

Trees of Summer Pearl are large, vigorous, and productive. Leaves and fruit are moderately tolerant to infection by bacterial leaf spot, *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *pruni*. No other unusual susceptibilities to insects or diseases have been noted.

Trees and budwood of Summer Pearl have been distributed for testing in Arkansas, Missouri, Michigan, and New York. Trees are now being sold by Stark Brothers Nurseries and Orchards Co., Louisiana, Missouri.

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## Disease Resistant Apple Released

Freedom, a new disease resistant apple, has been released by Cornell University's New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva.

Official naming of the apple took place as part of the annual meeting of the New York State Fruit Testing Cooperative Association, Inc. held on the Station's campus. Some 300 members of the Association attended the meeting which included a large display of new and promising fruit varieties being studied by Station scientists.

Freedom is the second disease resistant apple released by the Station. The first was Liberty, named in 1978. Both varieties are resistant to the four major diseases affecting apple—apple scab, powdery mildew, cedar apple rust, and fire blight.

Freedom is a "very productive, large, attractive apple of good quality that can be used either for the fresh market or for processing," according to Dr. Robert C. Lamb, professor of

pomology and the plant breeder responsible for development of the new variety. The variety blooms about May 15 at Geneva or approximately 3 days after McIntosh. It is considered a midseason bloomer. It produces good pollen and has been used successfully as a pollen parent with many varieties. It is also winter hardy. Freedom ripens about October 5 at Geneva, or at the same time as Delicious.

Fruit of Freedom is large, oblate in shape with 80 per cent bright red stripes on a yellow background. The flesh is cream colored, firm, medium fine, tender, and juicy. Freedom will keep in refrigerated storage until January.

A patent is pending for Freedom. Trees are available from the New York State Fruit Testing Cooperative Association, Inc. and from other nurseries who wish to apply for a license to sell it.

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