

NEW VARIETIES OF RED RASPBERRIES

By J. D. Winter,

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The search for a variety superior to the Latham raspberry goes on year by year. The Latham continues to hold its place as the leading commercial variety in Minnesota, while a number of newer varieties are being tested to see how well they measure up to the high standards set by that variety.

New Canadian Varieties

Three new Canadian varieties, Madawaska, Rideau, and Ottawa, are being tested rather extensively in the Duluth area. The plants of Madawaska are vigorous, healthy and productive. The canes appear to be hardy in Minnesota although reports from Canada indicate that winter injury may be a problem in severe climates. The fruit ripens early and is picked over a long season. The berries are very large and cannot be picked until they are well-colored.

The fruit of Rideau ripens early and is easy to pick. Although the plants are not as vigorous as Madawaska, the canes may be somewhat hardier. The berries do not seem to hold up as well as Madawaska to the end of the season.

The Ottawa has been quite productive in some localities and appears to be making a good name for itself in some parts of Canada. In Minnesota the canes have seemed quite susceptible to mosaic. The fruit is less attractive than either Madawaska or Rideau.

Notes on Miscellaneous Varieties

Of the older varieties *Latham* is the favorite of most commercial growers. One

particularly nice planting of *Latham* produced 600 crates per acre in 1944.

Sunrise is of questionable value because of its susceptibility to mosaic.

Taylor produces an excellent berry which never crumbles, but the canes are less hardy than *Latham*.

Newburgh has failed to make a place for itself in Minnesota except around Duluth where it continues to show a lot of promise after a number of years of trial. In fact, it rivals the *Latham* in that area.

Indian Summer seems to be the best of the everbearing types. It produces a large but soft berry, and the fall crop is somewhat uncertain.

Washington does not seem to stand the climate very well in Minnesota. *Tahoma* seems to be a rather good variety but is very susceptible to anthracnose. *Williamette* produces large berries but many are doubles. *Marcy* is much too tender to be a dependable producer. *Milton* may be promising but needs more testing.—W.P.J.

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