

Plums By Anderson

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We usually think of Fred W. Anderson of Merced, California, as originating and introducing fine new large, yellow-fleshed freestone nectarines. Now he has released two new plums, Amazon and Ebony. Both are patented, Amazon as No. 2,043 on April 4 of this year, and Ebony as No. 2,049 on April 18. Both varieties have been assigned to the Reedley Nursery, Reedley, California.

At present the leading shipping plums ripen in a sequence of Santa Rosa, Burbank, Duarte, Nubiana, and Laroda. Some good varieties are still needed to extend the season, particularly the first part. Mr. Anderson presents Ebony and Amazon as contenders for this role.

The freestone fruit of *Amazon* are globose and large, being larger than El Dorado and Duarte. The thick to medium skin shows a deep blue shaded with dark red, giving a general purple-blue, attractive appearance. It shows no tendency to crack. The cream-colored flesh is firm, fine-textured, meaty and melting, with a vinous flavor. Fruits ripen evenly several days before Nubiana, and a week before Laroda. In the San Joaquin Valley, where it originated, it is eating-ripe about July 20, with a picking season from July 10 to 25 in 1959. Tests indicate that it ships well over long distances, and also keeps well in cold storage. Amazon is self-fruitful. It was selected from a population of self-pollinated El Dorado seedlings.

Ebony is also an open-pollinated seedling of El Dorado. In comparing it with its parent, it is similar in color,

firmness, eating quality, but with a slightly rougher skin texture. However, *Ebony* is considerably larger, and colors and ripens about one week earlier than El Dorado. In comparison with Santa Rosa, the fruit of *Ebony* is larger, firmer, and the skin color is blue instead of dark red. It appears to hold up better in long distance shipping, and keeps for a longer time. Although it colors at approximately the same time as Santa Rosa, it is harvested somewhat later, being eating-ripe about July 20, with a picking season of July 1 to 20 in 1959. Its symmetrical, globose-to-oblate fruit shows no tendency to crack. The skin is covered with a slight gray bloom. Flesh color is yellow near the pit, being somewhat darker near the skin. It is firm, meaty, melting, with abundant juice, and is semi-freestone.



Annual Meeting of American Pomological Society in Toronto

The next annual meeting of the American Pomological Society is to be held in Toronto, Canada, Monday, Jan. 15 through Wednesday, Jan. 17, 1962. It will be a joint meeting with the Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association, with headquarters in the King Edwards Hotel. It is hoped that many of you will attend this Canadian meeting, which promises to be very outstanding.

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