

Reviews and Abstracts

Dwarfed Fruit Trees. 1964. By H. B. Tukey.* Macmillan. 562 pages. \$15.00.

This is a book that should prove useful to all interested in the tree fruits—the amateur, the commercial fruit grower, horticulturist, teacher or student. It provides answers to almost any question one might have about dwarf trees. These answers reflect many years of observations, experience and intensive research on the part of the author. The text material is well supported by more than 150 excellent photographic plates and drawings, and an extensive list of references.

Whereas most horticultural books are applicable mainly in the country where the author had been trained and gained most of his experience, this book is international in scope, and could be applied in many countries.

In spite of the specialized nature of the subject, the approach of "Dwarfed Fruit Trees" is very broad. Beginning with most interesting historical background material, the author then goes on to consider all possible aspects of the dwarf tree. He describes the various methods of dwarfing, and discusses the anatomical, physiological, and environmental factors which could induce or contribute to the dwarfing of fruit trees.

The different dwarfing rootstocks now in use for fruits are described in great detail. All aspects of growing dwarf fruits are considered, with special reference to apple and American conditions — planting, fertilization, training, pruning, and so on.

Of particular interest, because there has been relatively little published on the subject in English, is the section dealing with pruning and training. Many of these systems, although practiced in Europe for many years are rarely used in North America.

For the nurseryman and amateur propagator, there is a chapter dealing with the propagation of dwarfing rootstocks and the production of dwarf fruit trees in the nursery.

Those readers with a special interest in the possible use of fruits for beautification purposes will enjoy the last three chapters which deal with the training of fruit trees to novel forms, growing them in pots and under glass, and Bonzai trees.

After reading only parts of this scholarly and useful book, I'm sure you will agree it could only be the product of a labor of love.

—G. M. Kessler

New Early Red Apples. 1964 By L. P. S. Spangelo. Canada Dept. Agr. Publ. 1241. 4 pages.

Three new apple selections resulting from crosses of Crimson Beauty with Melba, which were developed at the Central Experimental Farm, are described. Quinte, best of the three, is a well colored apple of high quality that ripens 7-10 days before Melba. It is an annual bearer.

Ranger is a red striped variety that ripens 3-4 days before Melba, and is equal to the latter in quality, but bears biennially and shows narrow crotches.

Caravel also ripens 3-4 days before Melba, but does not quite equal it in quality, and bears biennially.

—G. M. Kessler

*A past president of A. P. S. and Amer. Soc. Hort. Sci., Wilder Medal winner and currently president of Internat. Soc. Hort. Science.