

## PROMISING NEW APPLE, PLUM, AND STRAWBERRY VARIETIES

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The varieties described in this report are not exactly new but have not been planted sufficiently in most regions to gain widespread commercial acceptance.

### Apples

*Melba* is an early apple which ripens with *Duchess* and is superior to this old Russian variety. The tree is vigorous, hardy, and an early bearer which tends to take on a biennial habit with age. The fruit is medium to large, of attractive red color, white fleshed, fine grained and aromatic, and of good quality. *Melba* is considered by many growers as the best early apple.

*Milton* is a fall apple which is becoming very popular in the Hudson Valley. The tree is hardy, productive and requires thinning to prevent biennial bearing. The fruit is medium to large, tender, crisp and with sufficient sprightliness to make it desirable for both dessert and culinary use. Like *Melba*, *Milton* must be handled carefully to prevent bruising.

### Plums

*Stanley* has rapidly attained an important place as a commercial plum.

*Stanley* has proved to be a reliable and early bearer throughout the northeastern states and as far west as Colorado and as far north as Wisconsin. The trees produce heavy annual crops of medium to large sized fruit which are bluish-black in color, fine grained, good quality and usually with the stone free from the flesh.

### Strawberries

The three strawberry varieties described below are claimed to be resistant to Red Stele root-rot disease, but this point has not yet been checked at Geneva.

*Sparkle* is a promising new late mid-season variety with very good quality and glossy attractive appearance. The plants are vigorous and make an abundance of runners. *Sparkle* is one of the most productive late varieties, being much superior to *Redstar* in this respect. The berries are usually of satisfactory size but may be small on poor soils in dry seasons. *Sparkle* is excellent for freezing.

*Pathfinder* produces large crops of attractive berries which are of only fair quality and bruise easily.

*Temple* has vigorous plants which produce good yields of firm, attractive berries which are above average in quality.

—WPI

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