

selection 5J-9-14 was among the hardiest also in the winter of 1964-65; it is a Van type medium early cherry. The selection 5N-34-15 is a good quality cherry of Bing type.

There is a good relationship between fruit bud hardiness as noted in Table 1 and the hardiness level of these cultivars known from previous experience. Particularly, the hardiness of one-year shoots, as determined by artificial freezing tests in 1963 and 1964 (1), and the hardiness of leaf

buds, as registered following the freeze of 1964-65 (2), have a good correlation with data collected in the present study.

REFERENCES

1. Lapins, K. 1965. Cold-hardiness of sweet cherries as determined by artificial freezing tests. *Can. J. Plant Sci.* Vol. 45. 529-435.
2. Lapins, K. 1966. Winter hardiness of sweet cherry varieties in the winter of 1964-1965. *Fruit Var. & Hort. Digest* Vol. 20(1). 7-8.

The Spokane Beauty Apple

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Interest in this old variety, Spokane Beauty, has uncovered information that may be of historical value to horticulturists and hobby gardeners. This information came to light recently through the efforts of Mr. Ivan J. Donaldson, Fisheries Biologist, Bonneville Dam, Bonneville, Oregon, who successfully located budwood near the original tree.

Most of the historical information written here originated from letters and from direct personal conversations with Mr. C. Bert Miller, recent owner and long time operator of the Milton Nursery Company, Milton-Freewater, Oregon, whose father, Mr. Aaron Miller, discovered the variety.

Mr. Aaron Miller and family came to the Walla Walla Valley of southeastern Washington from the Santa Rosa area, Sonoma County, California in the year 1872, and at first lived on a farm known as the Maxon place. This pioneer farm was located about 7 miles east of the city of Walla Walla on Russell Creek, in the foothills of the Blue Mountains. It was in the year 1894, on this farm, that Mr. Miller discovered a seedling apple which

he named the Maxon Seedling. After establishing the nursery at its present location near Milton-Freewater in 1878, Mr. Miller propagated, among other apple varieties, nursery trees of this new variety. It was listed in some of the early Milton Nursery catalogues and sold under the name of Maxon Seedling.

The new variety was popular locally, and was displayed at the Spokane National Fruit Fair in 1895 and 1896 as part of a Milton Nursery display of nursery grown fruit varieties and fruit tree stocks. It was awarded first prize by the show judges who, at this time, renamed it "Spokane Beauty." Thereafter the variety was propagated under its new name by nurserymen throughout the Pacific Northwest.

A considerable number of trees of Spokane Beauty were propagated and sold, but it was never considered a first class commercial variety for the fresh fruit market. However, it was considered a very good general cooking apple. The following is a description of Spokane Beauty taken from a

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1903 catalogue of the Oregon Nursery Company.

"Largest apple known, a prodigy for size; of extraordinary beauty; color greenish yellow, shaded and striped with deep red; flesh crisp; juicy, rich with a delicious high flavor, unsurpassed for cooking or drying; a very long keeper."

Starting about 1915, the Delicious-Red Delicious era arrived in the Pacific Northwest, and the Spokane Beauty, along with many other popu-

lar varieties of the time, vanished from the scene.

Mr. Ivan J. Donaldson, in his quest for information about this variety, discovered some of the trees in an old family orchard near Thornton, Washington. It is felt that these old trees were grown and sold by the original discoverer. This and other old apple varieties of the period had been widely planted in the home orchards of surrounding Palouse country.

Two New Clingstone Peaches for Commercial Canning

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Piedmontgold and Mountaingold, two new canning clingstone peach varieties, with nonmelting flesh, have been released jointly by Virginia Polytechnic Institute and Rutgers University. Piedmontgold was previously identified as W2-7-28, while Mountaingold was identified as W2-7-22. These varieties were released because of the revival of interest in commercial canning of peaches in the southeastern United States. There is need for varieties having superior canning characteristics, combined with adaptation to a wide range of environmental conditions.

These varieties originated in crosses made in 1951 by L. F. Hough of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station of New Brunswick, New Jersey. Having more pits from a number of peach crosses that year than the land available for planting would accommodate, surplus pits were distributed to breeders at other experiment stations, including the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station. The parentage of the population of seedlings that included Piedmontgold and Mountaingold is P.I. 35201 crossed

with N.J. 196. This is the parentage also of Babygold 5, introduced by the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station in 1962, and of Suncling, introduced by the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station in 1961 (1) (2).

Trees grown from these pits were planted in the V.P.I. seedling orchard in 1952. They bore fruit in 1954. At that time, four seedlings were held for further observation. In 1956 a few trees of W2-7-28 and W2-7-22 were budded for further testing. In 1960 additional trees of these selections were budded. These trees were offered to other experiment stations for testing in 1962.

Fruits of Piedmontgold and Mountaingold are of average size or above. The skin color is bright yellow, with one-half or more of the surface a bright red. The flesh color is orange-yellow, with very little to essentially no red pigment in the flesh adjacent to the pit. The fresh fruit flavor is more mild than that of Ambergem with less noticeable acidity and astringency. An aromatic flavor is quite noticeable and is carried over into the

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