Reviews and Abstracts

Fruit Varieties. 1963. By G. W. Eaton, O. A. Bradt and C. L. Ricketson. Ont. Dept. Agr. Publ. 430.

This publication is a very comprehensive report on fruit varieties in Ontario. It presents figures on tree population by variety, and lists varieties recommended for general and trail planting for each district of Ontario. Charts are included which show the average picking dates for each variety.

Problems of pollination with tree fruits are discussed, and favorable combinations of varieties to insure good cross-pollination are recommended.

Descriptive notes on varieties by the authors are based mainly on observations in test plantings at the Horticultural Experiment Station at Vineland Station, Ontario.

Figures reported in this publication indicate the following trends in Ontario: Heavy planting in Ontario of McIntosh, Delicious and Northern Spy apples, many on East Malling rootstocks, EM VII, EM IX and EM II, in decreasing order of importance; Hedelfingen, Bing and Vista are most prominent in new plantings of sweet cherry; pear—Bartlett mainly; peach—Golden Jubilee, Redhaven, Elberta, Sunhaven, Loring and Early Elberta; plum—Stanley and Italian prunes, Early Golden and Lombard; grape—Niagara, Elvira, Siebel 10878, Concord, Agawam and Delaware.—*G. M. Kessler*

Rootstocks for Apple and Pear. 1963. By J. R. Tiscornia and F. E. Larsen. Wash. Agr. Exp. Sta. Circ. 421.

As we become more aware of the variability of seedling rootstocks being used for fruits, and the important effect rootstocks have on the performance of scion varieties, the need for reliable information on clonal rootstocks increases rapidly. This circular contributes such information by presenting a review of literature on apple and pear rootstocks.

Observations of horticulturists from the United States, Canada, Great Britain, France, and Sweden are cited. One hundred and twenty two references are used and listed, dated back to 1927 and as recent as 1962.

The authors conclude about apple rootstocks that East Malling stocks appear hardy except where winter temperatures are extremely low; that more information is needed about the cold hardiness of stocks and interstocks; that the wooly aphid resistant Malling Merton stocks promise to be an improvement over the EM series with respect to earliness of bearing, yield, anchorage and freedom from suckering.

Quince A seems the most promising of the clonal rootstocks for pear for its dwarfing and early bearing effects, but poses problems of compatability and fire blight susceptibility. —*G. M. Kessler.*