

## The Goldenred Peach

HERMAN A. HINRICHS\*

Stillwater, Oklahoma

A new yellow-fleshed, freestone peach named Goldenred, which combines some of the advantages of Elberta and Redhaven, has been introduced by the Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station. It is the result of a cross between Early Elberta and Halehaven made in the spring of 1946. The original tree first fruited in 1951, ripening about July 14 at Stillwater. In 1952, trees were propagated and planted at the Perkins farm near Stillwater, Oklahoma and at the Kiamichi Field Station near Stilwell, Oklahoma. The variety was tested under the experimental designation—Oklahoma 59-2-22.

Goldenred ripens with Redhaven and about four weeks ahead of Elberta. It is a yellow-fleshed freestone of high quality and attractive color. The fruit is medium to large in size and nearly round. It is smooth, with short and soft pubescence (fuzz). The apex is indistinct or nearly so. The skin color is intermediate between Elberta and Redhaven. It has plenty of red to make it attractive on the market, but enough peach color to insure proper ripening before picking.

The flesh is lemon-yellow, fine-textured and has a sweet aroma and pleasing taste. It is more freestone than Redhaven and halves nicely like Elberta when ripe. It is red around the pit, but not bitter.

The attractive color, the absence of fuzz and the high quality are the chief factors in consumer choice. The rich golden-yellow ground color is more attractive than either Elberta, Redhaven, or Halehaven.

The trees are vigorous and produc-

tive. At the Kiamichi Field Station, Goldenred produced 103 pounds of fruit per tree in 1956 and 102 pounds in 1957, the first two years of bearing. For other varieties planted at the same time as Goldenred, the two-year averages were: Redglobe, 95 pounds per tree; Erly-Red-Fre, 88; Belle of Georgia, 72; Triogem, 56; and Golden-east, 12. Trees of Elberta and Redhaven at the same age from planting had a three-year average of 55 and 108 pounds, respectively. Drought and freezes in 1956 and 1957 at Stilwell and the Perkins farm prevented yield comparisons. All varieties in the orchards failed to bear. An excellent crop developed in each of the test orchards in 1958.

Goldenred has not required thinning. The set has been adequate, being similar to that of Elberta, but not as heavy as Redhaven.

Trees will be available in small numbers from many nurseries in the fall of 1959. Certified budwood will be made available to nurserymen through the Oklahoma Foundation Seedstock, Inc., Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma. The Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station does not have trees available.



The California Fruit Exchange reports that the nectarine acreage in California increased from 2,922 acres in 1954 to 6000 acres in 1958. This growing interest in nectarines is attributed largely to the development of the large, colorful Le Grand group of varieties.

---

\*Assistant Professor, Department of Horticulture, Oklahoma State University.