

STRATIFICATION WILL INCREASE STAND OF PEACH SEEDLINGS

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Nurserymen frequently have difficulty in obtaining good stands of peach seedlings. With the use of the more costly seed of nematode resistant varieties such as Shalil, these difficulties are often greater. Poor germination materially increases the cost of producing peach trees on special rootstocks.

One method of improving germination and insuring a more even stand of seedlings is stratification, i.e., the storage of the peach seed in a moist and cool condition for several months before planting. Stratified seed may be sown in the spring, whereas it is necessary to sow untreated seed in the fall.

The cool, moist conditions of stratification allow the seed to make internal changes known as "after-ripening," which must occur before the seeds will germinate satisfactorily.

Peach pits were stratified in moist peat moss under three different conditions: (1) out-of-doors in a pit at about 40 to 50°F., (2) in a cold storage at 32 to 38°F., and (3) in a cold-storage at 25 to 30°F. The 32 to 38°F. temperature proved to be best for seeds of both Shalil and Elberta peaches. The pits were stored for various lengths of time up to 4 or 5 months. The longer storage periods resulted in the highest percentage germination.—W.P.J.

PEACH PROCESSING IN THE SOUTHEAST

By L. O. Van Blaricom,

Clemson, S. Carolina.

1947 Peach Annual p. 25 - 27.

In this article the author presents an interesting discussion of the problems involved in canning and freezing peaches.

A large number of peach varieties have been processed in the Horticultural Products Research Laboratory at the South Carolina Experiment Station from 1942 to 1946 inclusive. As a result of this work the following evaluation of peach varieties in respect to their suitability for freezing is presented.

Above Average

Dixigem	Sunbeam
Redhaven	Triogem
Southland	

Average

Elberta	Kalhaven
Fireglow	Primrose
Golden Jubilee	Rio Oso Gem
Gemmer's Late	Shippers Late Red
Elberta	Sullivan Early
Globe Haven	Elberta
Goldeneast	Sunhigh
Halegold	Sunday Elberta
Halehaven	Valiant
Ideal	Vedette
July Elberta	Welcome

Poor

Afterglow	Lizzie
Augbert	Midway
Giant Freestone	Mundell Seedling
Hardee	Picketts Favorite
Hardy Berta	Penryn

W.P.J.

