

APPLE VARIETIES FOR THE WESTERN SLOPE

By Ferris M. Green, 1946

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Forty varieties of apples are described of which the following 16 are recommended for commercial planting: Crimson Beauty, Early McIntosh, Milton, Macoun, Blackjon, Jon-a-Red, Starking, Shotwell Delicious, Richared, Golden Delicious, Blackwine, Gallia Beauty, Ruby Rome, Black Rome Beauty, Turley, and Seando Winesap. Brief descriptions are given concerning the characteristics of the fruit, tree growth, ripening date, storage quality, and adaptability for use for culinary or dessert purposes.

The author indicates that new varieties are needed because the old ones have developed certain weaknesses, either in the orchard or of the fruit in storage. The grower should plant varieties which produce large crops of fruit which are of improved eating, shipping, and canning quality.

Development of New Varieties

New varieties are developed from planned breeding projects, from mutations (sports), and from chance seedlings. The qualities desired in new fruit are (1) hardness to cold, (2) good size and color of fruit, (3) freedom from dropping of fruit, and (4) disease resistance, especially to fire blight.

The red sports are preferred to their parent varieties. — W.P.J.

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