

Reviews and Abstracts

Rootstocks and Methods Used for Dwarfing Fruit Trees. 1959. By K. D. Brase, and R. D. Way. N. Y. Agr. Exp. Sta. Bul. 783, 50 pages.

This very comprehensive publication is an attempt to summarize what we now know about methods of dwarfing apple, pear, peach, cherry and plum. Techniques of obtaining dwarfing effects and the methods of propagating dwarfing rootstocks are described in detail. Incompatibility, hardiness, anchorage, soil requirements, planting distance and other problems with dwarfing rootstocks are discussed. It is pointed out, for example, that apples dwarfed by the use of an EM-IX interpiece inserted between the seedling rootstock and the scion variety are better anchored than those dwarfed by budding the scion directly on an EM-IX rootstock.

Many will find the section of this bulletin dealing with the history of the dwarfing apple rootstocks of considerable interest. Others will be particularly interested in the discussion of cultural requirements of dwarfed apple trees.

This well presented story on dwarfing rootstocks should be very valuable to our readers, since their use brings fruits into bearing early, thereby facilitating a more rapid testing of new varieties.



Sweet Cherries for Oregon. 1959. By Q. B. Zielinski, W. A. Sistrunk and W. M. Melenthin. Ore. Agr. Exp. Sta. Bul. 570, 19 pages.

The authors of this fine bulletin tell us that improvement of sweet cherries has been very slow since the Lambert was introduced in 1880. However,

there has been a renewal of interest during the past 25 years.

Varieties that were tested at Corvallis are evaluated. Ratings are given for fruit characteristics, and suitability for canning, brining and fresh use. Abbreviated descriptions of sweet cherry varieties not previously published in this journal and which appear most promising for Oregon, are as follows:

Persian: Introduced from India and of unknown origin. Flesh is white, firm, meaty and of excellent quality. Early ripening. Not subject to bruising. Equal to Napoleon for canning, and better for brining. Excellent for fresh use. Very productive. Good pollinizer.

Merton Heart: English cross of Biggareau de Schrechen x Elton Heart. Equal to Bing in hardiness. Bears fruit close to main limbs. Jet black fruit, meaty, juicy, very rich in flavor and high in quality. Cracks, but not badly. Heavy and consistent cropper. Promising for early fresh market.

Noire de Guben: Old French variety of uncertain origin. Very dark red cherry that resembles Bing in shape. Very firm and very good in quality. Seldom cracks badly. Has excellent canning quality. Excellent as a pollinizer.

Merton Favorite: Cross of Knight's Early Black x Biggareau de Schrechen made in England. Equal to Bing in hardiness. Fruit scattered on tree. Black, very juicy cherry of excellent flavor. Fruit sometimes cracks but seldom badly. Seven to ten days before Napoleon.

Corum Seedling: Oregon seedling of unknown origin. Hasn't been tested for hardiness. Six to seven days before Napoleon. Pale yellow fruit with attractive red blush. Flesh tender, meaty, mild flavored, and resists bruising.