

The Vanderpool Apple

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The Vanderpool apple is a long-keeping, red, medium to large variety with fine flavor. It is hardy, resistant to disease, and very prolific. Specimens were shown in good condition at the Oregon State Fair (year isn't known), one year after it was picked.

The Oregon Nursery Company states in its 1913 catalog that the Vanderpool Red originated in Benton County, Oregon. This same nursery shows a full color plate of this variety in its 1903 color plate book.

In the Proceedings of the Oregon State Horticultural Society for November, Dec., 1910, it is noted that first prize for the best box of Vanderpool Red apples went to H. O. Rumbaugh, of Albany, Oregon.

At the 1909 Fruit Fair (location unknown), premiums were offered by the Oregon State Horticultural Society, and plate No. 59 was the Vanderpool Red apple. It is of interest that exhibit No. 32 was the Delicious apple. It is possible that both Delicious and Vanderpool Red were introduced in the same year.

The introducer of Vanderpool Red, the Oregon Nursery Company, then of Salem, had its beginning in this city in the year 1867. It was situated on the present grounds of Willamette University. This nursery moved to Tualatin Plains in about 1906, and then to its present site in Orenco, Oregon.

In 1913, the Oregon Nursery Company stated: "The Vanderpool Red possesses more superior and essential qualities of a high class commercial

apple than does any other variety." They are as follows:

Tree: A strong, thrifty grower. The wood fiber is tough and will not break or split under a heavy crop. Both the tree and fruit are decidedly resistant to fungus diseases. The fruit is carried close-in on the main limbs, thus lessening the tendency to lose fruit by wind-fall. It is practically a sure, annual bearer of heavy crops. The tree commences to bear early in life. Bears heavily, like Ben Davis.

Fruit: develops desirable commercial size. Has a pleasing attractive color, a brighter red than Spitzemberg. Attains its color early, and equally well at different elevations — at 240 ft. above sea level at Albany, Ore., and at 1518 ft. at Ellensburg, Wash. Fruit is round, symmetrical, inclined to be conic. Shape is uniform. Stem is medium. Skin is tough, waxy, with a predominately medium-bright red blush. Cavity is acute, and medium in depth. Basin is shallow, moderately narrow, slightly ribbed at times. Calyx is small to medium, closed to open. Calyx tube is not large, and slightly cone-shaped; stamens are below medium. Core is medium to small; cells medium, symmetrical, narrow; carpels medium to somewhat large, round to heart-shaped; seeds dark brown, small, usually two to a carpel. Flesh is mostly white with a greenish cast, firm, moderately fine, crisp, juicy, aromatic, mild-subacid mingled with some sweetness. Very good to best. Season is November to May; usually in prime condition for the December holidays.

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