

'Skaha' Apricot

K. O. LAPINS¹

'Skaha' is an early ripening, attractive, large apricot for fresh market use.

Origin. 'Skaha' originated from 'Perfection,' open pollinated. The seedling was planted in orchards in 1948 and the first fruit produced in 1952. It was selected in 1955 under the selection number 4E-28-14 and named in 1973.

Tree. The tree of 'Skaha' is very vigorous and spreading. The tree is moderately hardy, being superior to 'Blenheim' and 'Tilton' in this respect. The fruit buds are hardier in winter than those of 'Blenheim' and 'Perfection,' but more tender than 'Tilton' buds. 'Skaha' is self-sterile, but can be expected to interpollinize with other apricot cultivars. 'Skaha' comes into bearing early and carries annual heavy

crops. The cultivar is as productive as 'Wenatchee' or even more so.

Fruit. The fruit of 'Skaha' is large to very large, round, orange with a light blush, attractive (Figure 1). The fruit of 'Skaha' resembles that of its parent 'Perfection,' but is usually larger and of better quality. The flesh is moderately firm, fair to good in flavor. The pit is free from flesh. 'Skaha' is picked in the last week of July at Summerland or about 5 days before 'Wenatchee.' For a good fresh fruit quality, 'Skaha' should not be picked before all the green has disappeared from the skin. It can be harvested in two pickings. 'Skaha' is mainly a fresh fruit apricot but could also be used for home canning and jam.

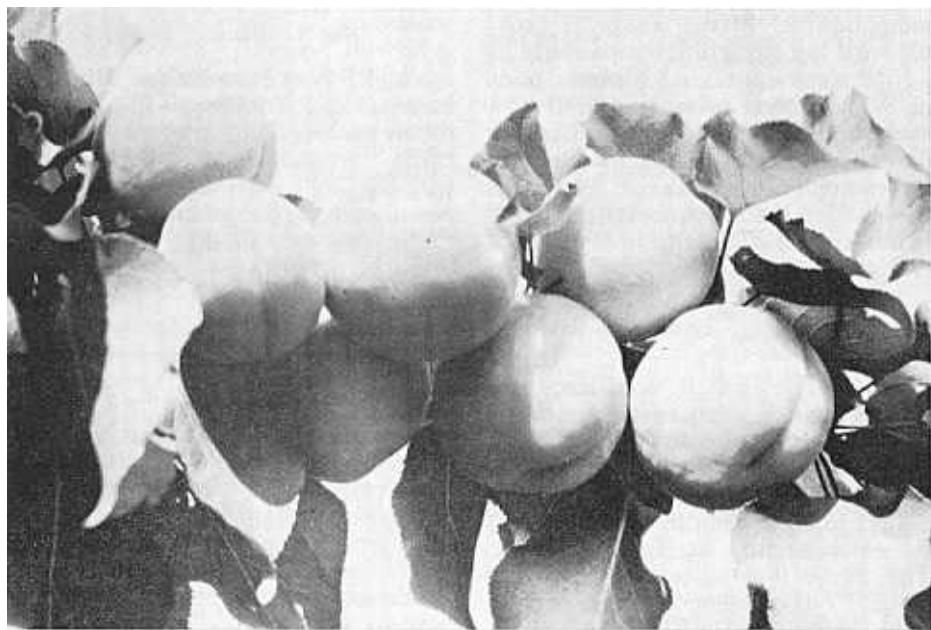


Fig. 1. 'Skaha'

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Commercial Possibilities. The large, attractive fruit and productivity are the main attributes of the new cultivar. It is a fresh fruit apricot specifically suited for local sales. For more distant markets 'Skaha' would be picked too early for the best flavor. The orange skin color that develops before fruit is picking ripe may deceive an

inexperienced grower and harm the cultivar. When picked at the right maturity, 'Skaha' is superior to 'Wenatchee,' the present fresh fruit cultivar in British Columbia.

Virus free propagation material is available from the Summerland Station.

'Summit' Sweet Cherry

K. O. LAPINS¹

'Summit' is noted for its very large fruit of good flavor and fair resistance to cracking in rain.

Origin. 'Summit' originated from the cross 'Van' x 'Sam,' made in 1957. It was selected in 1964, tested as 4c-18-21 and named in 1973.

Tree. The tree of 'Summit' is vigorous and spreading. It is comparable to 'Bing' in hardiness to low winter temperatures. In the winter of 1964-65, with the minimum temperature of -15°F, fruit spurs and blossom buds of 'Summit' were severely injured. The leaves are large and growing tips are light brownish red; leaf petioles are pubescent. 'Summit' comes into bearing earlier than 'Lambert' or 'Sam.' It produces moderate to heavy annual crops.

Pollination Status. 'Summit' is interfertile with 'Bing,' 'Lambert,' 'Van' and 'Salmo.'

Fruit. The fruit is very large, up to 13 grams, in comparison to a large 'Lambert' fruit of 8 to 9 grams. The fruit is heart-shaped, 'Lambert' type, dark red (Figure 1). The flesh is lighter in color than in 'Lambert' and is nearly as firm as 'Lambert' fruit. The flavor is mild, sweet and very good. Fruit cracking in rain is usually light, lower than in 'Lambert.' 'Summit' matures in the first or second

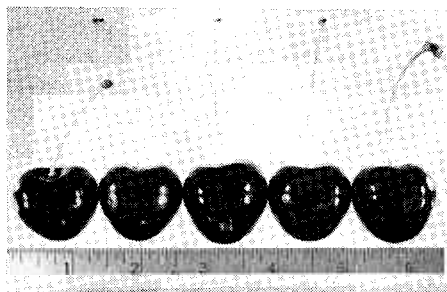


Fig. 1. 'Summit' Cherry.

week of July at Summerland, or 4 days before 'Van.' Fruit keeps in good condition on tree long after picking maturity. 'Summit' is a fresh fruit cultivar; the light flesh color prevents its use in commercial canning.

Commercial Potential. 'Summit' has promise in favorable growing areas as a cultivar producing consistently very large fruit that is fairly resistant to cracking. The evidence of lack in cold hardiness of the cultivar is inadequate, since in the latest test — winter 1964-65, only the original seedling tree was available for observation. The fruit may not be acceptable for commercial canning because of the light flesh color, but considering the large size of fruit its use in canning would not be considered.

Virus free propagation material is available at the Summerland Station.

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