

Wilder Medal Awards

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South Haven, Michigan

The Wilder Medal has now been awarded by the American Pomological Society for the past 84 years, and has become very highly regarded in the horticultural industry. For 1957, the Wilder Medal was awarded to the following individuals:

To the late *C. L. Burkholder*, for outstanding service to the fruit industry. Professor Burkholder was Assistant Chief in Pomology at Purdue University, where he served the fruit industry from 1917 until his untimely passing a few months ago. His contributions in developing new spraying techniques and in chemical thinning of fruits was outstanding. He was a keen student of fruit varieties and did much to evaluate them.

To *Henry Hartman*, for outstanding service to the fruit industry. He came to Oregon State University in 1919 where he remained to become Head of the Department of Horticulture, a position he served well from 1942 until his retirement in 1955. His achievements in solving pear handling problems have been outstanding. In 1953 Oregon fruit growers honored him by establishing the Hartman Trophy—an award given annually by the Oregon Horticultural Society to the state's outstanding horticulturist.

To *Victor R. Gardner*, for outstanding service to horticulture. Director emeritus of the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station, and for many years Head of the Department of Horticulture at Michigan State University, Dr. Gardner's ability in directing research was outstanding. He is the author of several important books on

horticultural subjects.

To *R. A. Van Meter*, for devoted service to horticulture. He served successively as Head of the Department of Horticulture, Dean of the School of Horticulture, Dean of the College of Agriculture and President of the University of Massachusetts. Although his administrative responsibilities have carried him into many fields other than horticulture, he has remained a loyal and devoted servant to horticulture, serving on important committees with the American Pomological Society and other horticultural organizations.



Although I am only an amateur horticulturist, I have discovered a plum sport or chance seedling which I have named "Edwards", and am now attempting to introduce. My problem is to find the area to which it is best adapted.

The fruit is of the blue or European type. The patent designates it as being a plum, but it might possibly be a prune. It is large, semi-freestone, light yellowish to greenish amber flesh, subacid to mild, melting, excellent eating quality, withstands shipping well, with deep blackish purple skin. Tree is medium-sized, productive and vigorous, and a regular bearer. It grows to perfection in the San Francisco Bay area, but does not like the high temperatures of the San Joaquin Valley.

I will furnish scion wood gratis to qualified growers or testers.—*L. C. Edwards, 581 Chetwood St., Oakland 10, Cal.*

*Chairman, Wilder Medal Awards Committee of American Pomological Society.