and a number of northern European countries. 'Sinta,' a 'Golden Delicious' type apple, has good shape, finish and quality, and ripens 10 days ahead of 'Golden Delicious,' thus providing a golden apple to fill market demand before 'Golden Delicious' is mature.

In 1969 Lapins introduced 'Sierra' pear, a seedling from the cross 'Bartlett' x 'Marguerite Marillat.' This pear is large in size, is picked with 'Anjou,' and is the highest quality pear tested at Summerland Research Station and keeps as long as 'Anjou.' The tree is spreading, early, and heavy bearing, and has shown remarkable frost hardiness in comparison with standard cultivars. The fruit tends to be long in shape, especially in some years, which might produce problems in packing.

Dr. Lapins is the author of 37 research papers in important scientific journals, as well as 31 popular-type articles and bulletins. Perhaps most important in his professional career has been his ability as an innovator and stimulator of others—especially students who have worked under him and gone on to receive advanced degrees in fruit breeding.

Dr. Lapins has travelled widely in Canada, USA and Europe, and everywhere he is well-known and a welcome visitor. In 1974 he attended a FAO meeting in Austria where he was an invitational speaker to address the International Atomic Energy Agency panel on "Mutation Breeding of Vegetatively Propagated and Perennial Crops." In 1989 he was honored by invitation to the University of Latvia to receive the honorary degree of Director of Science. He is an Honorary Life member of the Canadian Society of Horticultural Science.

Following his retirement in 1974 he and his wife moved to Ontario to be near their daughter and grandson and they now reside in West Hill, Ontario Canada. Without doubt, Dr. Lapins is one of the great pomologists and plant breeders of North America. The American Pomological Society is honored to recognize Dr. K. O. Lapins as the 1992 recipient of the Wilder Medal.

Fruit Varieties Journal 47(2):125-126 1993

'Frost' Peach: A Symptomless Source of Cherry Mottle Leaf Disease

W. E. HOWELL[1] AND R. A. NORTON[2, 3]

Abstract

Trees presently used for producing scions of 'Frost' peach are contaminated with the agent of cherry mottle leaf disease (CML), as determined by tissue grafts on sensitive indicator hosts. Therefore, it is suggested that trees of 'Frost' not be planted near orchards of CML-susceptible sweet cherries until a CML-free propagation source is obtained.

'Frost' peach, *Prunus persica* L., was selected as a chance seedling growing in a residential neighborhood in Everett, Washington in 1973 (2). Its fruit is of fair eating quality, but its chief asset is its apparent resistance to *Taphrina deformans* the cause of peach

[1]Washington State University-Prosser, Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center, Prosser, WA 99350-9687.
[2]Washington State University-Mt. Vernon Research and Extension Unit, Mt. Vernon, WA 98273-9788.
[3]Plant Pathology new series No. 0142. Project No. 1262. Washington State University, College of Agriculture and Home Economics, Agriculture Research Center, Pullman, WA 99164.

leaf curl disease. 'Frost' has been sold extensively in the coastal Pacific Northwest where this disease is a major obstacle to residential peach production. Two commercial nurseries propagated and sold this peach selection. One sold it as 'Frost,' the other as 'California Curl Free.'

In 1988, the IR-2 Program (Interregional Project #2/NRSP5 for the collection, maintenance and distribution of virus-tested fruit tree clones) was asked to test 'Frost' for stone fruit viruses and, if necessary, to provide virus therapy. The 'Frost' budwood received by IR-2 was graft inoculated onto a range of virus-sensitive indicators including 'Bing' sweet cherry *(P. vium)*. The inoculated 'Bing' trees developed symptoms typical of cherry mottle leaf (CML) disease which is suspected to be caused by virus (1).

Budwood samples were subsequently obtained from the two propagation nurseries and from a tree located at Washington State University's Research and Extension Unit in Mt. Vernon where this cultivar had been under test for several years. The Mt. Vernon tree had been propagated from the original seedling and was the budwood source for one of the two nurseries. Trees from all three locations tested positive for CML disease.

Most peach and many sweet cherry cultivars remain symptomless when infected with the CML agent (1). This agent spreads naturally in Washington and British Columbia, perhaps by Eriophyed mites (1). The most important cultivar to the cherry industry in this area is 'Bing,' which can be severely affected by this disease.

Because of rapid natural spread in some local areas, large numbers of trees can be infected over a period of years. Since symptomless peach trees can be a source of primary inoculum for infecting 'Bing' cherry orchards, it is critical that CML-contaminated 'Frost' peach not be planted near such orchards.

Efforts to eliminate the CML agent from 'Frost' have been underway for two years. Budwood of this cultivar tested to be free of the CML agent should soon be available from the IR-2 Project.

Literature Cited

1. Cheney, P. W. and C. L. Parish. 1974. Cherry mottle leaf. *In* Virus Diseases and Noninfectious Disorders of Stone Fruits in North America. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Handbook 437. Pages 216-218.
2. Norton, R. A. 1982. Tree fruit cultivars for western Washington homes and orchards. Washington State University Cooperative Extension Bulletin 0937.

Thinning 'Fuji' with Benzyladenine

The most effective time of thinning was 20 days after full bloom (AFB) when increasing concentrations (50, 100, 200, or 400 mg/liter) resulted in increased thinning and was reflected in improved fruit size and weight. At 30 days AFB high concentrations of BA depressed fruit weight. Return bloom was improved by BA applications at 20 to 30 days AFB. Timing of sprays had no effect on incidence of russet which was increased only by applicaaitons of 400 mg/liter. Both the higher concentrations and later timings increased shoot number and total growth.

From Bound et al. 1991. *J. Hort. Sci.* 66:789-794.

Survey Request

As president for the next two years, I need your input to help guide the future of APS. A number of questions has arisen in both Board of Directors and general Society meetings over the past several years, questions which I feel need to be addressed by the entire membership. Therefore, please help your Board of Directors by filling in the attached questionnaire and returning it to me at the address below. Results of the questionnaire will be published in the APS Journal, and follow-up proposals will be ready for action by the membership at the APS meeting in Tennessee next July.

Dr. R. A. Norton
Washington State University
Northwest Washington Research & Extension Unit
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Future Course of APS — Membership Survey

Please check your preferred choices for the following items. If you wish to make comments on the item, please do so at the end of the survey, identifying the item by its number.