FRUIT VARIETIES FOR HOME PLANTING*

Many home orchards are too large. A few trees given proper care are much better than many neglected trees. For the family that will prune, spray, and fertilize the orchard, ten standard trees may possibly have a place. But for the average family with limited interest in and time to care for the orchard, three or four are preferable.

The average family cannot use all of the fruit from a dozen or more standard trees. Planting one standard tree of each of several varieties you want may require too much space. It usually ends up with fruit dropping to the ground and involves more work than is actually necessary to produce the family fruit supply.

There are several ways to condense the fruit planting into a unit that will provide considerable gardening pleasure and the desired fruit with a minimum of space, effort and expense.

**Dwarf Trees**

Dwarf apple and pear trees are now available. All is not known about them but experimental and trial plantings support recommending them for home plantings. Dwarf trees come into bearing early and are smaller than standard trees.

There are many dwarfing stocks. Each differs from the others. All are used as rootstocks and some are used as intermediate stem pieces. Each of the Malling apple stocks is designated by a Roman numeral following the word Malling (abbreviated Mo, etc.). Of those generally available, Mo, M VII; and M II are the most promising. Malling IX is the most dwarfing stock. It produces a tree one-fourth to one-third the size of a standard tree, about one to several boxes of apples per tree when mature, and requires permanent support. Malling VII, which is the next smallest, produces a tree a little larger than a mature peach tree and five to eight boxes of apples. Support during early years is desirable. Malling II produces a tree about two-thirds the size of a standard apple tree.

Such Malling stocks as Mo, M VII, and Mo VIII are used as intermediate stem pieces to dwarf apple varieties. The Clark Dwarf apple tree is of this type. The size of the tree varies with the length of the stem piece but is somewhat smaller than M VII trees.

Pear varieties are dwarfed by grafting them onto specially selected strains of quince. This stock produces trees about half the size of standard trees.

Trees remain dwarf only as long as roots are confined to the dwarf understocks. Trees planted deeply enough to permit roots to develop above the graft eventually lose their dwarfness. They must be planted so that the union is above the soil line.

When purchasing dwarf trees, specify the kind of dwarf you want. Don't just ask for dwarf trees.

Multiple trees

Placing several varieties on one tree is practical for fruits such as apples and sweet cherries whose trees are large. There is almost no limit to the number of varieties you can put on one tree, but five or six on a standard apple or sweet cherry tree will furnish family requirements of each variety. With smaller trees such as peaches, apricots, prunes and sour cherries, three varieties may be the limit. Select varieties that will provide fruit successively throughout the season. Placing several varieties on one tree provides crosspollination, which is so necessary for certain varieties. Top-working can best be started after the second or third growing season when you can select wide-angled and well-spaced branches for budding or grafting. Details for this operation are given in Extension Bulletin 442. Because some varieties tend to outgrow others, they must be held back by pruning.

Top-Work Poor Varieties to Good Varieties

Many apple trees in Washington home orchards are of undesirable varieties. These can be top-worked to choice varieties or replaced with dwarf or semi-dwarf trees. Extension Bulletin 442, available at your county Extension office, tells how to top-work trees and make the grafts bear early.

Some Fruit Crops Will Grow in Some Areas but Not in Others

Some crops grow well in some parts of the state but not in others. For example, filberts and English walnuts are confined mainly to western Washington and the conditions in western Washington become progressively less suitable for both of these crops as you go from the southern boundary northward.
The apricot region lies mainly in central Washington with scattered commercial plantings in the southeastern part of the state. Although the apricot belt extends from the southern to the northern boundary, most of the acreage is in the lower half of this region. Apricots are not practical for home orchards in western Washington.

Peaches are grown mainly in central Washington. The limitations are about the same as for apricots except that there are some commercial plantings in western Washington. These are limited, consisting mainly of early varieties and are decreasingly important as you go from the southern to the northern part of the state.

The distribution of sweet cherries over the state is similar to that of peaches. Sour cherries and prunes, on the other hand, can be grown almost anywhere in the state.

