

Reviews and Abstracts

Muscadine Grapes for Profit. By C. D. Spivey. 1970. Univ. of Georgia Bul. 687.

The muscadine grape (*Vitis rotundifolia*) is native to southeastern U. S. Breeders have developed this species into a very useful crop for the south-east. Fourteen varieties are recommended and described in this bulletin, as are the cultural practices required to grow the muscadine successfully.

Spivey suggests that the vine be trained as a trunk with two lateral arms on a one-wire trellis. All of the current canes of the bearing vine should be cut back in the winter to two buds.

All varieties of muscadine grapes ripen in September in Georgia. There are opportunities for marketing the fruit profitably through pick-your-own, roadside stands, local stores, and processors.—G. M. Kessler

Apple Cultivars. By Roger D. Way. 1971. Search Agriculture 1(2).

It is significant that the second issue of "Search Agriculture," a new publication of the New York Agr. Exp. Station, replacing its former bulletin series, should deal with apple cultivars. It deals mainly with the 52 apple cultivars introduced by the New York Station since the apple breeding program was initiated at Geneva in 1887.

Each cultivar is described in detail as to origin, tree, blossom, fruit and commercial usefulness, and the fruit illustrated in black-and-white. A group of useful tables are included. One shows the tree numbers of all apple cultivars planted commercially

in New York from 1963 to 1965. Another lists the Geneva introductions in order of year introduced, and shows the years in which trees of each cultivar were sold by the New York Fruit Testing Association, and the number of years in which trees of each cultivar were sold through 1968. It is interesting that Cortland, Lodi, Early McIntosh and Macoun, all introduced by the New York Station in 1924 or earlier, were still being sold in 1968.

The ploidy of the Geneva introductions are listed in another table. Their tree, fruit and fruit storage characteristics are also summarized in table form.

Breeders and cultivar testers will find "Apple Cultivars" very useful. Teachers, students and fruit growers will also find it a valuable reference.

—G. M. Kessler

Blackberries, Currants and Gooseberries. By D. K. Ourecky. 1969. Cornell Univ. Ext. Bul. 1216.

This can be a useful little bulletin for those Northeast interested in the minor small fruits, which usually get so little attention from professional horticulturists.

Cultural practices for blackberry, gooseberry and currants are briefly described. The blackberry variety, Darrow, is recommended as a hardy, productive, erect plant with large, high quality fruit.

Stephens #9 has proved better than the old reliable Red Lake currant in some areas; while White Imperial is described as the best white currant. The Poorman gooseberry is recommended highly, but, unhappily, is not readily available.—G. M. Kessler