

Reviews and Abstracts

Washington Fruit Tree Census. 1964.
Wash. Agr. Exp. Sta. Circ. 441.

This very comprehensive fruit tree census is the result of cooperation among many individuals, groups and agencies in a project initiated in 1961. Data is presented on varieties, rootstocks, as well as for the different kinds of fruit.

The following are a few of the facts brought to light by this bulletin. The standard Delicious apple is no longer being planted to any extent, and the red Delicious sports represented 52.6% of all apple trees in Central Washington in 1961. Although Golden Delicious made up only 18.9%, this represented a 736% increase since 1949. The removal of trees of Winesap, Jonathan and Rome has been exceeding planting in past few years.

Bartlett is the pear variety most heavily planted in Central Washington. Anjou is second, and Bosc a weak third. Early Italian is the major prune, with Italian in second place. Moorpark and Tilton are the apricots that predominate. J. H. Hale is still the most popular peach. Alberta is still important but has fallen off strongly. Bing is the leading cherry, making up 58% of all cherries planted in 1961, while the second variety, Lambert was only about 10%.—G. M. Kessler

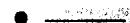
Flordasun. 1964. By R. H. Sharpe.
Fla. Agr. Exp. Sta. Circ. S-157.

Sunred. 1964. By R. H. Sharpe. Fla.
Agr. Exp. Sta. Circ. S-158.

Flordasun is a promising low chilling peach, and Sunred is a promising low chilling nectarine for northern Florida.

Flordasun is a hybrid of Florida LI-15 (Southland x Hawaiian F3 seedling) x Springtime. It blooms Feb. 6 to 11, and has set medium to heavy crops. The fruit is nearly round, with a light red blush and good ground color. Flesh is medium-firm, and yellow. It ripens uniformly, and should ship as well or better than Flordawon or Tejon. Fruit is small unless thinned, and is a clingstone until fully ripe.

Sunred nectarine is a product of Panamint nectarine x Fla 9-10 peach (Southland peach x Hawaiian F2 seedling peach) open-pollinated. It blooms Feb. 9 to 14. Its first picking date at DeLand was May 7 in 1963 and May 14 in 1964. Fruit is small to medium, and requires moderate thinning. It is round, firm, and should ship well. Skin is 90 to 100 per cent bright red. Flesh is yellow, and semi-freestone when fully ripe. Dessert quality is excellent.—G. M. Kessler



Pear Tree Over 200 Years Old

There is a tree of the Bell pear growing in Hartford, Conn., estimated by George Bragdon, in the Hartford Times, May 15, 1964, to be about 250 years old. It is growing in the garden of a house at 396 Main St. which has been the homestead of the Butler and McCook families since 1782, and is now the residence of Miss Francis McCook and her brother anson.

This venerable Bell pear tree is four feet in diameter, 50 feet high, and still produces fruit which the author describes as "large, pleasantly sweet, tender and edible."