

"strains" or varieties of strawberries are in the nursery trade, each of which is sold either as "Howard 17" or "Premier". Regardless of where or how the two Howard 17 or Premier types developed, it appears that each is well established in the nursery trade. The question now arises: Should plants propagated from virus-free foundation stock be sold interchangeably under the names of "Howard 17" and "Premier", as has been the common practice in the past with regular plant stocks?

Virus-free stocks of the "Kellogg-type Premier" have not been developed. It seems probable, therefore, that there will be considerable planting of the virus-free "Eastern" type here in Michigan and other States. Our nurserymen will be faced with the problem of giving a suitable variety name to the stock to meet State certification requirements.

The following possibilities are suggested to clarify the situation: (1) "Howard 17" and "Premier" actually may be two genetically different but very similar varieties. "Howard 17" was introduced in 1909 by A. B. Howard, Belchertown, Massachusetts. "Premier" was introduced in 1912 by R. M. Kellogg, Three Rivers, Michigan. It supposedly was a seedling of unknown origin sent to Kellogg by E. H. Riche, Alton, Illinois, but has been considered by most horticulturists and nurserymen as "Howard 17", re-named "Premier". (2) A "strain" of Howard 17 or Premier (through mutation or from a chance seedling) may have become widely established in the nursery trade since its original introduction.

Arthur J. Farley suggests, from observations in New Jersey, that Jersey-red apple trees be kept on the hard side rather than on the soft vegetative side, to insure maximum fruit color.

Peach Blossom Hardiness

A study of peach blossom survival following minimum temperatures of -1°F. on February 7 and -5°F. on February 20, 1950, at Geneva, New York has been reported by R. C. Lamb and Roger Way of the New York Agricultural Experiment Station. They have listed the tested varieties in descending order of blossom bud survival as follows: Veteran (hardest), Marigold, Oriole, Greensboro, Champion, Prairie Dawn, Rochester, Triogem, Vedette, Mikado, Rariton Rose, Sunbeam, Fisher, Redhaven, Jerseyland, Erly-Red-Fre, Golden Jubilee, Valiant, Kalhaven, Halehaven, J. H. Hale, South Haven, Early Elberta, Redelberta, Rio-Oso-Gem, Elberta, July Elberta, Sunhigh. Those varieties from Erly-Red-Fre down in the list did not keep enough blossoms to make a full crop.

Grapes in New Jersey

Among the 300 grape varieties and selections being tested at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, a few of the newer hybrids show promise as dessert grapes. These are as follows: the yellow-fruited Seibel 9110, Himrod, Romulus and NY. 15302; the black-fruited Schuyler; and the reddish purple Canada 29186, and U.S.-D.A. 4032-1.—*E. G. Christ, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey.*

Ernest J. Downing, of Madison, Ohio, reports that the Melrose apple is good in quality but lacks good color, is susceptible to fruit spot, and is a biennial bearer.