

an early apple although somewhat on the tart side. The flesh is crisp, white and does not discolor readily. Sauce and pies made from it have a distinct pinkish color. Its season of harvest is just ahead of Early McIntosh and storage life is fully as good as that variety.

The tree of Puritan is vigorous, with wide crotch angles. Orchard tests indicate that it will pollinate McIntosh satisfactorily. Its most serious weakness is a

tendency toward biennial bearing. However, limited tests suggest that it is rather easily thinned with chemical thinning sprays of naphthalene acetic acid, so it is quite possible that some degree of annual production may be obtained.

We are not in a position to supply trees of Puritan, but a limited amount of propagating wood is available to interested fruit growers and nurserymen.

Plentiful, A New Strawberry Variety

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The Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station is releasing in March, 1953, a strawberry variety named Plentiful. Its parentage is Redstar $\times$ Pathfinder, a cross made by A. S. Colby in 1941, at Urbana, Illinois. It was selected in 1945 and has been tested as Illinois 41-11 on the University of Illinois horticultural farm and at other locations in the state, and is under test at experiment stations throughout the United States.

Under Illinois conditions the plants of Plentiful are June-bearing and very high in productivity. This variety has been one of the highest yielders in the extensive variety tests conducted on the station grounds during the last few years. The plants are large and produce many runners, making a wide row. No red stele root rot has been found on the roots of plants growing on sites infested with this disease. The foliage is resistant to leaf spot and leaf scorch. The leaves are large, cupped, thick, and glossy. The flowers are perfect.

In Illinois, Plentiful matures its fruit in late midseason. Its harvesting period is about two weeks in length. The berries are well formed throughout the season. The fruit is medium large to very large, blunt conic to wedge in shape, smooth,

fairly glossy, medium-light red, evenly colored, and attractive in appearance. The calyx is medium in size. The achenes are medium in number, about flush with the surface to slightly raised, and yellow to red depending upon exposure. The fresh fruit is medium in sugar and acid content and medium in flavor. The flavor of the frozen product is very high, although the color is too light red to be particularly attractive. Limited tests indicate that Plentiful is not sufficiently firm for long distance shipment, but is particularly adapted for home use and local market.

Plentiful is the second variety (Vermilion, a sister of Plentiful, being the first) to be named as a result of a strawberry breeding program at the University of Illinois, to originate varieties resistant to red stele root rot under conditions in Illinois, and having other plant and fruit characters necessary for their profitable production.

The University of Illinois has no plants for sale. A considerable quantity of stock is available this spring from cooperating nurserymen.

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