

Holiday Apple

F. S. HOWLETT*

Wooster, Ohio

The Holiday apple, newly named and introduced by The Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, possesses excellent dessert quality, and attains its best flavor during and shortly after the Christmas holidays. Formerly known as Ohio Seedling 6187, it resulted from a cross between Macoun and Jonathan. As expected, the fruits have inherited certain characteristics of its female parent, Jonathan, namely, shape, size, color of flesh, and to some extent overcolor and bloom. The fruits range from a striped to dark washed red, which may cover the entire surface. As with any variety which has not inherited a solid red wash, the extent and intensity of the overcolor depends upon the amount of light to which the developing fruits are exposed, and to the quantity of nitrogen applied. When properly grown the undercolor will develop an attractive orange red. As in the case of Macoun the waxy bloom may be quite prominent.

In addition to being an excellent dessert apple with fine flavor, Holiday is suitable for culinary purposes. The flesh holds up well in baking, and has a very attractive light color; the sauce possesses an excellent flavor.

Over the 17-year evaluation period, the date of harvest at Wooster has averaged October 10, which is fully one week later than either parent. It blooms in midseason (May 6). Tree form is somewhat similar to Macoun, but the main scaffold branches are less pronounced, and the crotch angles are appreciably wider. The effect of

Jonathan in modifying tree structure is evident, but Holiday is much less susceptible to fireblight.

Holiday seems to be particularly adapted for sale at farm-roadside markets or small supermarkets. As an outstanding dessert variety, it should fit into the harvest and sale patterns of those markets at which the discriminating consumer demands varieties with superior fresh flavor as well as culinary excellence. As yet no trees are available in any nursery, but a limited number of buds are available at the Experiment Station from both the original tree and those propagated on seedling roots. It is suggested that Holiday be propagated on the size-

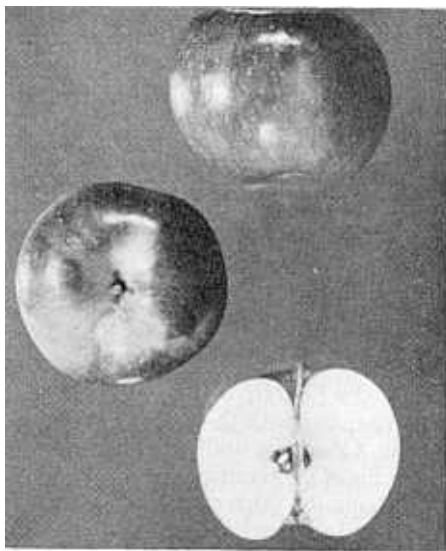


Fig. 1. Holiday, a promising dual purpose Fall apple for local markets.

*Chairman, Dept. of Horticulture, Ohio Agr. Exp. Station.

controlling stocks: Malling VII, Malling-Merton 106, and Malling IX.

It remains for the consumer to decide whether the apple market presently dominated by Delicious shall be limited to varieties of solid red coloration. Controllers of the mass apple market are apparently convinced that the red peeling, generally destined for discard, is of more importance to apple buyers than flavor or fruit quality.

17th International Horticultural Congress

The theme for the 17th International Horticultural Congress, to be held in conjunction with the American Institute of Biological Sciences at the University of Maryland on August 11-20, 1966, will be "The Plant; The Environment; Man."

The Congress is sponsored by the International Society for Horticultural Science, with headquarters at The Hague, and is being arranged by the American Horticultural Society and the American Society for Horticultural Science.

The scientific sessions of the Congress will be held from August 15-20, 1966, and will be preceded by business sessions, miscellaneous symposia and special events on August 11-13, and by an excursion on August 14.

In keeping with the theme, two days of the Congress will be devoted to "The Plant" (genetics, breeding, the whole plant, inherent mechanisms); two days to "The Environment" (light, temperature, water relations, nutrition, climatology, plant regulators), and two days to "Man's Relation to Horticulture" (economics, engineering, education, art, beautification, social implications of horticulture, human nutrition, food supply).

Plenary sessions will be held each forenoon on the theme for the day, to be followed by sectional meetings in scientific related areas—fruits, vegetables, flowers, ornamentals, tropical and subtropical plants, economics, engineering.

Officers for the Congress are: Dr. H. B. Tukey, Michigan State University, President in charge of program; Dr. F. P. Cullinan, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, Vice-president in charge of arrangements and finances; Dr. Russell Seibert, Longwood Gardens, Vice-president in charge of travel arrangements, tours, special events and film festival; and Dr. R. S. Leisner, A.I.B.S., Executive-Secretary. Headquarters are at the American Institute of Biological Sciences, 3900 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20016.—*R. M. Brooks, Univ. of Cal., Davis, Cal.*

Burmosa Plum in Massachusetts

Although Burmosa, a Japanese type plum, was developed by the California Agricultural Experiment Station, it looks promising at Amherst, Mass. J. F. Anderson, of the University of Mass., reports in Fruit Notes that Burmosa makes a small productive tree. The fruit is yellow, with red blush, freestone, and good in quality. It may be biennial.

According to information released by the Apple Committee of the N. Y. State Canners and Freezers Association, 12 New York processors still prefer a number of the older apple varieties for sauce, slicing and freezing. Varieties like R. I. Greening, Twenty Ounce, Northern Spy and Baldwin continue to have high priority.