



Fig. 2. Color variations in fruits from a small branch of the original limb sport which was named Vance Delicious.

A careful study of the original sporting branch of Starking in an orchard in Albemarle County, Virginia, which later was propagated as Vance Delicious, revealed one small branch bearing three fruits. One of those had apparently typical Vance color. Another had a pronounced chimaeral color stripe. The third fruit had color and striping comparable to that of the original Delicious type. Figure 2 shows the color variations of these fruits.

These apparently sporting branches have not been propagated for further testing. Their performance in the Patrick County orchard had been observed for several seasons, so there is reason to believe that the color pattern of their fruits is fixed. If this is true, it appears that color sports of Delicious and Stayman may be less stable than has generally been believed to be true of apple color sports. This emphasizes the need for testing new color sports over a period of years to determine whether their changed color condition is truly fixed and permanent. The need for selecting scionwood from trees of known fruiting performance is also obvious.

Aurora, An Early Blackberry For Western Oregon

Aurora is an early blackberry just introduced jointly by the U.S.D.A. and the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station. This blackberry originated as a seedling from the cross U.S.-Oreg. 616 \times U.S.-Oreg. 73, made in 1946. It was selected during the fruiting season of 1949 and since that time has been tested in many parts of western Oregon as well as in Washington and California as U.S.-Oreg. 966.

Aurora ripens before any other blackberry grown in western Oregon, between June 21 and July 15. The berries are medium large, firm, and excellent flavor. The canes are medium vigorous and very pliable, making training easy. Most of the fruit is borne on the basal 4 to 5 feet of the canes. This fruit production habit makes close planting necessary for high yields since yields are about 50 percent lower than for Boysen or Marion when the conventional system of planting is used. Canes are winter hardy under western Oregon conditions.

Its firmness and size, along with excellent flavor quality, make it desirable as an early fresh market variety. Aurora also has very good processing qualities.

Neither the U.S.D.A. nor the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station has plants for distribution.



Evaluation of Carpathian walnuts by the Michigan Nut Growers Assn., and directed by William Fischer, showed that the Hansen variety was tops in Michigan for the 1960-61 season.