Of the small fruit crops, the more tender sorts such as Boysenberries, Nectarines, Youngberries and Loganberries are limited mainly to protected areas of western Washington. Blueberries also are confined mainly to suitable areas in western Washington. But strawberries, blackberries, black raspberries, and red raspberries may be grown almost anywhere in the state if suitable varieties are chosen.

The grape plantings consist mainly of American types, with the bulk of the acreage in south central Washington. Limited plantings, mainly of early varieties, can be found in nearly all other parts of the state except in the extreme northeastern part. There is considerable acreage in western Washington.

With these suggestions and the varietal listing for eastern and western Washington that follows, you can with confidence select varieties for your area.

The Location of the Fruit Planting

The location of the fruit trees is very important. First of all, fruit trees dare not be crowded. Crowding leads to low production, poor color and high trees. Planting them in the vegetable garden area soon makes this area unsuitable for vegetables because of shade and competition for food elements and water. The most satisfactory plan, if space is available, is to plant the fruit trees by themselves where they receive full exposure to sunlight. They can be tucked into the landscape plan to excellent advantage also.

Give Trees Plenty of Room

Approximate space required by trees of some of the more common dwarf stocks are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variety</th>
<th>Space Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M.IX</td>
<td>4 to 8 ft. x 10 to 15 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M.VII</td>
<td>12 to 15 ft. x 18 to 22 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate stem piece trees (including):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clark Dwarf</td>
<td>12 to 15 ft. x 18 to 22 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M.II</td>
<td>20 to 25 ft. x 25 to 30 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pears on Angers A and B</td>
<td>10 to 12 ft. x 12 to 16 ft.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Spacing for standard trees, small fruits and grapes is as follows:

- **Prunes**: 15 ft. x 15 to 20 ft.
- **Apricots**: 15 to 20 ft. x 20 to 30 ft.
- **Sour cherry**: 15 to 20 ft. x 20 to 25 ft.
- **Peach and pear**: 15 to 20 ft. x 20 to 25 ft.
- **Apple**: 25 to 30 ft. x 35 to 40 ft.
- **Sweet cherry**: 30 to 35 ft. x 35 to 40 ft.
- **Walnut**: 35 to 40 ft. x 40 to 50 ft.

- **Raspberries** - plants 30 inches apart in rows 8 ft. apart
- **Dewberries and blackberries** - 8 ft. x 8 ft.
- **Grapes** - 8 ft. by 9 ft.
- **Blueberries** - 6 ft. by 8 ft.
- **Currants and Gooseberries** - 3 ft. by 10 ft.
- **Strawberries**:
  - **Single crop**: 24 inches apart in rows 42 or 24 inches apart
  - **Everbearing**: 18 in. by 18 in.

**Pollination**

Some varieties require cross pollination. The self-unfruitful varieties are marked with an asterisk. With a few exceptions any other variety is a suitable pollinator. Extension Bulletin 342, besides giving details about various pollination techniques, list pollinizers for varieties needing cross pollination.

**Fruit Thinning**

Some fruit trees tend to bear a heavy crop one year and a light crop or none the next. This tendency to bear alternate crops is more pronounced in some varieties than in others. The Yellow Transparent apple is an example. You can prevent alternate bearing by thinning early and keeping the tree from bearing too heavily. Or, you can make half of the tree bear one year and the other half the next. To do this remove all the blossoms from one half during the "on" year.

Apple thinning, to be most effective, must be done within 30 days after full bloom. The earlier it is done, the more effective it is. You can thin, as soon as the petals drop or earlier. Thinning when the fruits are small, although harder, is much more effective than later. Remove the small fruits and keep the large ones. Space apples and pears the equivalent of six to ten inches apart.

To do this on trees with a heavy fruit set you must remove all fruits from some spurs, and leave only one per spur on others. But on trees with a very light fruit set you must leave two on some spurs in order to produce a crop.

