clear yellow, obovate-pyriform and medium-sized. It is of very good quality, sweet, buttery, and juicy and has an aromatic, rich flavor. The chief defect of Thompson's is the tendency, in some years, to develop granular areas around the core and a slight astringency in the flesh. It matures in the first week of October. Thompson's is superb when well grown.

'Winter Nelis' fruits are medium to below in size, short obovate-pyriform, yellow-green with russet and not particularly attractive. The flesh is buttery, very juicy, melting with a sweet, aromatic flavor. Winter Nelis is very productive, but excess crops result in small-sized fruit and lowered quality. It fruits well as a standard, but the crooked, zig-zag growth is a problem for the gardener. It is less prone to blight than Bartlett. Winter Nelis is perhaps the best winter pear available.

Other varieties: Several other sorts possess sufficiently favorable attributes to deserve inclusion in a larger collection of dessert varieties. **'Beurre Bosc'** is an elongate-pyriform, russet, late fall variety that can be quite good. It is very susceptible to internal breakdown around the core if harvest is delayed too long past maturity. **'Beurre Dumont'** is a large, high quality winter or late fall variety that has a tendency to bear erratically. **'Beierschmitt'**, in season with Bartlett, is rather similar, but less perfumed in flavor and less susceptible to blight. **'Belle Lucrative'**, an old high quality fall variety, can be quite good, but tends to run somewhat small in size. **'Eldorado'**, a new variety from the West coast, is large, and quite good, although at times erratic in quality. It has not been sufficiently tested for the Midwest. **'Sirrine'**, a recent variety from New York, has high quality, is very sweet and deserves wide trial. **'Thornley'**, a little known West coast variety, has high quality, but is somewhat small. Two unnamed Geneva Station seedlings made available through the New York State Fruit Testing Association may be of interest: **'New York 2480'**, from a Beurre Giffard X Bartlett cross, is a very refreshing, smooth-textured, early pear with an unusually long ripening period; **'New York 10274'**, from a Bartlett X Doyenne du Comice cross, is a high quality fall variety that is productive and large. **'Magness'**, a Seckel seedling X Doyenne du Comice cross from the United States Department of Agriculture pear breeding program at Beltsville, has high quality and is the only pear on the list with a reasonably good resistance to fire blight. Magness is pollen sterile and requires a pollinator variety.

North American Apples: Varieties, Rootstocks, Outlook. 1970. W. H. Upshall, Editor. Michigan State University Press. 197 pages. $8.50.

The American Pomological Society is proud to announce the availability of this fine book which it is sponsoring.

In a chapter entitled, Varieties of Yesteryear, A. P. French gives us a brief history and description of a number of old North American apple varieties which have either fallen by the wayside or are no longer important.

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Each chapter reflects considerable, careful research on the part of each of the authors, Virginia Mas (the free lance writer), R. P. Larsen, W. H. Upshall, J. B. Mowry, and E. S. Degman. Many fascinating episodes connected with the origin of each of the varieties, are revealed. Valuable lists of strains and new varieties bred from the original major varieties are tabulated by most of the authors.

The chapter on rootstocks by R. F. Carlson is a very important part of this book, since the performance of the scion variety is so strongly affected by the nature of the rootstock.

"North American Apples" is concluded very appropriately and effectively with a chapter entitled "Apple Orchards of Tomorrow," by H. A. Rollins.

This book is a "must" for the apple grower—commercial, amateur, teacher and student. Order it soon, directly from Michigan State University Press, Box 550, East Lansing, Mich. 48823.

—G. M. Kessler

Shuksan, a New Winter Hardy Strawberry for the Pacific Northwest*

B. H. BARRITT, C. D. SCHWARTZE AND R. A. NORTON**

Shuksan, a new strawberry cultivar, is being introduced by Washington State University because it has shown exceptional winter hardiness in northwestern Washington, where the standard cultivar, Northwest, frequently suffers severe mid-winter cold damage. Shuksan fruit has received high ratings for freezing and preserves, and is adapted to fresh fruit marketing. In field trials, it has shown a low incidence of fruit rot, resistance to red stele, high tolerance to common viruses, good berry size and high productivity. It is suggested for trial throughout the Pacific Northwest and wherever these characteristics may be of interest.

Shuksan, formerly WSU 1239, was a seedling from the cross WSU 685 X Columbia made by C. D. Schwartze in 1962. It was selected by him in 1965 for further evaluation. Prior to field planting the cross was screened for resistance to red stele, *Phytophthora fragariae*, in the standard greenhouse bench test, using a mixture of red stele infested field soils. All highly resistant survivors of this test, including Shuksan, were propagated in a screenhouse to produce virus free plants for field planting and future propagation.

Greenhouse bench tests with selected red stele soils (unpublished) indicate that Shuksan is resistant to red stele races A-1 and A-3. Its reaction to other red stele races has not been determined.

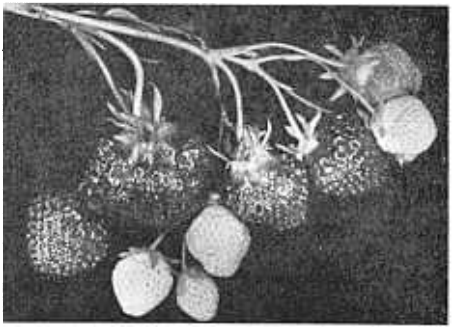

Fig. 1. Fruit cluster of Shuksan.

*Scientific paper no. 3543, College of Agriculture, Washington State University, Projects 0038 and 1742.

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