

ing on dwarfing rootstock for stone fruits. He is working on a genetic dwarf pear and an additional Asian pear (pear-apple) to add to his present two Asian pear varieties. Zaiger's semi-dwarf, self-fertile almond is also remarkable.

John Wynne said at the presentation ceremonies that "in spite of the wonders already created by Zaiger, we have seen only the 'tip of the iceberg' of his production for the future."

In all his fruit breeding and hybridizing programs, Zaiger's main objective is to get a flavorful fruit that is good to look at and will ship well. He has discarded many beautiful and delicious fruits that do not meet his high standards of flavor, color, and hardy shipping potential.

In presenting the Research Award

to Zaiger, Wynne stated "in my humble opinion, one day Floyd Zaiger will be acclaimed in history with the same or greater honors than Luther Burbank. For over twenty years Floyd Zaiger has been laying the foundation for an outpouring of new and improved fruit varieties, through techniques that are unmatched in the world today. He has been acclaimed by plant breeders from Europe, Africa, South America, Japan, Israel, New Zealand, Australia, and the United States; and today is actively associated with several foreign governments by assisting in their plant breeding programs."

Stanislaus County in California is proud of the genius of Chris Floyd Zaiger and his family. Zaiger has developed a fruit for all seasons.

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## Harogem Apricot

R. E. C. LAYNE<sup>1</sup>

Harogem was officially introduced on February 5, 1979, at the 13th Annual Meeting of the Western Ontario Fruit Testing Association (WOFTA). It resulted from the cross: Rouge du Roussillon x (Morden 604 x open) made in 1963 at Rutgers University. It was selected at Harrow in 1969 and released for regional trials through WOFTA beginning in 1971 when it was first tested as H6305044 and later as HW405. Harogem has performed well in regional trials in Ontario. Early reports of its performance in British Columbia, Pennsylvania, New York and France are very encouraging.

The tree is upright, of medium vigor, productive, and cold hardy. It is resistant to brown rot and may have tolerance to perennial canker. Leaves and fruits are moderately susceptible

to bacterial spot. Fruits are resistant to skin cracking.

The fruits are exceptionally attractive, having a bright glossy red blush on 60% or more of the skin surface superimposed on a bright orange background. They are roundish, of small to medium size, and ripen uniformly on the tree. The flesh is orange, very firm, free at the pit, and the texture and flavor are good. The fruits hold well at room temperature for about a week and can be stored for 2 or 3 weeks under normal refrigeration (2 to 5°C). This variety is best suited for the fresh market but is also satisfactory for home canning and jam.

Budwood from virus indexed, true-to-name trees is available in limited quantities from WOFTA beginning in August 1979. Trees will be available from WOFTA and NYSFTCA in 1980 and from commercial nurseries in 1981.

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