross has sent me recently an account of his experiences with that attractive tropical fruit the Avocado Pear. In case members are interested I print extracts from his letter.

"About ten years ago seeds from an avocado pear were planted in a flower border and forgotten. They germinated but unfortunately they were planted just a few inches apart, so now they look like a three-stemmed tree - they have grown to a height of probably twenty feet. Two years ago, one tree was covered with bloom, but not a single fruit set. Last year the same tree bloomed and a weak spray of Fruitone was used. Whether or not as a result, the tree has about a dozen healthy pears developing. Although the trees were well sheltered, they were overcrowded and grown in poor scoria soil. It seems likely then that under good conditions the avocado might do well in Auckland."

Have any of our members had success in growing this tree?

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INFORMATION REQUESTED

A member wishes to know where the following shrubs may be found growing in the Auckland suburbs:

The Eucryphias;
Berberidops corallina;
Lapageria rosea;
Philesia buxifolia;
Rubus deliciosus;
Tricuspidaria lanceolata;
Templetonia retusa.

Would any member having relevant information please notify the editor?

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NEWS OF MEMBERS

We are very sorry indeed to hear of the illness of our enthusiastic committee member, Mr. Tomlinson. We offer him our sympathy and our best wishes for a speedy recovery.