

The Collins Peach

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Collins is a yellow-fleshed, firm, good quality peach that ripens a few days to a week before Sunrise. The fruit is of medium size, up to two-and-one-half inches in diameter (see front cover). It has short pubescence and is three-quarters to all covered with a bright, attractive red. Collins is a semi-cling-stone when picked, but becomes free-stone when fully ripe.

The tree is vigorous and very productive. It has produced six successive heavy crops. It must be thinned well and early. There have been no split pits to date. The flowers are perfect with non-showy petals. It has reniform leaf glands.

Collins is a seedling peach from a cross between Jerseyland and NJ-188,

made in 1949. NJ-188 is a seedling of Raritan Rose x [(J. H. Hale x Goldfinch) open pollinated]. Collins was first selected in 1955 and given the introduction number NJ-200. Several thousand additional seedlings fruited in New Jersey for the first time this past year.

Collins is the earliest ripening, yellow-fleshed, good quality, shipping peach introduced by the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station. It was named in honor of the late Lester Collins, president of the New Jersey Peach Council for over 25 years.

Trees may be obtained from the New Jersey Peach Council, R. D. #3, Princeton, N. J.

New Early Maturing Tangerine Hybrids

The tangerine hybrids Robinson, Osceola and Lee, selected by P. E. Reece and F. E. Gardner, have been introduced by the United States Department of Agriculture. They are all crosses of the tangerine Clementine and the tangelo Orlando.

All three hybrids mature before Dancy, the standard tangerine. Robinson ripens in late October. Its fruit is about three inches in diameter and two-and-one-half inches high. The rind peels easily and the tree bears regularly.

Osceola is highly colored and ripens in November. It is more acid than Robinson, and measures three inches in diameter and two-and-one-quarter inches high. The rind peels easily and

is able to withstand shipping. Tree bears heavily.

The Lee variety is very sweet. It ripens in late October or early November. The fruit resembles an orange in size and shape and peels like a Temple orange.

Preliminary tests indicate that the Cleopatra rootstock is undesirable for Osceola, and that Rough lemon is undesirable for any of the three hybrids. Because so much more additional information about them is still needed, it is being recommended that they be planted on a trial basis only.

New information on the performance of old and new fruit varieties in your area is welcomed by the editor.
—G.M.K.

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