

or slightly purplish; unopened flowers red; stamens 5-6.

Pods: Mostly straight; color dark brown; length 13-15 c.m.; width 20 m.m.; valley 5 m.m. thick; ribs 6-7 m.m.; crease negative anterior tending to positive posterior; surface rather rough; cracks absent; seeds not gibbose; stem short, 4 m.m.; flavor fair; maturity early, Sept. 15-Oct. 15 at Vista; worm free; yield very heavy and regular.

Remarks: A very promising, heavy yielding hermaphrodite free from worm infestation.

Tylliria

Origin: Cyprus; SPI No. 189008. Female.

Tree: Habit upright and vigorous; twigs reddish; not precocious.

Flowers: Racemes 5-10 c.m. long

with 25-30 flowers; light purplish color; a few with aborted stamens.

Pods: Slightly curved; color dark mahogany brown; length 15 c.m.; Width 20-25 m.m.; thickness 10-12 m.m.; valley usually transversed diagonally by ridges characteristic of this variety; crease distinct on inner side of curve, lacking on outer side; surface smooth with occasional cracks near stem; seeds not gibbose; stem stout, 10 m.m. long. Sugar content 47.4% at Vista, 50.9 at Indio. Pods imported from Cyprus 48.8%; flavor good; maturity at Vista, October, at Indio Aug. 15-Sept. 15; wormy at Vista but not at Indio; yield medium, strongly alternating; abscission poor.

Remarks: An excellent commercial variety, best adapted to foothills near the coast. Tylliria is the chief variety grown for export on the island of Cyprus.

Lloyd Lonborg (1900-1966)

C. D. SCHWARTZ*

On adjoining pages will be found a description of the Chehalis apple, discovered and introduced by Mr. Lloyd Lonborg of Oakville, Washington.

Lloyd Lonborg was a logger. Most of his life was spent in the Douglas fir and cedar forests of western Washington. But at heart he was a pomologist, for he had an almost passionate interest in fruits. His great desire was to find or develop an apple variety with superior flavor, one that hobbyists could grow without having to apply chemical sprays to protect the fruit and trees from plant diseases such as scab and mildew.

Mr. Lonborg was an idealist, as the following excerpt from one of his let-

ters shows: "I am quite sure that future generations in this area will be eating better apples as a result of our combined efforts. By this I mean everybody who is working towards something better instead of promoting something unsuited to our climate just because it has a big name." He was a realist also. He wrote about the assessment of quality in fruits: "No person can judge flavor for another person." On his small farm near Oakville, he had collected, in recent years, over 100 varieties of apples, both old and new, and a smaller assortment of other tree fruits. He had started an apple breeding project and had several hundred seedlings ready to transplant from the original seed bed.

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One of Mr. Lonborg's special interests was the wild crabapple, *Malus fusca*. A perceptive observer, he had noted several variants and superior forms of the species, some of which he believed to be the result of natural hybridization with domestic apple varieties. He was especially impressed with the ability of *M. fusca* to grow in wet or swampy ground, and urged that it be tested as a rootstock for special situations. He had tried to graft apple varieties onto *M. fusca* and had obtained some (but inconclusive) evidence that it might be useful as a dwarfing rootstock. Some of his seedlings were derived from *M. fusca*.

He had become acquainted with another ardent fruit variety hobbyist, Mr. Milo Gibson of Portland, Oregon. Between them they had started organizing a group of fruit hobbyists for which Mr. Lonborg suggested the name Northwestern Fruit Explorers. They also had sponsored two fruit variety displays by hobbyists and other interested persons. The first display was held at the Lonborg home on October 2, 1965, the second at Western Washington Research and



Fig. 1. The late Lloyd Lonborg at his Chehalis apple tree, Oakville, Washington, October 2, 1965.

Extension Center on October 15, 1966. The latter display consisted of more than 250 plates and single specimens, probably representing at least 150 varieties and chance seedlings.

Hobbyists who displayed specimens included Mr. and Mrs. Dalbert Leaf, Port Townsend, Wash.; W. H. Mitchell, Mt. Vernon, Wash.; L. N. Freimann, Bellingham, Wash.; Larry McGraw, Portland, Oregon. Additional specimens were displayed by representatives of Washington State University.

All persons in attendance at the display on October 15, 1966 were deeply affected by news that Lloyd Lonborg had died in his sleep early that morning.

Several of those who knew and admired Mr. Lonborg have expressed the hope that his promising new apple variety, Chehalis, will prove to be widely adapted, a valuable contribution, and a fitting memorial to this fine man who was so enthusiastic in his search for superior apples, both new and old.

Chehalis does seem to have considerable merit. It was Mr. Lonborg's wish that it be given wide and impartial evaluation. To this end he had supplied scions freely to experiment stations, commercial nurseries and private fruit testers. His second son, Eldon, hopes to carry on in so far as possible with his father's hobby. He regrets that, being a school teacher, he will have to put a limit on the amount of time that he can devote to his horticultural interests.

Megumi Apple

The Japanese apple variety, Megumi, has not performed well at Geneva, N. Y., according to Roger Way. It has been a weak grower, tending toward biennial bearing. Eating quality of its Jonathan-type fruit is only fair.