

	Willard Station 1959-63				1964 Season (6 locations) <sup>1</sup>			
	Number seasons	Al- britton	Earli- belle	% Diff.	Number Locations	Al- britton	Earli- belle	% Diff.
<i>Mean Scores<sup>2</sup>:</i>								
Fruit Appearance	5	7.0	7.1	+ 1	4	7.6	7.5	- 1
Fruit Firmness	5	7.3	8.1	+11	4	6.9	8.0	+16
Fruit Flavor	5	7.0	6.7	- 4	3	7.5	7.3	- 3
Skin Color	5	7.5	7.9	+ 5	2	7.9	8.0	+ 1
Flesh Color	5	6.8	7.7	+13	2	7.2	8.1	+13
Fruit Symmetry	2	8.2	7.8	- 5	2	8.4	8.2	- 2
Skin Toughness	2	7.1	7.6	+ 7	2	6.9	7.5	+ 9
Plant Stand	4	6.8	8.7	+28	5	7.7	9.4	+22
Plant Vigor	4	7.1	8.4	+18	5	8.3	9.0	+ 8
Powdery Mildew	—	sl. susc. resist.	—	—	4	7.3	9.3	+27
Field Evaluation <sup>3</sup>	2	3.0	3.0	± 0	3	3.1	3.3	+ 6

<sup>1</sup>In 1964, a severe spring freeze on March 30, plus dry weather during the ripening season, reduced fruit size, yield, and the seasonal spread of harvest. Early maturing selections, like Earlibelle, were damaged more than later selections like Albritton.

<sup>2</sup>Scale for individual readings of plant and fruit traits: 10—excellent, 9—very good, 8—superior, 7—good, 6—fair—acceptable, 5—fair—not acceptable, 4—poor, 3—inferior, 2—very poor, 1—poorest.

<sup>3</sup>Scale used for individual field evaluation readings: 5—introduce, 4—outstanding, 3—promising, 2—mediocre, 1—poor, 0—discard.

Earlibelle ripens about with Dixieland, and earlier than Albritton in North Carolina. The earliest blooms are subject to frost damage in some seasons.

Earlibelle, with its disease resistant leaves and its early, firm, glossy fruit, is recommended for trial in southeastern United States as a fresh market variety.

#### Acknowledgments

The authors are indebted to R. G. Hill, Ohio; S. Dallyn, N. Y.; D. D. Hemphill, Mo; C. R. Smith, N. J.; N. Bunting, Del.; M. M. Parker, Va.; W. T. Brightwell, Ga.; J. P. Overcash, Miss.; R. C. Blake, Ill.; and J. N. Moore, Ark., for assistance in the testing and evaluation of the Earlibelle variety.

— • —  
A Supplement to the 1964 "Plant Patents" is now available. It may be obtained by sending 50¢ to American Assoc. of Nurserymen, 835 Southern Building, Washington, D. C. 20005.

#### Fred W. Anderson, Fruit Breeder

In their May, 1965 issue, the editors of The Blue Anchor payed tribute to Fred W. Anderson, of La Gande, Cal., who has been breeding fruits for some 35 years. Although he has been most successful with nectarines, and is best known for having introduced the Le Grand nectarine in 1942, he also has patents for almond, cherry, plum and apricot varieties. He has been mainly concerned with development of varieties for the San Joaquin Valley.

Mr. Anderson, a native Californian, is a graduate of University of California in Pomology and Plant Genetics. He began his breeding career in Merced, Calif., and is still actively managing a 30 acre experimental planting at the age of 72. He is currently developing dwarf nectarine varieties.