

The Crandall

a New and Promising Late-Keeping Apple

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A new apple variety, introduced this fall by the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station, is named in honor of the late Professor Charles S. Crandall, who for many years directed the fruit breeding work at the University of Illinois. The Crandall variety was selected from 46 seedlings derived from a cross made by Professor Crandall in 1914, Rome Beauty x Jonathan. It was described as Illinois No. 1 to the Illinois State Horticultural Society in 1948, previously having been designated by its breeding number, 8015-1-7.

This variety first fruited in 1925, eight years after planting in the seedling orchard at Urbana. Scions were top-worked into various other trees, and four grafted trees were planted in a variety orchard in 1932. These grafted trees first fruited in 1937, and have fruited regularly and well since then. These four trees produced 86 bushels of fruit in 1951. The original tree this year bore an estimated 55 to 60 bushels.

The tree is moderately vigorous in growth habit, forming with little training a rather low-spreading tree of the Rome type. Splitting out of crotches almost never occurs because the scaffold and lateral

branches form very wide angles, strongly reinforced.

The foliage is somewhat less susceptible to apple scab than either of its parents. Neither blotch nor sooty blotch on the fruit has been a difficulty up to the present time.

The fruit is roundish oblate, symmetrical and equal longitudinally, with a short and fairly thin stem. The cavity is deep and acute, while the basin is broad and of medium depth. The skin is tough and of moderate thickness. The ground color is yellow, with up to 95% glossy medium red over-color, combining to make it a very attractive apple. The fruit is of good commercial size, averaging as large or larger than Jonathan under similar conditions of culture, at both Urbana and Princeton, Illinois. (See cover picture.)

The flesh is yellowish-white, firm but fine-grained, crisp and juicy. The flavor is mild sub-acid, aromatic, and of very good to excellent quality as dessert and cooked.

The Crandall hangs well to the tree, but at Urbana may be picked by October 10. In storage it develops a heavy wax over the skin, which inhibits drying out and

shrivelling. Spotting of the skin, so common with Jonathan and Baldwin, does not develop. The best quality is reached in late February to mid March, well after most other varieties have passed their prime. Suggested test areas are those regions where Rome, Jonathan and

Winesap are commercial varieties.

Scions are available for distribution and the Illinois Experiment Station will welcome comments and observations from anyone who cares to test this promising new variety. (Received for publication November 27, 1951.)

Cardinal, a New Early Peach Variety for the South

The Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering on June 15, 1951, released for propagation the peach variety **Cardinal**, formerly tested as FV-101. **Cardinal** is a seedling of Halehaven selfed. The parent was selfed in 1941 and the seedling selected in 1945 in the peach breeding investigations carried on by J. H. Weinberger at the U. S. Horticultural Field Laboratory, Fort Valley, Georgia.

Cardinal ripens 4 days ahead of Dixired, or 6½ weeks earlier than Elberta. The fruit is clingstone, medium-sized, round, with very light pubescence. About three-fourths of the surface is covered with a bright, attractive red blush over a yellow ground color. The flesh is yellow, firm but melting, medium-textured, and of good flavor. The fruit approaches Dixired in size, and is almost identical with it in color, appearance and firmness.

Trees of **Cardinal** are productive, but only moderately vigorous. The blossoms are medium-sized and self-

fertile. They usually open shortly after Elberta blossoms open. The chilling requirement to break the rest period of its buds is about 900 hours of temperatures 45° F. or lower, or slightly more than Elberta and slightly less than Dixired.

The variety has been fruited and tested largely in Georgia, both on a minor and a commercial scale. On account of its moderately high chilling requirement, it should not be planted in the southernmost peach districts. It should succeed where Dixired can be grown, for it resembles the latter very closely in fruit and tree habits, but is 4 days earlier in ripening.

The Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering has no trees of this variety available for distribution. Information on sources of budwood may be obtained from Dr. J. H. Weinberger, U. S. Horticultural Field Laboratory, Fort Valley, Ga.—From release notice, signed for U.S.D.A. by F. P. Cullinan, Acting Chief of Bureau.