

New Bartlett Pear Sport Shows Some Tolerance to Blight

A new pear sport, the Stewart Bartlett, appears to be more tolerant to fire blight than its parent. It was first discovered in the Wenatchee area by Howard M. Stewart in his own orchard in 1959 (Western Fruit Grower, July, 1961). Dr. Archie Van Dorn and Dr. Roderick Sprague, of the Washington State University Tree Fruit Experiment Station at Wenatchee, have been putting this Bartlett sport, through a series of tests. Their verdict is as follows: "...all evidence indicates that this sport has some tolerance of blight, but it is by no means immune. The fruit seems to be nearly as susceptible as the standard strain, but the wood appears to resist invasion by the organism."



Dual Purpose Peaches—Saturn and Double Delight

Two new peaches—Saturn and Double Delight, with freestone, yellow-fleshed fruit, as well as very beautiful, double flowers, are now being offered to the home gardener by the Armstrong Nurseries, of Ontario, California.

Saturn matures about a week after July Elberta, and has a low chilling requirement similar to that of Springtime. Tree is vigorous and productive. Results of tests at the New York Agr. Exp. Station, at Geneva, indicate that it is not winter hardy in that area. Fruit is somewhat tart, soft and medium to large in size. Although it doesn't have too much red skin color, Saturn does have an attractive yellow ground color. Flowers are rose pink.

Double Delight matures a few days before July Elberta and has a similar chilling requirement. Tree is productive and moderately vigorous. Its winter hardiness is not known. Fruit has more red skin color, is larger, firmer and sweeter than Saturn. Flowers are light pink.

Both varieties show some susceptibility to brown rot, similar to the strictly flowering peaches in this respect.



Sweet cherry variety testing at the New York State Agr. Exp. Station at Geneva, New York, began in 1890, and 93 varieties are currently under test, according to Dr. Roger Way. He tells us that, in his experience, the varieties most susceptible to southwest trunk winter injury are Black Tartarian, Bing, Lambert, Napoleon, Giant and Sodus. Resistant varieties are Yellow Spanish, Lyons and Florence.