Berkeley and Coville Blueberries Introduced

By George M. Darrow and
Franklin A. Gilbert

The Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils and Agricuutural Engineering and the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station has released for propagation two new blueberry varieties formerly tested as U-85 and DN-76.

The **Berkeley** (U-85) is a seedling resulting from a cross of Stanley x GS-149 (Jersey x Pioneer). It was selected in 1938 at Weymouth, New Jersey and has been tested and propagated in the years since. The Berkeley ripens about a week later than Stanley and a week before Jersey. The berries are lighter blue and also larger than any variety now in the trade. The berries are firm and the flavor medium with some aroma. The clusters are rather open and loose and the berries are not subject to cracking. The bush is a vigorous, good grower and it has been productive. It has been easy to propagate.

The **Coville** (DN-76) resulted from a cross of GM-37 (Jersey x Pioneer) x Stanley. It has the same parentage as Dixi and was raised and selected at the same time. The fruit usually ripens about a week later than Jersey and because it does not drop, may be picked in New Jersey until the end of August. It is later than any variety now in the trade. The berries are lighter blue than Dixi and about the same in color as Jersey. They have averaged slightly larger than Dixi and nearly as large as Berkeley. The berries are firm and the flavor tart until fully ripe. It has a high aroma. The clusters are open and loose and the berries are not subject to cracking. The bush is vigorous, a good grower, and very productive. It has been relatively easy to propagate.

Tested in Maryland, New Jersey and Michigan

The Berkeley and Coville have been tested chiefly at Beltsville, Maryland, and in New Jersey and are recommended for trial as commercial varieties from Maryland to New Jersey. The Berkeley has also been tested at the South Haven Horticultural Experiment Station in Michigan and has been promising there. The Coville is being tested there but has not been there

Pioneer, one of the ancestors of both Berkeley and Coville.

long enough to determine its value. Neither variety can yet be recommended as far south as North Carolina.

Source of Plants

Plants are available from cooperating growers and nurseries. Neither the Bureau of Plant Industry nor the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station have plants of these varieties for sale. For such sources of supply, contact Mr. Franklin A. Gilbert, New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

NEW APPLES IN THE MIDWEST

By H. L. Lantz
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It was quite a number of years ago that at one of the A.P.S. meetings there was a large exhibit of both new and old apple varieties. In conversation with the late Mr. Howell a variety expert with Starks Nurseries, he made a very pertinent remark as we looked over the new varieties. Said Mr. Howell, "The world is full of good apples." Think this over, and you will know what he meant. That remark has always remained with me. It tended to make me more conservative in appraising new varieties. And rightly so, for a new variety has got to be superior in a least one respect, to other old varieties commonly grown, if it is to be successful.

In the midwest hardiness and superior production are paramount. But we know that varieties and groups of varieties are quite regional in their adaption. Haralson is a good example. Grown in Northern Iowa and Minnesota it develops good commercial size and fine red color and is a winter apple. Grown in central Iowa it fails to color well, the fruit drops freely and is ripe in November. Other instances of regional adaptation could be cited.

In the midwest a large number of trial plantings of new varieties from far and wide have been made during the past half century. As a general statement it can be said that so far as apples are concerned that the varieties which have performed well are those originated in the region. For example, the McIntosh seedlings such as Early McIntosh, Macoun, Milton, and Cortland are not well adapted to hot summers. Cortland finds a few friends farther north and along the rivers. The seedlings of Delicious, Orleans, Medina, Sweet Delicious, and Newfane are all short on hardiness. Melba, one of Canada's McIntosh seedlings is