

Fruit Varieties for Minnesota

During the past four years fruit plantings for testing and demonstration purposes have been started on 70 Minnesota farms, involving 1,467 plants and 182 varieties of fruit. According to L. C. Snyder, Extension Horticulturist of the University of Minnesota, preliminary hardiness studies of the varieties under test indicate that fairly definite recommendations can be made concerning the following varieties:

APPLE: Beacon, Fireside, Haralson, Lakeland, Mantet, Minjon, Moscow Pear, Oriole, Prairie Spy and Redwell.

CRABAPPLES: Chestnut, Dolgo, Rescue, Trial, Whitney.

PLUMS: Ember, Kaga, Mount Royal, Redcoat, Redglow, South Dakota, Superior and Underwood.

CHERRY-PLUMS: Compass, Opata, Sapa.

CHERRIES: Meteor (Minn. 66), Northstar (Minn. 58).

All varieties listed above appear to be dependable in southern Minnesota. Most of them, with the exception of Mount Royal and Superior plums, have a good chance on the better soils in the region forming a belt across the middle third of the state. The number of varieties that can be recommended for the poor soils of the middle belt and the good soils of the northern third of the state is definitely limited. The only varieties that show promise for this section are Chestnut, Dolgo and Rescue crabapples; South Dakota and Underwood plums; Compass and Opata cherry-plums; and possibly the Meteor and Northstar cherries.

—From *The Minnesota Horticulturist*, Feb., 1953.

Apricots in New York

Increased production of apricots in New York may be a reality in the foreseeable future if seedlings under test at the Experiment Station here live up to expectations.

Apricots that bloom later than the common varieties now available are needed because present varieties suffer a heavy toll from late spring frosts. Late-blooming seedlings in the Station test plantings show promise in this direction, and if they prove productive and their fruit is good in quality, they will be propagated for more extended trials.

In the meantime, favorable reports are being received on selections that have been under test for several years at the Geneva Station and elsewhere because of their hardiness and the general good quality of their fruit. These selections have been named DOTY, GENEVA and HENDERSON.

GENEVA, in particular, has proved one of the most reliable apricots planted in the Province of Ontario, Canada, while some Michigan growers have found both GENEVA and HENDERSON satisfactory.

DOTY is notable for its large, vigorous, productive tree. The fruit is medium in size, golden yellow, juicy and sweet, and is rated as excellent for home use and local markets. GENEVA has large yellow fruit of high quality, and is also quite productive. HENDERSON has large fruit, and a strong, vigorous, productive tree. Both HENDERSON and GENEVA are freestones, while DOTY is nearly so.

—From Progress Report, N. Y. State Agr. Exp. Sta., Geneva, N.Y., December 27, 1952.

Remember to order the missing numbers in your collection of the *Fruit Varieties and Horticultural Digest* at 50 cents each, from Dr. R. B. Tukey, Dept. of Hort., Purdue Univ., Lafayette, Ind.