New Cherry Cultivars in California*

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Five new sweet cherry cultivars have been released in 1964 for commercial trial by the Department of Pomology, California Agricultural Experiment Station, Davis. Mona, Larian, and Jubilee have red to dark-red fruits, whereas Berryessa and Bada bear cream-colored, red-blushed, Royal Ann-type fruits.

Each standard sweet cherry cultivar presently grown in California, while having many good features, also has one or more defects. For example, Black Tartarian trees with heavy crops produce small fruit, and are seriously affected by cherry crinkle and deep suture. Bing and Royal Ann (Napoleon) often bear numerous fruit doubles in the interior valleys of California. Bing is also seriously affected by crinkle and deep suture. Royal Ann is subject to heavy losses due to fruit cracking. Bing, Royal Ann, and Lambert are interincompatible and will not produce crops when planted together unless other effective pollinating cultivars are provided.

The new cultivars also have imperfections, but each has a quality or qualities superior to those of the standard cultivars in the localized environment of one or more of the California cherry-growing districts.

Jubilee and Bada are presently free of known virus diseases. The other new introductions are known to carry a latent virus which is considered of minor importance in sweet cherry culture.

The limited tests on which the following observations are based do not assure the commercial success of these cultivars. Their introduction at this time is for commercial trial.

Mona, tested as UCD 30-9a, is released as a supplement for Black Tartarian. At Davis, Mona ripens a day later than Black Tartarian and about 17 days before Bing. Fruit diameter averages larger than that of Black Tartarian and nearly that of Bing. The stem is usually long, slender, and firmly attached to the fruit.

The red to dark-red flesh is more firm than Black Tartarian, but not as firm as Bing. The flavor is mild and sweet; in most years Mona is considered to be superior in flavor to Black Tartarian. The smooth stone is relatively large and ranges from quite free to slightly clinging.

Mona is subject to a moderate amount of fruit cracking when exposed to late rains. Some fruit doubles are produced in California's interior valleys in years when doubling is a serious problem with Bing and Royal Ann. Doubling has not been noted in this cultivar in the coastal counties.

Mona trees are very productive, vigorous, and upright-spreading. At Davis, Mona reaches full bloom 3-4 days later than Black Tartarian and about a day before Bing. The bloom period overlaps that of Bing, Royal Ann, Van, Larian, and Berryessa (Fig. 1). Controlled pollination tests indicate that Mona may be satisfactorily cross-pollinated by Berryessa, Van, Starking Hardy Giant, Royal Ann, Early Burlat, Moreau, Black Tartarian, Republican, and Chapman. Some

*A more detailed report appears in Calif. Agr. Exp. Sta. Bul. 806; much of the material presented here is taken from this bulletin.

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Table 1. New and Standard Sweet Cherry Cultivar Combinations for Effective Interpollination (X).

	Cultivar				
	Bada	*Berryessa*	*Jubilee*	*Larian*	*Mona*
BADA		X[1]	X	X	
BERRYESSA	X		X	X	
Bing	X		X	X	X
Black Tartarian				X	X
Early Burlat			X		X
JUBILEE		X		X	X
Lambert			X		
LARIAN	X		X		
MONA	X			X	
Moreau		X	X		X
Republican					X
Royal Ann	X	X	X		X
Starking Hardy Giant		X	X		X
Van	X	X		X	X

[1]Example: Bada and Berryessa are intercompatible and should serve as a satisfactory combination in regard to cross-pollination.

pollination details are given in Table 1.

In its few commercial plantings, Mona is liked by growers who report that it is the easiest of all cultivars to pick, and that, size for size, it has brought higher prices than Black Tartarian. The fresh fruit market apparently is the best outlet for Mona. It has proved to be a satisfactory brining cherry, however, and is far superior to Black Tartarian for that purpose.

Larian, tested as UCD 53-20, is released as a supplement for either Black Tartarian or Bing. The fruit is larger, firmer, and has a better flavor than Black Tartarian. It is relatively free of fruit doubles, and is more resistant to cracking than Bing. The fruit matures more than a week earlier than Bing.

The skin is glossy, dark red, similar to Bing in texture, and resistant to bruising. The fruit is round heart-shaped. The red to dark red flesh is fine textured, meaty, moderately juicy, and moderately firm to firm. The juice is red to dark red. Its excellent flavor ranges from sweet and mildly tart to sweet and mild. The stone is medium to small, smooth, and slightly clinging.

Larian is very resistant to fruit cracking and has produced very few doubles even in years when doubling was a serious problem with Bing and Royal Ann.

Trees are moderately vigorous and upright-spreading at maturity. Larian reaches full bloom with Bing, with its bloom period (Fig. 1) overlapping those of Van, Mona, Royal Ann, and Berryessa sufficiently for cross-pollination. Some pollination details are given in Table 1.

Larian is recommended for shipping and fresh fruit consumption. Although canning and brining tests are limited, it is apparently satisfactory for these outlets.

