# Andrew Leon Havis, 1909–1962

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Dr. Andrew Leon Havis, 53, Research Leader in stone fruit production in the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, at Beltsville, Maryland, died suddenly August 9 at his home, 6812 Dartmouth Avenue, College Park, Maryland.

Born in Roaring Springs, Texas, where he attended elementary and high schools, he received his B.S. degree from Texas Technological College, Lubbock, Texas, in 1931, and his Ph.D. degree from Ohio State University in 1935. He served on the horticultural staff at Ohio State, and later briefly held a similar position at Cornell University.

Dr. Havis joined the research staff of the U. S. Department of Agriculture at Beltsville, Maryland, March 1, 1943, at which time he was placed in charge of breeding and production research with stone fruits. From his work and that of his associates at U. S. D. A. field laboratories, a number of new varieties of peaches, plums, and cherries have been developed that are now grown throughout the United States.

Dr. Havis is both nationally and internationally known for his scientific contributions in the fields of plant physiology, breeding and genetics. He has lectured before many state fruit grower societies, and participated in the programs of a number of scientific societies.

I had the good fortune to have worked closely with Dr. Havis during two years when he was president of American Pomological Society, in 1957 and 1958, and always found him very cooperative, sincere and friendly. He was an active participant in the affairs of our Society, and was chairman of the Tree Fruits Exchange Committee for some ten years. He served, most recently, as Chairman of the Committee for Variety Arbitration. His friends in the American Pomological Society are very much saddened by his untimely death. We will miss him badly.

Dr. Havis leaves his wife, Eleanor; a daughter, Kathryn Havis; and a son, A. Lee Havis, a student at the University of Connecticut. Also surviving him are his mother, Mrs. Lucy Havis, of Lubbock, Texas; two sisters, Mrs. Elton Smith of Arlington, Texas, and Mrs. Maribel Williams of Houston, Texas; and two brothers, Melvin of Lubbock, Texas, and John of Amherst, Massachusetts.

## Freeing Raspberries from Viruses

Viruses are reducing raspberry crops severely in the commercial plantings of the U. S. However, it is hoped that virus-free stock of the better raspberry varieties will soon be available to growers.

The U.S.D.A. is in the process of building up of supplies of virus-free stock for distribution to nurserymen in the various states. A few varieties have already been furnished as stock plants.

Even when virus-free raspberry plants become available to growers, it will still be necessary to control the aphids which spread the viruses, and to eradicate infected wild and cultivated brambles, to prevent infection of the virus-free plantings.