

REVIEWS and ABSTRACTS



STRAWBERRY CULTURE AND VARIETIES

G. F. Gray,

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Here is a fine bulletin which contains a truly critical evaluation of varieties. Most bulletins which discuss the culture of fruit crops include a section on varieties. Too frequently however such material is merely a routine discussion of good and bad point assembled in paragraph form. Not so the appraisal by Gray! He includes some general descriptions of the important varieties but in addition assembles data to show the relative merit of some 83 varieties. This material is presented in two tables. One table evaluates 83 strawberries as to their possibilities for home or commercial planting whereas the second presents data on the yield, berry size, fruit quality and fruit texture of 32 varieties.

Variety Information Summarized

The information on 24 of the more common and important varieties is sum-

marized in the following table. To maintain uniformity in the method of publishing information in "Fruit Varieties" we have used the numerical evaluation described in the Spring 1946 issue. In this rating, 1 indicates excellent or a first place rating, 2 means good, 3 is average or medium, 4 indicates fair and 5 means poor. On the basis of value for planting, a rating of 1 indicates the most valuable varieties. Varieties with a rating of 2 are suggested for limited planting. Those with a 3 rating should be planted only to satisfy special local demand, while 4 indicates questionable value and 5 usually justifies complete discarding.

Blakemore is First Choice

In his evaluation, Gray rates Blakemore in first place for both home and commercial planting. Konvoy certainly merits the second place rating which it has received. Aroma might appear to have been given a higher rating than it deserves on the basis of yield, but Gray points out that it is a dependable late sort.

Although high yields are important

in the rating of these strawberry varieties, the fruit characteristics also influence the final placing. Jewell, Flame, and Cooper are productive sorts but the softness of their berries drops them into the group of varieties which are recommended for discard.

The material on varieties covers nearly 8 pages of this 28 page bulletin.

Other Features of Bulletin

Information on site, soil, planting, training systems, irrigation, mulching, harvesting, renewal after harvest, and diseases and insects are also included in this publication. This bulletin contains valuable information on strawberry culture for growers located in Oklahoma or nearby regions.

—W.P.J.

Evaluation of Strawberry Varieties in Oklahoma

VARIETY	Recommendation		Yield, Crates Per Acre (1)	Yield Evaluation	Fruit Quality	Character Texture (2)
	Home Use	Commercial Use				
Blakemore	1	1	130	1	2	1
Konvoy	2	2	118	2	2	3
Aroma	2	2	41	4	3	3
Ambrosia	2	3	91	2	3	3
Midland	3	3	79	3	2	3
Ranger	2	3	69	3	2	3
Catskill	3	3	76	3	2	3
Tenn. Supreme	3	3	74	3	3	3
Chesapeake	3	3	53	4	2	3
Maytime	2	3	50	4	2	3
Jewell	5	5	108	2	3	5
Flame	5	5	100	2	2	5
Cooper	5	5	91	2	3	5
Dresden	5	5	84	3	2	5
Ex. Late Giant	5	5	67	3	3	5
Cresco	5	5	59	4	2	5
Massey	5	5	58	4	2	5
Virgina	5	5	56	4	3	5
Tenn. Shipper	5	3	43	4	4	1
Starbright	5	5	38	4		3
Tenn. Beauty	3	5	34	5	4	3
Pathfinder	5	5	30	5	2	5
Fairmore	3	5	29	5		3
Daybreak	5	5	21	5	2	3

(1) Average yields for 1943 and 1944.

(2) Number 1 indicates firm, 3 medium, and 5 soft.