

Chieftain, a New Apple from Iowa*

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Chieftain is a new apple introduction of the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station. A dual purpose variety of high quality, it is attractive, productive, and hardy enough to withstand the hot summers and cold winters typical of the climate of Ames and Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Chieftain originated in Ames, Iowa as a cross of Jonathan x Delicious made by late Professor S. A. Beach, of the Department of Horticulture of the Iowa Agriculture Experiment Station, in 1917.

The fruit averages between Jonathan and Delicious in size; smooth; symmetrical; slightly conic; cavity medium deep; apex five-pointed but less prominently than Delicious; calyx somewhat open. Skin color is a bright lively red, equal to the best colored Jonathan. Color, size and form tend to be uniform. The flesh is firm, juicy, subacid, with a flavor that it is good, milder than Jonathan, but more

sprightly than Delicious. Dessert and cooking qualities are both good. It keeps well in cold storage until the following summer. Chieftain is relatively resistant to apple scab and fire blight, and free from Jonathan spot.

The tree is moderately spreading, resembling Jonathan in this respect, is vigorous and productive, and has shown no winter injury at Ames. The original tree survived the severe Armistice Day freeze of 1940.

Chieftain is one of only two varieties that were named and introduced by the Iowa Agriculture Experiment Station from among more than 9,000 seedlings resulting from crosses made at Ames between 1917 and 1928. The other variety, Jonadel, was introduced in 1958.

Propagating wood of Chieftain was first made available to Iowa nurserymen in Spring, 1966. Trees should therefore become available by 1968.

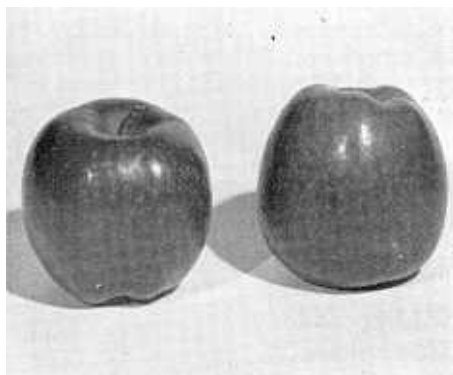


Fig. 1. Chieftain, a new, attractive, high quality, dual purpose apple of Jonathan and Delicious parentage.

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