

Apple Varieties Vary in Response to Irrigation

C. C. Forshey reports (Penna.—Jersey Farmer, July, '60) that best returns from irrigation of apples can be realized only when the variety poses a fruit size problem, and when there is a substantial price differential between sizes. Varieties that tend to over-set respond profitably to irrigation in dry years. Irrigation pays if it increases the size of every fruit on the tree at least $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. The most profitable varieties in the Hudson Valley of New York, with regard to irrigation, are Delicious and Golden Delicious. The net return from irrigating a 9-year old Golden Delicious orchard on a droughty, gravelly loam, in the Hudson Valley in 1957, was more than \$200.00.



Earlired—a New Peach

Earlired is an attractive, yellow-fleshed peach introduced by the U. S. D. A. this past summer. It usually ripens two to five days before Cardinal. The fruit is medium in size and well-covered with a bright red blush over a yellow ground color. Its firm flesh is melting and of good flavor. It is semi-free at the soft-ripe stage.

The tree is vigorous and annually productive. The fruit require early and heavy thinning. It is moderately susceptible to bacterial leaf spot, and is about the same as Elberta in its chilling requirement.

Earlired is recommended for trial as a local market or shipping variety. For more information and budwood, contact Dr. A. L. Havis, Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Maryland or your state Experiment Station.

Chinook and Rainier Sweet Cherries

Two new sweet cherry varieties, Chinook and Rainier, were released jointly in August 1960 by the Wash. Agr. Exp. Station and the U.S.D.A. Dr. Harold W. Fogle was originator of both varieties.

Chinook (Bing × Gil Peck) ripens its mahogany colored fruits four to ten days before Bing. Soluble solids in fruit is equal to or higher, and titratable acidity lower than in Bing. Young trees have been vigorous and hardier than Bing, but less so than Van.

Rainier (Bing × Van) ripens three to seven days before Bing. Fruit is firm, of high quality and attractive. The skin color is yellow with a red blush. Flesh is clear. Soluble solids of fruit are equal to or slightly higher, and titratable acidity lower than in Bing. Tree is vigorous, productive, early bearing, and as winter hardy as Van.

Indexing tests show that both Rainier and Chinook are free of harmful viruses.



Strawberry Varieties for Michigan

H. K. Bell, J. D. Downes and R. H. Fulton, of Michigan State University have reported on extensive strawberry variety trials carried on during the years 1957 to 1959. They hoped to find commercial varieties superior to the present standard varieties, Robinson and Premier. Robinson, Premier and Earlidawn were outstanding in these tests. However, since Earlidawn is highly susceptible to Verticillium wilt, it is not recommended for land previously used for Verticillium susceptible crops such as tomato and potato.