

Weather and New Peaches

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In my way of thinking the Burbank Elberta cannot be in any way compared with ordinary Elberta. It is an entirely different peach. It is a good one. In quality, it is about the best of all.

The Dominion Experimental Station manager at Harrow advises me to plant Dixired, for an early peach. At Harrow, last season Dixired as an early peach was tops. It was better than any other peach of its season. Good color, good flavor, and not so bad in the way of a clingstone.

One thing and that is for sure, the wholesaler is much easier to do business with than the housewife. When one sells the housewife peaches she doesn't like, she won't come back. The wholesaler doesn't care. He doesn't do the job of eating them.

A. GRANT FOX

Normandale, Ontario

Value of Blossom Thinning with Redhaven Peach

Dear Mac:

The Redhaven peach is being discussed considerably these days and it has been planted to some extent in all peach producing districts of the country.

Earliness, beautiful red color, and firm, non-browning flesh are valuable characteristics. Small size of fruit is the principal weakness of the variety.

Amazingly good results have been obtained from thinning Redhaven during the blossoming season. Thinning at this time has resulted in a high percentage of the crop reaching the 2½ to 3-inch sizes.

Various methods of blossom thinning have been tried. These include spraying with dinitro materials, the use of brush brooms of various kinds, spraying with water under high pressure, and the removal of blossoms by hand.

Each of these methods has its advocates. The peach grower will have to determine which suits his needs best.

The number of blossoms to leave on the tree will depend upon the frost hazard in the orchard. From two to four times as many blossoms should be left as fruits desired at harvesting time.

A corrective hand thinning should be made later if the set is too heavy.

It is commonly thought that blossom thinning is more expensive than the ordinary fruit thinning done later. However, it actually is not quite as expensive, and the benefits derived from blossom thinning Redhaven and other very early maturing peaches, are well worth obtaining.

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