

New Varieties in Middle Canada

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The Great Plains horticulturists in their annual meeting in Ontario at the end of August had excellent sessions. The following notes were gleaned from comments passed casually, mostly during tours of inspection.

Yakima is one of the hardier plums of very high quality.

Three domestic plums introduced by the Dominion Horticulturist are named after nearby counties. Nepean resembles the purple prune-plum Mount Royal in color and season. It is slightly larger but probably a little less hardy. Carleton is large and red, ripening shortly after Nepean. Prescott is yellow in color. All three may be considered as border-line in hardiness but each is definitely more dependable than Dietz. Callahan Seedling is a good damson of much hardiness.

In the Ottawa varieties of Rosybloom crabapples Cowichan is very early with fruits which make very good jelly. Rosseau is second early. Makamik, of mid-season, is one of the most satisfactory, retaining its fruit well. Sissipuk is the latest in season of bloom with flowers of the darkest red. Simcoe has large flowers and bright red fruits. The two redleaf varieties

that Ottawa has introduced are Tomiko and Baskatong. The former has redder foliage and appears the most valuable. These two are considered primarily as "foliage plants." Aside from any beauty in flower and fruit, the attractive red-purplish foliage makes these two hardy crabapples useful in landscape planting from spring to late October.

Close is the very early summer apple. It soon loses quality. A waggish remark was, "Yes, you have to pick 'em and run to the house with 'em."

Anis is considered the very hardiest standard apple at Ottawa. As a trunk-portion for topworking it tends to be somewhat dwarfing. Antonovka is rated as second in hardiness. (At Morden, Moscow Pear apple is rated as hardier than Anis and Antonovka). Hibernial when topworked is subject to wreckage when the laden branches upon twisting in heavy winds tend to break.

Atlas, an autumn apple of growing popularity, is a seedling of Winter St. Lawrence. It bears well at Morden. —From "Manitoba News Letter," in *North and South Dakota Horticulture*, December, 1949.