

Grape Winter Injury in West Kentucky

The severe sub-zero weather of late January 1963 (approximately -20°) caused serious cane and vine damage in the American bunch and French hybrid grape variety trials at Princeton, Kentucky. A hard freeze in May also killed most remaining fruit cluster buds and blossoms, reducing the 1963 crop to a virtual failure.

Bunch grapes. The only variety that was hardy enough to bear a normal crop was the new blue Oklahoma variety, Cimarron.

Varieties that were hardy enough for their tops to survive and produce sufficient new growth for a 1964 crop were concord, Fredonia, Stueben, Catawba, Buffalo, Muench, Sheridan, Himrod, Blue Eye and Gasgonade.

Varieties killed to ground, or nearly so, with suitable sprout cane growth to renew tops were Ellen Scott, Seneca, Brilliant, Schuyler, Romulus, Yates and Alden.

Interlaken was completely killed, with no sprouts from the base, while Portland and Athens, though alive, were so severely injured and weakened to be worthless.

French Hybrid Grapes. S-1053 and C-13 were hardiest, survived best, and bore a part crop in 1963. Other varieties to survive the sub-zero weather satisfactorily were: S-5279, S.V. 5-276, S.V. 12-375 and young C-7120 replants.

Varieties with tops killed to the ground with suitable sprouts for renewal were S-14483, S.V. 12-347, S-9110 and Ravat-6.

No French Hybrid vines of any variety were completely killed.—*W. D. Armstrong, Kentucky, Western Kentucky Experiment Station, Princeton, Kentucky.*

Newest New York Apple Varieties

The following are observations about the newest New York apple introductions and one numbered selection by Dr. Roger Way of the N. Y. Agr. Exp. Station at Geneva, and George LaMont, of Albion, N. Y., in the N. Y. State Hort. Society Newsletter, Nov., 1964.

Wayne. Way: "Ripe just after McIntosh; attractive crimson color, good for fresh market; dual-purpose; best frozen slice variety—superior to Northern Spy; blooms late with Rome."

Lamont: "is tops in processing quality. On the strength of a comeback this year, I raised its yield and annual bearing rating to B, which is the minimum level for commercial production. It will never produce the tonnage of fruit that Golden Delicious will, and probably will not equal Monroe. It warrants planting as an early season processing apple."

Spigold. Way: "Spy type; ripens just before Spy; very large; excellent quality; excellent for frozen slices; triploid pollen not viable."

LaMont: Using an A to D rating scale, with A as top rating, Spigold is rated A for processing quality, fruit size and ability to hang on tree; C for annual bearing and production; and D for age of coming into bearing.

NY 4500-5 (McIntosh x Delicious). Way: "Ripens after Cortland; medium size, fresh market type; attractive dark red color; excellent quality; annual, heavy cropper; tree has strong wide-angled branches; Spartan type, but larger, hangs much better than Spartan; generally far superior to Spartan."