

Reviews and Abstracts

Apple Varieties for New York State. 1967. By Roger D. Way. Cornell Univ. Ext. Bul. 1174.

The varietal make-up of new apple plantings up to six years of age in New York are, according to R. D. Way, as follows: Delicious 25%, McIntosh 15%, Golden Delicious 13%, Idared 9%, R. I. Greening 6%, Rome 5%, Twenty Ounce 5%, and all others 22%. The trend in the Hudson Valley is toward dessert varieties, and in western New York toward processing types.

The following comments are made about some of the newer varieties: **Caravel**—a good very early apple for roadside market. **Julyred**—one of best very early varieties. **Barry**—very dark red; good eating quality. **Wayne**—blooms late; makes high quality slices; good for fresh market. **Spartan**—high dessert quality McIntosh type; small but firmer than McIntosh. **Jonadel**—larger and milder than Jonathan. **Spigold**—large Spy type fruit of excellent processing and dessert quality, but not red enough for fresh market. **Melrose**—Jonathan type of excellent dessert and storage quality; but develops russet lines on skin, and water cores badly. **Mutsu**—larger and less susceptible to Golden Delicious which it resembles. Promising processing variety.

The Stark Story. 1966. By Dickson Terry. Missouri Historical Society, Special Publication (Jefferson Memorial Bldg., St. Louis, Mo., 63112)

The Stark Story was published by the Missouri Historical Society in co-operation with Stark Bros. Nurseries to mark the latter's 150th anniversary. And a very unique story it is: a history of the remarkable Stark clan and the famous nursery business which James

H. Stark founded back in 1816 in Louisiana, Missouri. It tells of the pioneering role that James Stark played in helping to develop the great apple growing areas of our nation; and the unusual relationship between Luther Burbank and Stark Bros. which resulted in Stark's inheriting Burbank's many varieties of fruits.

The Stark Story includes, of course, the details of how Stark Bros. first discovered and acquired the Delicious, Golden Delicious, Starkling Delicious, and, most recently, Starkrimson Delicious and Starkspur Golden Delicious apples. It is well known that much of Stark Bros.' success over the years stems from these discoveries. Aware of this fact, Stark Bros. continue to periodically sponsor new-fruit contests, which they now call the Stark-Burbank International New Fruit and Plant Contest, last held in Louisiana, Mo., in 1966.

One section of The Stark Story deals with the history of the Plant Patent Law. Paul Stark was chairman of the National Committee for Plant Patents in 1929, and led the fight for the Bill which created the Plant Patents Law in 1930.

A richly illustrated and well documented presentation, The Stark Story lends much weight to the contention that Stark Bros. Nurseries is one of the great American family businesses, with John Stark Logan, the current president, representing the fifth generation of Starks, who have directed the business continuously for 150 years.

The Spartan apple should be picked one or two days before Delicious, according to D. V. Fisher, of the Summerland Station in British Columbia. If picked earlier, as it often is, then the fruit do not develop good quality in storage.