

Peach Varieties that Set Crops under Adverse Conditions

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The spring of 1956 was late and cold in the Niagara Peninsula, resulting in a poor set on some of the standard varieties of peaches. Elberta and Golden Jubilee, which make up approximately 50 percent of the plantings in this area, produced less than half a normal crop.

Under these adverse conditions, some varieties produced a good crop. Over the years, Veteran has proved itself to be hardy in bud during severe winters, and also capable of producing full crops when weather at blossoming time is unfavorable. Again in 1956, Veteran came through with a full crop. And it is of interest to note that some of the newer varieties also had good crops.

In order of maturity, the following varieties had good crops at Vineland in 1956: Cardinal, Envoy, Fairhaven, Loring and Redskin. A few observations on these varieties as grown in Vineland are as follows:

Cardinal. Trees planted in 1953 bore a few fruits in 1955 and a good crop in both 1956 and 1957. Size of fruit on the young trees in 1956 was a little small, but improved in 1957. Split pits were numerous in Cardinal in 1957, but this was also the case in many other early varieties. The tree of Cardinal appears reasonably vigorous, and its fruit quality is fair for an early peach. This variety is considered worthy of further trial.

Envoy. One of the reasons for the early interest in this variety was its dependability, having set a good crop in 1943 after a severe winter, and again in 1945 after a cold wet spring. Since that time, Envoy has never missed a

crop. Other favorable characteristics are its high quality, attractive appearance and uniform ripening. Its faults include lack of firmness, medium size, and weak crotches which make selection of a good framework particularly important.

Fairhaven. Although Fairhaven has produced seven full crops at the Vineland Station, it has not been widely planted in the area. The main reason seems to be the uncertainty about its being accepted by the canning trade because of its tendency to cling until fully ripe. Fairhaven is attractive, above average in size, and of good quality. The tree appears to be of average vigor.

Loring. This variety seems to be a dependable bearer, having had six full crops at Vineland. Loring trees appear particularly vigorous and strong. The fruit is an attractive red over a bright yellow undercolor. It has sized up well and, although not as high in quality as Veteran, it has a freer pit, and is

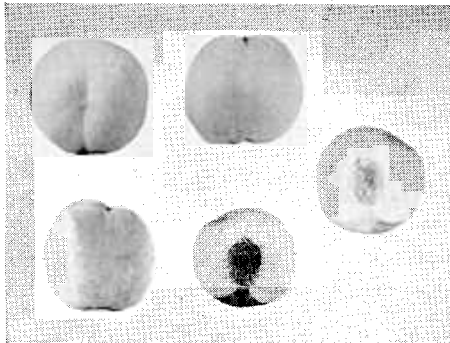


Fig. 1. Veteran—Introduced in 1928 and still standard for bud hardiness and dependability.

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somewhat firmer and more attractive. Some commercial plantings of Loring are being made, and its performance alone will determine its future in this area.

Redskin. This variety has better color than Elberta and has borne seven full crops at Vineland. The trees have a willowy growth habit, with some tendency toward weak crotches. When well thinned, fruit size has been satisfactory. Some plantings of Redskin have been made, but it is doubtful that it will replace Elberta for the canning trade.



Raspberries in Alberta, Canada

Mr. B. H. Wilson, of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, reports to us on his results with red raspberry varieties over a period of many years. The Edmonton area lies 318 miles north of the Montana border. It has an annual rainfall of some 17.4 inches, with about 11.5 inches from April 1 to August 31. The growing period at Edmonton is only about 95 days.

In one test plot, in which each variety was separated by 30 to 40 feet to reduce the spread of virus diseases, Mr. Wilson compared nine promising varieties without the benefit of irrigation, from 1932 to 1937. He has recorded the following comments as a result of the above test:

Chief: Hardy, good quality, berries medium in size. (1st choice)

Latham: Better than medium-hardy, good quality (2nd choice)

Viking: Medium hardy, good quality, smooth canes, heavy producer. (3rd choice)

Ohta: Hardy, quality not high. Discarded.

Sunbeam: Hardy, quality not high. Discarded.

Herbert: Medium hardy, high quality, disagreeable to pick. Discarded.

Newman #23: Not hardy enough. Discarded.

Madewaska: Not hardy enough.

Taylor: Not hardy enough.

Following this test, Mr. Wilson established a commercial planting of Chief and Latham. Because the second half of the Latham crop was so poor in quality, this variety was discarded. In 1939, a second commercial planting was established consisting of Chief and Viking. Viking turned out to be of doubtful hardiness and was plowed under and replaced with Chief.



New Strawberry from Louisiana

A strawberry named Headline has been introduced by Louisiana State University as a commercial variety, after extensive testing by Louisiana growers and horticulturists. Headline is a bright red, early berry which has outyielded other leading varieties at Baton Rouge. It is excellent for fresh market and has proved superior for processing as well. For more detail, see Circ. No. 50 of the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station.



L. G. Klein reports that two new sports of the Rome apple, Clifton Red Rome and Mill's Red Rome have fruited at the New York Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva. Both sports have performed well. Each has developed a very attractive bright red color even in seasons not conducive to good color development.



Do you know of the whereabouts of a tree of the apple variety Titus Pippen? Stanley Titus, of the Maloney Brothers Nursery, Dansville, N. Y., is very anxious to obtain budwood of this old variety.