Jubilee, tested as UCD 26-15, is introduced as a supplement for Bing because it produces practically no fruit doubles, the fruit is larger, and

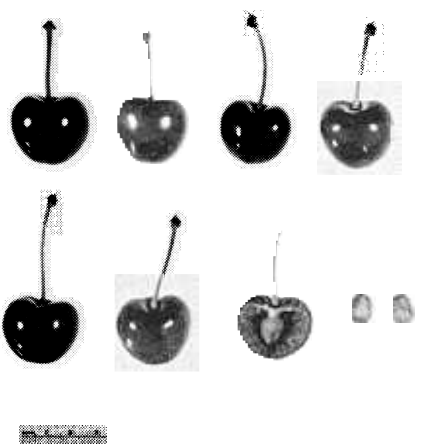


Fig. 1. Fruit of the new black cherry Larian, which is relatively free of fruit doubles and more resistant to cracking than Bing.

ripens several days before Bing. The fruit is very attractive and delicious, and maintains its high quality for a relatively long period at room temperature. The skin is glossy, red to dark red at maturity, and similar to Bing in texture and in resistance to bruising. The fruit is heart-shaped.

The red to dark red flesh is meaty, fine-textured, moderately juicy, and moderately firm to firm, but not quite as firm as Royal Ann or Bing. The juice is light red to red. The excellent flavor ranges from very sweet and mild to sweet and mildly tart. The stone is medium large, has a prominent suture, and is free to slightly clinging.

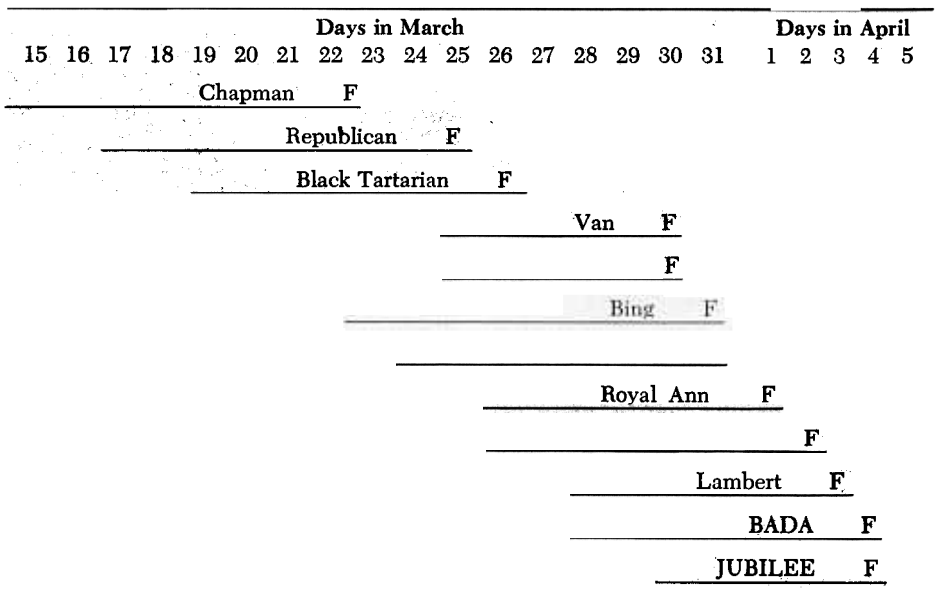
Jubilee has about the same resistance to cracking as Bing. It has produced practically no fruit doubles even in years when doubling was a serious problem with fruits of Bing and Royal Ann.

Jubilee trees are similar to Bing in growth and appearance; they are productive, vigorous, and upright-spreading. Jubilee has a late average bloom period (Fig. 1). Test data indicate that there is sufficient overlap in the bloom periods of Jubilee, Bing, Royal Ann, and Lambert for adequate cross pollination. Table 1 indicates some pollination details.

Jubilee may be harvested over a long period since it has excellent flavor from the time it is light red to fully ripe. The quality is maintained on the tree even during very hot weather. After harvest it retains its high quality for a number of days at room temperature. Jubilee is an excellent cultivar for shipping, fresh fruit consumption, canning, and brining.

Berryessa, tested as UCD 23A-3a, is released as a supplement for Royal Ann. It produces relatively few fruit doubles, and its fruit has excellent

Fig. 1. Bloom Periods of New and Standard Cultivars of Sweet Cherries at Davis, California.*



*Lines indicate 6-year-average length of bloom from first conspicuous flowers to full bloom (F).

quality. It is larger than Royal Ann and ripens nearly a week earlier. The skin is glossy, cream-colored with medium to high blush. It is similar to Royal Ann in texture, but more resistant to bruising. The average fruit diameter of Berryessa is larger than that of any other sweet cherry in the cultivar collection at Davis.

The cream-colored flesh is moderately firm to firm, meaty, fine textured, and moderately juicy. The juice is clear. The flavor is sweet and mildly tart, and considered superior to Royal Ann. The stone is medium large and slightly clinging to the flesh, but the fruit is satisfactory for pitting.

