

BE NOT THE FIRST - OR THE LAST

A frequently quoted admonition states that we should "Be not the first to try the new, nor yet the last to lay the old aside". This is certainly very true when the fruit grower is considering what varieties he should plant.

Orchardists frequently lose money by purchasing new and untried varieties which are being sold by some over-zealous salesman or nursery. The information released by experiment stations and the evaluations published in *Fruit Varieties and Horticultural Digest* should be of assistance in preventing such losses.

On the other hand, there are many growers who are far too reluctant to include the improved sorts in their new plantings. One of the most discouraging clients with which an experiment station worker has to deal is the grower who seeks advice on varieties and then insists on planting an appreciable percentage of his acreage to some old relic which should have been discarded years ago. Let's leave sentiment out of this business of variety selection. Just because you remember with pleasure a certain type of fruit which you ate at grandfather's farm as a child does not necessarily mean it is a desirable variety according to present day standards.

Let us be sufficiently conservative in the planting of new orchards but at the same time be alert to the increased money-making possibilities of the well-tested new varieties of fruits which have been introduced in recent years.