

New Clonal Apple Rootstocks of the E. Series

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The breeding program of Jakob Palk at the Polli Experimental Station began in 1954. The clonal stocks M.2, M.4, and M.11 were hybridized with Russian apple cultivars 'Anoka' and 'Cuhulnavka,' and with some forms of *malus prunifolia*. Over one thousand seedlings were screened on their early performances and 27 selections were compared with each other and M. types, and with Budagovski's (Michurinsk, U.S.S.R.) selections in the nursery for 10 years. The most promising 10 selections in nursery and field experiments were established for advanced testing at the experimental stations of Latvian, Lithuanian, Byelorussian and Ukrainian S.S.R. Detailed morphological descriptions of their selections were published by Arvo Veidenberg in 1985 (2).

A. Veidenberg (1 and unpublished) evaluated cold injury using root re-

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frigeration in soil monoliths and found that winter hardiness was greatest in E.53, E.56, E.19, E.20, E.39, and E.75. Selection E.75 exhibited the greatest vigor control while the first three exhibit considerable tree vigor.

Further investigations are proceeding to critically evaluate the effects of E. rootstocks on vigor and yield efficiency of important cultivars.

Literature Cited

1. Veidenberg, A. 1981. Method of root refrigeration in soil monoliths for studies on winter hardiness of clonal rootstocks of apples. In: *Prodovodstvo, Nauchnye trudy XLVI*, Valgus Publishers, Tallinn, pp. 31-41 (in Russian, with English abstract).
2. Veidenberg, A. 1985. The morphological description of the first ten apple clonal rootstocks selected in Estonia. In: *Nauchnye trudy LVI*, Agroprym Publishers, Tallin, pp. 14-48 (in Russian, with English abstract).

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