

New Apples Tested in Nova Scotia

Dear Sir:

Regarding new sorts—Prairie Spy (*Nexus*) was very large and had very good flavor. This apple is very good to eat some years, and other years it is almost nasty. I've got three boxes of it and three boxes of Turley in cold storage. [This is in November.—Ed.]

Victory (from Minnesota) seems to shape as my favorite future apple. It has splendid wood, nice branching system, is a good cropper of large apples, not much affected by frost, black spot, or dropping. Quality some years is very good and it is good cooking for sauce. Other years it is not quite top level. Its color is very attractive.

My Lodi fruits this year were picked too early and are poor but I like Lodi. Greendale (N. Y.) is too near the season of our Gravenstein to have any value. Close is very fine this year. Large and far ahead of Crimson Beauty, but season is about the same. I'll increase my Close.

Red Melba is pretty irregular in size and ripening. We may beat it with some new sorts of the same blood.

Idared was fine in quality, size and color. It may be of use if it crops. So far it has good wood, light crop.

Melrose (from Ohio) is a fine large red apple. Like Idared, it is slightly tart. It has fine wood, bore well this year on two trees. I will increase a few Melrose. I'd say it's spot resistant.

Turley apples were very large. They may have a place if they prove good in cold storage.

JOHN BUCHANAN

Berwick, Nova Scotia.

Editor's Note: Mr. Buchanan's letterhead carries summary notes of his evaluations for some other varieties, which we found of interest: *Apples*—Linda, "too tender wood"; Jubilee (from B. C.), "out"; Spartan (from B. C.), "promising" [but see next item]. *Pears*—Gorham, "not good enough"; Beierschmitt, "very good"; Covert (N. Y.), "good if kept two weeks cold, then two weeks at 70° F."

Spartan Apple Less Promising in Northeast

(The following is reprinted from *Post Road*, Kentville, Nova Scotia, February, 1950.)

John Buchanan, Berwick, has recommended the soft pedal on planting and grafting of the variety Spartan, which, in his experience, has inclined to bear lightly under Nova Scotia conditions. The apples also are smaller in size than he would like them to be.

Professor H. L. King, of the New York Fruit Testing Co-operative Association has advised Mr. Buchanan that similar results are indicated in New York State. Furthermore, heavy drop occurred in Spartan during one year of the U. S. tests with this variety.