Five New Fruits from New York*

GEORGE M. KESSLER

In 1966, the New York Agricultural Experiment Station introduced the following: Empire apple, Gala strawberry, and the Iroquois, Oneida and Mohawk plums.

Empire Apple

Empire is believed to have resulted from a cross of McIntosh x Delicious. It is strictly a fresh market clone which ripens with Delicious.

The tree begins to bear at 5 or 6 years of age, bears annually, and is more productive than Delicious. Fruit are distributed evenly along the branches, and because they are borne singly, they are easily harvested. Empire is self-unfruitful, but produces viable pollen. It blossoms midseason, does not usually overset, and does not require stop-drop sprays at harvest time. One of the best tree characteristics is its broad and strong crotch angles.

The fruit of Empire resembles McIntosh in shape, and shows an attractive solid red skin color, with slight striping (see front cover.) The skin is thick, and has a heavy, waxy bloom. Flesh is cream colored, crisp, juicy, mildy subacid, aromatic, and excellent in dessert quality. It resists bruising better than McIntosh, stores considerably better, but is not suitable for processing.

Gala Strawberry

Gala is a very early strawberry of good quality that ripens one or two days before Earlidawn. It is a cross of Midland x Suwannee. The berries are large, moderately firm, and attractive, although slightly rough looking. Plants are large, make an adequate row, and as productive as other early varieties.

Like other early varieties, Gala blooms early, and is very subject to late spring frosts. It should therefore be planted on frost-free sites.

Plums

Iroquois is a dual purpose, prune-type plum that ripens about one week before Stanley. It is a cross of Italian Prune x Hall. It is a self-fruitful, productive clone that comes into bearing early. The tree is medium in size. The fruit is pointed at both ends, has an attractive blue skin, and greenish-yellow, firm flesh, which is subacid, freestone, and fair to good in quality. Iroquois makes a satisfactory baby food.

Oneida it a late, prune-type plum of good quality. It originated as a cross of Albion x Italian Prune. The

Fig. 1. Mohawk, a prune type plum recommended for fresh market and the home garden.

*Adapted from three articles by R. D. Way, John Einset, G. L. Slate, Donald Ourecky, and John Watson, in Farm Research, July-Sept., 1966.

tree is larger than Stanley, is self-unfruitful, and although productive, does not tend to overload.

The fruit of Oneida is medium to large, roundish-oblong, dark, reddish-black, and usually freestone. The flesh is greenish-amber, firm, sweet, and better than Albion, with which it ripens—October 1 at Geneva. It keeps well on the tree, and processes well as halves and puree.

Mohawk, like Iroquois, is a cross of Italian Prune x Hall. It crops well, although not as reliably as Iroquois. The tree is slighty larger and more upright than Iroquois, and seems as hardy as Stanley.

Mohawk fruit are larger than Stanley, prune-shaped, with an attractive blue skin. The flesh is yellowish-amber, firm, sweet, and good in quality. Stone is semi-free to free. Although it can be processed, Mohawk is recommended mainly for fresh market and home garden.

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JAMES B. MOWRY, Secretary-Treasurer

Assets

Cash:			
Checking Account		$ 124.02	
Savings Assount		$ 3,479.11	$ 3,603.13
Securities—(Southern New England Telephone Co.—124 shares at approximate market value) ...			6,500.00
Note Receivable (Face Value)....			1,631.32
Total Assets			$11,734.45
Net Worth			
Balance, December 31, 1965....................		8,931.72	
Additions—Year ended December 31, 1966:			
Legacies Received			
Cash	$2,352.04		
Note Receivable (Balance at Dec. 31, 1966).............	1.631.32	3,983.36	
Cash Receipts (See below for details)			
Checking Account	3,069.34		
Savings Account (Excluding $2352.04 legacy above)	101.89	3,171.23	
		16,086.31	
Deductions—year ended December 31, 1966:			
Cash disbursements (See below for details)...	4,248.86		
Decline in market value of securities..........	103.00	4.351.86	
Net Worth, December 31, 1966			$11,734.45
Cash receipts (year ending Dec. 31, 1966):			
Dues			
Annual members		$1,588.55	
Society members		110.00	
Industrial members		130.00	$1,828.55
Fruit Var. and Hort. Digest			
Subscriptions		302.50	
Advertising		372.00	
Back issues and reprints		104.81	
Extras		15.81	795.12