

Fillette and Sunqueen, Two Peach Varieties from New Jersey*

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Both the Fillette and Sunqueen varieties were introduced in the fall of 1966, the year of Rutgers' bicentennial, by the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station.

Fillette

Fillette, tested as NJ221, is the earliest ripening variety that has fruited at New Brunswick, ripening 2-3 weeks before Collins. Fillette was selected in 1959 from a progeny of 5109795 open pollinated. Selection 5109795 is a seedling from Jerseyland x Mayflower that ripened with Mayflower. Open-pollinated seeds from this selection were harvested and embryo-cultured in 1956 as part of the study by Brooks and Hough.†

The fruit of Fillette is slightly oval, yellow fleshed, small to medium in size (up to 2½" in diameter), soft and clingstone. There is some red at the pit, and if the fruit is allowed to become soft-ripe on the tree, some red may develop elsewhere in the flesh during some seasons. It has only light pubescence; the skin is straw-yellow, splashed with red. The flower buds are hardy, and must have a high-chilling requirement, for it is the latest variety to bloom at New Brunswick. Farther south, it may ripen about with lower-chilling varieties such as Springtime, that need more days from bloom to harvest. The flowers of Fillette are large and showy, and they have fertile pollen. The tree is vigorous and productive; the leaves have reniform glands.

Because it is early ripening and attractive, Fillette should be profitable where it would be marketed locally and where there would not be an appreciable amount of peaches imported from more southern producing regions. Since later ripening peach varieties from Georgia are in the market in New Jersey when Fillette ripens, it probably will not be heavily planted in New Jersey. We have had favorable reports about Fillette (NJ-221) from Ontario, Canada and also from France. Fillette was named because of this interest from other countries. The name Fillette (little girl, little miss, or lassie) was suggested by Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Hermann of Domaine De Castang, Bergerac, France

Sunqueen

Sunqueen, tested as NJ210, is the most beautiful yellow peach we have observed at New Brunswick. Sunqueen was selected in 1954 from a cross of 72139 x Blake made in 1951. Selection 72139 is a seedling of (Hale x Meredith) x [(Hale x *P. kansuensis*) open pollinated].

Sunqueen ripens with Sunhigh, another very attractive, high-quality peach. The fruit of Sunqueen is nearly round, the surface may be up to one-half washed with an attractive carmine red over bright yellow. It has very light pubescence. The fruit develops its bright red and yellow color while it is still firm enough for commercial handling, but it may not hold up as well as Sunhigh. The flesh

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†Brooks, H. J. and L. F. Hough. 1958. Vernalization studies with peach embryos. Proc. Amer. Soc. Hort. Sci. 71:95-102.

is bright yellow with bright red at the pit, so that the flesh is very pretty, too. It is fully freestone and of good quality, but slightly less acid than Sunhigh.

The flower buds are as hardy as those of Redqueen, and hardier than those of Sunhigh. On the basis of the freezing injury at New Brunswick in the early spring of 1967, the buds of Sunqueen seem to be in the range of hardiness of Collins, Jerseyland, and Redhaven. Trees of Sunqueen have been vigorous and productive. When the crop is well thinned, the fruit is large. The flowers are non-showy, with fertile pollen. The leaf glands are reniform. Sunqueen is not satisfactorily resistant to bacterial leaf

spot, but the leaves, and especially the fruit, are more resistant than Sunhigh to this disease.

Sunqueen has been very enthusiastically received by New Jersey peach growers. Trees were first available to New Jersey growers for limited commercial plantings in the fall of 1959. When it was named in 1966, only seven years later, it was the ninth most popular variety in the state on the basis of new plantings.

Trees of Sunqueen are available from the New Jersey Peach Council, Inc., R. D. 3, Princeton, New Jersey 08540, and some other nurseries. Fillette is not being propagated by the New Jersey Peach Council.

Processing Evaluation of Golden Delicious Seedling Selections

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During the fall of 1967 the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Laboratory, Summerland Research Station, conducted processing trials on the Golden Delicious seedling selections 9E-13-47, 8C-29-24, 10C-6-25 and the variety Mutsu. A complete description of 9E-13-47 (= Kendall x Golden Delicious) and 10C-18-83 (= Golden Delicious open pollinated) was published in the January 1968 issue of this Journal. The third selection, 8C-29-24 (= Golden Delicious x Grimes Golden) is a large, yellow, oblong-conic shaped apple, relatively high in acid, and of very good flavor. The fruit ripens with Golden Delicious, but as it has been under observation for only a few years, bearing habits and storage life have not been established. It was included in this test because of its good fresh fruit qualities.

The processed products evaluated were canned applesauce, frozen slices, and canned sliced solid pack. Both sliced products were tested in pies,

and all three were compared with samples made from standard Golden Delicious. Quality judgements by a trained taste panel were based on appearance, color, flavor and texture.

Of the four selections, 9E-13-47 received the highest quality rating for all three processed products. It and Mutsu were the only two exhibiting the characteristic, attractive, bright yellow color associated with Golden Delicious. Pies made from frozen and canned slices of 9E-13-47 were superior to those made from standard Golden Delicious. In addition, sauce from this selection was equal to Golden Delicious sauce for color and preferable for flavor. It was the only applesauce of the four under test not significantly different from the control (1% level of probability—Table 1).

Of the other three "Golden types," Mutsu scored well as frozen slices, chiefly because of its attractive color. The canned solid pack slices, although acceptable, did not rate as high as

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