

Peach Varieties for Ontario

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To achieve success in peach growing, it has become increasingly important to plant varieties that are most attractive. In the early season there is a long list of varieties that ripen before Redhaven. The majority have become antiquated. I have pulled out everything except Dixired, Tulip and Cardinal. These three highly colored varieties are similar in appearance. My favorite is Cardinal. The challenger for highest honors in this early season is Stanley Johnston's new peach, Sunhaven.

Redhaven, Jerseyland, Early Halehaven, Golden Jubilee, Stark's Delicious and Dixigem tend to ripen at approximately the same time. This ripening tendency has produced a knotty marketing problem. Redhavens have become so well known and popular, that it is difficult to sell any other varieties that ripen with them. For Redhaven season, I am planting Redhavens only.

Following the Redhaven season is a long list of varieties that ripen about the same time, namely, July Elberta, Fairhaven, Triagem, Southland, Halehaven, Valient, Vedette, Sunhigh, Gold East and so on. These are all good varieties that sell fairly well even when in competition with one another. Sunhigh, Valient, July Elberta, Gold East and Southland, however, have the drawback of being subject, in some years, to severe infections of bacterial leaf spot. However, I have no intentions of pulling out any of the above varieties until the trees are past the age of profitable production. Coming into prominence as a real challenger for top spot in this season is Stanley Johnston's new Richhaven. Richhaven will probably grow in pop-

ularity until it captures the market in this season. In the meantime, I intend to plant a few Keystone and Triagem.

I have pulled out Sullivan Elberta. Unfortunately, there seems to be no outstanding variety to fill its place. I am planting Loring and watching Blake and Merrill Forty-Niner. Loring appears to ripen a few days too soon, and Blake a few days too late. Merrill Forty-Niner looks good.

In Elberta season, it is Elberta versus Redskin, with slow sales for Elbertas when Redskin is offered in competition. I am replacing my Elbertas with Redskins.



Renaming of Strawberry Varieties

For a number of years the authors have tested many of the newer varieties of strawberries in comparison with older varieties at Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Md. Observations have been made at times of similar tests at other places. From such comparisons, it has been observed that some of the newer varieties are indistinguishable and probably identical with older varieties that have been in the trade previously. Some of the newly named varieties that appear indistinguishable from the older ones are as follows, the original name being listed first:

Armored—Red Cluster

Dunlap—Parish

Fairfax—Grandview, Cummerbund
Gem—Superfection, Brilliant

Howard 17—Polar Queen, Golden
Bell

Midland—Crimson Flash, Adonis

Robinson—Scarlet Beauty, Cardinal King
Sparkle—Paymaster

All of these newly named varieties have been and many still are offered for sale by nurserymen. The Brilliant and Parish are patented names with descriptions that supposedly differentiate these from other varieties. As grown in plots at Beltsville, they were indistinguishable from Gem and Dunlap, respectively.

The question of whether there is a difference between virus-free stock of Howard 17 and regular stocks has been reviewed by Dr. Bell in Volume 10, Number 4, of *Fruit Varieties and Horticultural Digest*. The authors have no further information to add to that fine review. Freedom of the plants from viruses might cause some of the differences reported.

The main purpose of this paper is to point out that certain "newer" varieties of strawberries are indistinguishable from older strawberries and that growers will gain little or nothing from the use of such "newer" varieties.—*D. H. Scott and G. M. Darrow, Horticultural Crops Research Branch, U.S.D.A., Beltsville, Md.*

Comments on Peaches

The 1956 season was one in which peach varieties forgot their manners and ripened when they pleased. For instance, at one time in the packing shed at Vincennes, Indiana, they were packing Jerseyland, Redhaven, Golden Jubilee, Fairhaven, Halehaven and Sullivan Early Elberta. In northern Ohio, Fairhaven, which has been normally ripening in the last third of the Redhaven season, did not ripen until nearly a week after Redhaven. In the

same area, Loring and Blake which are supposed to ripen in Sullivan Early Elberta season, were ripening with Redskin and Elberta.—*C. L. Burkholder, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.*

Season of Red Raspberry Varieties

In order to obtain an objective measure of the season of ripening for red raspberry varieties, A. P. French, of the University of Massachusetts, divided the harvest season into thirds. The percentage of the crop harvested for each variety in the first and last third of the season was determined during 1953, 1954 and 1955 and reported as follows:

Variety	Season of Harvest	
	Percent early	Percent late
Tweed ¹	86.8	0
Gatineau	72.3	3.2
Durham ¹	68.5	1.8
Sunrise	64.6	5.7
Antietam ²	61.8	4.6
September	56.0	14.1
Madawaska	55.9	11.5
Chief	40.7	11.2
Early Red ³	38.4	20.5
Willamette	33.0	13.9
Viking	27.0	19.7
Cuthbert ²	18.4	15.4
Latham	18.1	24.3
Milton ²	1.2	44.7
Amber	0	47.7

¹1953 only

²1954 and 1955 only

³1955 only

The summer crops only of the ever-bearing varieties September and Durham are included in the above table. The season of ripening of Willamette, Viking and Amber was probably influenced by the severe winter injury that occurred in these varieties in 1955.