

Further Notes on the Garnet Beauty Peach

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A preliminary report on the Garnet Beauty peach appeared in Volume 13:4 of this publication in June 1959. This early mutation of the Redhaven peach showed outstanding promise at that time, and it was thought that peach growers and breeders might be interested in its progress. The mutation required very careful selection and six clones were chosen from which to make the final selection. All six clones have since produced a desirable type of fruit, virtually indistinguishable from one another. No reversion to the undesirable types which appeared on the mutating branch has occurred in any of these selections in any season, and a final choice is being made for general propagation by budding.

In 1961 Garnet Beauty ripened on July 31 in southwestern Ontario (latitude 42°N.), ten days before Redhaven in the same orchard. The Garnet Beauty variety ripened with and slightly ahead of Dixired and Cardinal varieties nearby. A count showed less than 2 per cent "split pits" in Garnet Beauty, whereas Dixired and Cardinal were characterized by excessive splitting at the pit, which rendered the fruit useless for shipping. Garnet Beauty requires careful thinning, as does Redhaven, but five-year-old trees have produced two bushels of large fruit. The fruit is remarkably free at the pit and, in the opinion of some observers, is superior in this characteristic to Redhaven. The fruit quality is excellent, and the skin is bright red with yellow, and firm at

all points, particularly on the shoulder. The tree characteristics are similar to those of Redhaven, as far as can be determined at this time. The variety is slightly susceptible to bacterial spot *Xanthomonas pruni*, to the same degree as Redhaven.

Local interest in the variety has been encouraging to those concerned with its propagation. Some 6,000 trees have already been planted, and 4,000 trees will be planted in 1962. Public acceptance of the variety on the market has been equally good, and prices received for it have been higher than those received for other varieties. Mr. George Whaley, Ruthven, Ontario, has sole propagating rights for the present, and will have more trees available in the spring of 1963.



Veeport Grape

A promising new blue wine grape, 'Veeport,' was introduced in December, 1961, by the Horticultural Experiment Station, Vineland Station, Ontario, Canada. A seedling from a cross of Wilder × Winchell, Veeport is reported by A. A. Bradt to be fairly productive and vigorous, but more susceptible to powdery mildew than Concord. The bunch and berries are similar in size to Concord, (front cover), but the sugar content of the juice is slightly below that of Concord, and acidity a bit higher. The chief virtue of this new grape seems to be the high quality of the wine made from it.

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