

stabilize the annual production of Golden Delicious. The use of milder, organic, pest-control chemicals, along with maintenance of healthier, well-foliated trees, tend to reduce or eliminate russet and give better fruit.

Our sales of **Staymans** and red sport trees have substantially declined in recent years as a result of marketing problems with this apple, which is still a real good "eater" in my book.

Baldwins continue to decline in the East, and **Newtowns** are holding their own in the west, with some young plantings coming along in Oregon and California.

There is some planting of summer apples, including enough **Gravensteins** to maintain production of this variety, a big increase in **Beacon**, sometimes grown as Miller Red and Fenton, and a few **Lodi**, some of which will be top-worked and used for their hardy framework. There are quite a few young **Starrs** in New Jersey and **Early Macks** in New York, and **Tydemans Early Worcester** and **Early Mac** in Washington State. **Haralson** is the leading variety in young plantings in Iowa and Minnesota.

The great increase in the planting of dwarf trees in all areas is significant. Most of these are not the true dwarf, bush-type tree of France and other continental European countries, but are semi-dwarf, intermediate between the bush and our present standard-sized trees. The fruit-spur type **Delicious**, and, the more recently discovered spur-type **Winesap**, **Golden Delicious**, and **Lodi**, also fall into this size range. These semi-dwarf trees are young bearers, highly efficient and productive for the space they occupy, and will have a terrific impact on the future of apple production here and abroad. I think they are the answer to increased production of higher quality fruit at greatly reduced cost.

We used to figure it took 20% of our tree numbers of non-bearing age to maintain production. Today, with better cultural methods, milder sprays, dwarf trees, fruit-spur type semi-dwarf trees, we can maintain production with much less acreage in this classification.

Apple production should substantially increase in the next few years, unless abandonment of eastern marginal orchards and removal of obsolete varieties in the West is greatly accelerated. The big increase will be in **Red Delicious** and **Golden Delicious**.

It should be kept in mind, however, that the American population is increasing in explosive proportions, and that we will have plenty of people to eat the increased tonnage of the right varieties, either fresh or out of cans, if we provide a good product and the right promotion.



National Fruit Trials in Great Britain

In 1922, the British Ministry of Agriculture and the Royal Horticultural Society together established the Commercial Fruit Trials at Wisley, in Surrey, to assess the value of new and little-known varieties of fruits. These were renamed the National Fruit Trials in 1943. A new larger site, the Brogdale Farm, south of Faversham, was acquired for the Trials in 1952.

Among the materials tested are selections resulting from the breeding programs carried on at the research stations at East Malling, Long Ashton, John Innes, and the Scottish Horticultural Research Institute.

J. M. S. Potter, who directs the Brogdale tests, points out that they are interested in finding new early and late apple varieties; new pears; and sweet cherry varieties less subject to splitting and more resistant to bacterial canker.