

low, streaked with red, firm but melting and of excellent flavor. The variety is freestone when fully mature and will hang on the tree until over-ripe. It does not soften prematurely on suture, apex or shoulder and retains its brightness longer than Cardinal or Dixired.

Trees of Garnet Beauty are above average in vigor and, in their third year have produced heavy crops of fruit which size up and color well inside the tree. The variety is slightly susceptible to bacterial spot *Xanthomonas pruni*, to the same degree as Redhaven. The blossoms are small-

petaled, self-fertile and open with Redhaven. Garnet Beauty may ripen with Stark's Earliglo, also an early ripening mutation of Redhaven, found recently in a southern Ontario orchard.

Because Garnet Beauty appears to possess the attractiveness, quality and firmness of Redhaven and is earlier than that variety, it is recommended for trial planting in southwestern Ontario. Mr. G. Whaley, Ruthven, Ontario has sole propagating rights for the present, and may have trees available in the spring of 1960.

Exotic, a New Vinifera Grape Variety

F. N. HARMON and J. H. WEINBERGER*
Fresno, Calif.

The Crops Research Division of the Agricultural Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture has released for propagation the vinifera grape variety Exotic, formerly tested as selection G8-30. Exotic resulted from a cross between the varieties Flame Tokay and Ribier (Alphonse Lavallee) made at Fresno, California, in 1947.

Exotic should fill a definite need as a medium-early black shipping grape. It ripens a week to 10 days later than the Cardinal variety, and about 2 weeks earlier than Ribier. The berries, carrying abundant bluish bloom, are spherical in shape, medium-large, firm, crisp and of good quality. The natural cluster is too large, but with one thinning cut it is transformed into an ideal market type. Clusters are well-filled but not compact, and the berries are strongly attached to the stem. The shipping

quality and market acceptance has been good.

The blossoms are self-fertile with upright stamens. Seeds are of medium size, usually 3 per berry. The leaves are large and deeply-lobed with pointed leaf serration-series ranging in size from small to large. The vines are vigorous and productive. While the best type of pruning has not been determined, cordon-trained vines have been satisfactory.

The variety has been mainly tested at Phoenix, Arizona, and Fresno, California. At the U. S. Horticultural Field Station at Fresno there has been an objectionable tendency for some of the berries to develop a slight crack on the blossom end, thus making the selection of questionable value for that area pending further trials. This defect has not appeared in Arizona tests, and the variety has been introduced on the basis of its adaptability to Arizona conditions.

*U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.