

## *Early Red, a New Raspberry from Michigan*

By STANLEY JOHNSTON

The Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station announces the introduction of a new raspberry variety which has been named Early Red.

Early Red originated at the South

ducing area near Benton Harbor.

The early maturing season of Early Red is of particular value as production then is usually smaller and prices higher than for later varieties. There is a scarcity of good



Photo—K. K. Vining

Fig. 1. A cluster of berries of the Early Red variety.

Haven Experiment Station from a cross between Lloyd George and Cuthbert (Lloyd George x Cuthbert) made in 1931. Since then the variety has gone through a long testing period at the South Haven Station and a 10-year commercial test in the famous raspberry pro-

ducing area near Benton Harbor. early maturing varieties of the red raspberry.

Plants of Early Red are upright, tall, vigorous, hardy, and very productive. Canes are numerous, moderately stocky, and quite thickly covered with stiff, sharp, reddish-brown prickles like those of Lloyd

George. Leaves are large, ridged, dark green on the upper surface and very silvery underneath.

The berries mature early and are large, round-conic, light red when first ripe turning rather dark when fully ripe. The fruit separates from the torus rather easily. This is important as the berries are easy to pick while firm and harvesting can be done before the berries are too soft and too dark.

The flesh is somewhat soft when fully ripe. This may limit shipment of the fruit to nearby markets. However, no complaints have been received over a period of several years in which berries of this variety have been shipped from Benton Harbor to Chicago and other mid-western markets.

Early Red has inherited much of the excellent flavor of Cuthbert.

The fruit withstands the canning process very well without crumbling. It freezes as well as Latham, the leading commercial red raspberry.

While the berries begin maturing early, the ripening season is long. The very good flavor and long ripening season of Early Red should make it a popular variety for home gardens.

No virus diseases have been found in test plantings of Early Red to date. However, this may be entirely a matter of chance and no immunity to such diseases is implied.

The limited number of plants available are being distributed among nurserymen specializing in raspberry production. This will insure a stock of plants for all at the earliest possible date. The Experiment Station has no plants for general distribution.



Photo—K. K. Vining

Fig. 2. Pint cups of Early Red raspberries ready for market.