A Resolution of the American Pomological Society on the Labeling of Nursery Stock*

"Whereas the success of a fruit tree in a particular situation, be it in a commercial orchard or home garden, depends greatly upon the type of rootstock and/or interstock employed in the make-up of that tree; and,

"Whereas most fruit trees sold are not fully labeled in this way, be it resolved that the American Pomological Society recommend that all labels attached to fruit trees offered for sale identify not only the scion variety, but also the rootstock and/or interstock that may be employed;

"Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to all State Horticultural Societies, Fruit Growers' Associations ,and Nursery Associations for publicizing among their membership and that this resolution be otherwise given as wide publicity as possible to stimulate maximum interest in the adoption of this urgently needed improvement in labeling practice."

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Definitions

Rootstock (understock): That part of a budded or grafted tree which provides the root system.

Seedling rootstock: A rootstock produced from seed.

Clonal rootstock: A rootstock propagated by a vegetative or asexual method, such as the rooting of stem cuttings taken from the stock plant or single original plant of a named scion or rootstock variety.

Interstock (intergraft, stem-piece, interstem): That portion of the trunk of a tree which had been grafted on to a rootstock, and upon which the scion variety has later been grafted or budded. This propagation technique, which is sometimes referred to as "double-working", results in a three-component tree.

Labelling: The names of the various components of the tree should be separated by a diagonal bar (/) and arranged in order from scion variety to rootstock. For example, McIntosh/EM IX; McIntosh/Virginia Crab/Delicious seedling.

*This resolution was initiated at the last annual meeting of the American Pomological Society on Feb. 8, 1960, York, Pennsylvania, and put into its final form in July, 1960.

Dwarfing Rootstocks Being Sought for Cherry

Dutch horticulturists at the Institute of Horticultural Plant Breeding, Wageningen, Netherlands, are hoping to develop a series of clonal, dwarfing rootstocks for sweet cherry similar to the East Malling rootstocks for apple. A. S. De Bruyne, of the Institute, reports in the "Grower" (April 4, 1959) that crosses were made among the dwarf type *Prunus incisa compacta* and two types of *Prunus nipponica Kurilensis.* Selections were made from the hundreds of progeny, of which 141 resisted breaking at the union after two years. They have been budded and have come into bearing. The budded trees have borne abundantly for their size, and have so far shown no aphids, silver leaf or bacterial canker.

An additional 200 seedlings of *P. incisa compacta* have been selected and are also being tested for possible use as dwarfing rootstocks for cherry.