Berryessa is subject to some fruit cracking when exposed to late rains. It also produces relatively low percentages of fruit doubles in the San Joaquin County, California, districts and at Davis in years when doubling is a serious problem with Royal Ann and Bing. In most years, however, Berryessa has been free of fruit cracking and doubling.

Berryessa trees start bearing at an early age, are productive, vigorous, and upright-spreading. It blooms (Fig. 1) at about the same time as Royal Ann and the average bloom period also overlaps well with Van, Mona, Bing, Larian, and Lambert. Pollination details are given in Table 1.

Berryessa is well liked in San Joaquin County, where it is considered a logical supplement, or even replacement, for Royal Ann because of its large size, quality, and relatively low production of fruit doubles. It is excellent for shipping, fresh fruit consumption, and canning. Although it makes an excellent brined product, the fruit is usually too large for an ideal brining cherry.

Bada, tested as UCD 19A-4, is released as a supplement for Royal Ann. It has produced no fruit doubles even in years when Royal Ann had as high as 25% doubles; it is highly resistant to fruit cracking and is effectively cross pollinated by Bing.

The skin is glossy, cream-colored with medium to high blush. It is similar to Royal Ann in texture, but more resistant to bruising. The fruit diameter is about the same as that of Royal Ann. The cream-colored flesh has about the same firmness as Royal Ann, is meaty, fine textured, and moderately juicy, with clear juice. The delicious flavor is sweet and mild, being less tart than Royal Ann. The pit is medium large, ranging from free to slightly clinging.

Bada is very resistant to fruit cracking and fruit doubles have not been noted in this cultivar.

Trees are early-bearing, productive to very productive, moderately vigorous, and upright-spreading. Stockton Morello rootstock dwarfs the tree considerably, as it does the standard cherry cultivars.

Bada blooms relatively late, be-

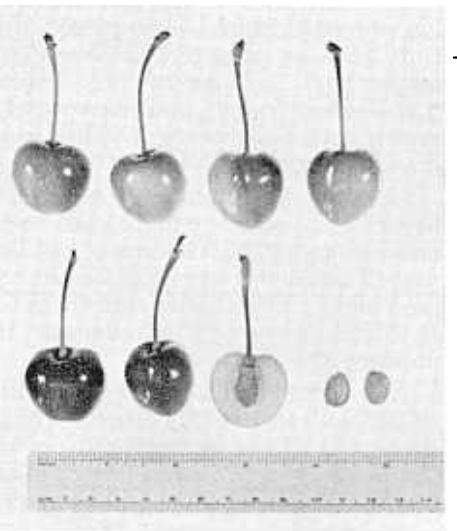


Fig. 2. Fruit of Bada, a white, crack-resistant variety, promising for fresh market, canning and brining.

tween Lambert and Jubilee, but its bloom period (Fig. 1) sufficiently overlaps those of Van, Mona, Bing, Larian, Royal Ann, and Berryessa for good cross pollination. Pollination details are given in Table 1.

Bada is excellent for shipping and fresh fruit consumption, as well as for canning and brining. Evidently it may satisfactorily supplement, or even replace, Royal Ann for these markets. The fresh fruit has a long shelf life, remaining glossy with no shriveling of stems for several days at room temperature.

It is felt that Bada could be a good companion cultivar for Berryessa, since their bloom periods coincide well enough for cross pollination and their fruit may be harvested at about the same time. Bada is enough smaller than Berryessa to be more satisfactory for brining.

Propagating wood of these new cultivars may be purchased in limited quantity from the Foundation Plant Materials Service, University of California, Davis. The manager of this service can supply a list of nurserymen handling them. Address all inquiries to: Manager, Foundation Plant Materials Service, Department of Viticulture and Enology, University of California, Davis, California 95616.

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The Goldmine Nectarine*

ALBERT FARMER†

The discovery of the Goldmine nectarine in a garden in Parnell, Auckland, at the end of the last century, has proved a major contribution to the fruit growing industry of New Zealand. Of all varieties of local origin, it is the best known and most widely grown nectarine variety in other fruit growing regions of the world.

Seedlings from Goldmine have also become important commercial varieties. Since 1921, Goldmine and its named seedlings have been frequently used in the United States and Australia as breeding parents in attempts to improve the nectarine.

The origin of this variety was discussed with the late Hayward Wright, who, at the time of the discovery of Goldmine, was foreman for Messrs. David Hay and Son, nurserymen, Shore Road, Auckland. The origin and description of the variety was subsequently published by the author in the Royal Hort. Society 'Fruit Yearbook' in England in 1955.

According to Wright, this nectarine began as a seedling in the garden of David Lundon, Claybrook Rd., Parnell, Auckland, from a pit imported from Belgium by Ansenne Bros. about 1900. Wright was sent by David Hay to inspect the tree, and Miss Lundon was asked to name the variety.

In their supplementary catalogue of 1897-98, David Hay and Son, Montpellier Nurseries, had this to say about the Goldmine nectarine:

"We have no hesitation in recommending this remarkable new seedling nectarine as superior to all others for productiveness and all-round good

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