**Varieties Listed in Approximate Order of Ripening**

*Require Cross-pollination*

**Western Washington**

- **Yellow Transparent** (summer)
- **Red Melba** (late summer)
- **Early McIntosh** (early fall)
- * **Red Gravenstein** (fall)
- **King** (early winter)
- **Golden Delicious** (early winter)
- **Northern Spy** (winter)

**APPLES**

**Eastern Washington**

- **Lodi** (similar to, but bigger than Transparent)
- **Duchess** (summer)
- * **Beacon**
- **Red June** (summer)
- * **Tydeman Red**
Western Washington
Apples (continued)

Hyslop
Transcendent
Hopa (ornamental)
Sundog (ornamental)
Almey (ornamental)

CRAB APPLES

Transcendent
Hopa (ornamental)
Sundog (ornamental)
Almey (ornamental)

Eastern Washington

* Bartlett
* Comice
Anjou
Winter Nelis

Pears

* Bartlett
* Seckel
Anjou
Packham's Triumph
* Comice

QUINCE

Meech

PEACHES

Redhaven (early Aug., semi-free, yellow flesh)
Rochester or Pacific Gold (yellow, mid-August)
Herb Hale (mid-Aug., promising for Columbia River counties)
Early Elberta (yellow, mid-Sept.)
Veteran (early Sept., freestone, best canner)

Dixired (semi-cling, 7 weeks before Elberta)
Redhaven (5 weeks before Elberta, freestone when ripe)
Redglobe (3 weeks before Elberta, good canner or shipper, freestone)
* Earlihale (2½ weeks before Elberta, good shipper, freestone)
Sunhigh (yellow, freestone, good canner)
Early Elberta (Gleason strain, 5 days before Elberta, freestone, good canner)
* J.H.Hale (3 days before Elberta, standard shipper, freestone)
Elberta (freestone, standard canner)
Gold Medal (with Elberta, good canner, freestone)
Rio Oso Gem (10 days after Elberta, good freezer, freestone)
### Western Washington

#### APRICOTS

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#### European Plums

- * Italian (blue, September)
- * Green Gage (late, good for canning)
- * Damson (small blue, good for jam)

#### Japanese Plums

- * Methley (very early, blue-purple, red fleshed, resembles Santa Rosa)
- * Beauty (early, blue-purple)
- * Duarte (late, purple, red flesh)

#### Sweet Cherries

- * Black Tartarian (good pollinizer)
- * Royal Ann
- * Bing
- * Black Republican (good pollinizer)
- * Van (dark, lustrous, good pollinizer, resistant to cracking)
- * Lambert

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### Eastern Washington

#### Eastern Washington

- * Earliril (one week before Riland, tree very hardy, early blooming but frost hardy, processor)
- * Riland (10 days before Tilton, tree hardy, attractive, ripens from inside out)
- * Blenril (10 days before Tilton, tree hardy, frost hardy, medium size, highly blushed)
- * Perfection (one week before Tilton hardy, frost tender, large)
- * Sun-Glo (one week before Tilton, orange, tree hardy, frost hardy, glossy, medium size)
- * Wenatchee (Moorpark) (few days before Tilton, orange, large, medium hardy)
- * Tilton (mid to late July, tree tender, productive, processor)

#### European Plums

- * Richards Early Italian (Richards strain, 10-14 days before Italian Prune)
- * Italian Prune (late Aug. to early Sept.)
- * Stanley (with Italian Prune, heavy producer, hardy, prune type)
- * President (late)

#### Japanese Plums

- * Santa Rosa (red fleshed)
- * Burmosa
- * Redheart (excellent pollinizer)
- * Nubiana
- * Shiro (yellow)
- * Lorado
- * Climax
- * Elephant Heart (large, red fleshed)

#### Sweet Cherries

(all require pollinizers)

- * Sam (dark, good pollinizer)
- * Royal Ann (white)
- * Bing (dark)
- * Van (dark, lustrous, good pollinizer for Bing, Lambert, Royal Ann)
- * Lambert (dark)
- * Chinook (dark, 4 to 10 days before Bing)
- * Rainier (white, large, hardy)
Early Richmond (early)
Montmorency (red, midseason, the
variety commonly grown)

Montmorency (red, variety commonly
grown)
English Morello (dark)

Sumner
Washington
September (fall bearer)

Sumner
Latham
Washington
Willamette
Canby
September (fall bearer)

Munger
Cumberland

Munger
Cumberland
Morrison

Marion (midseason, thornless
Youngberry)
Cascade (early)
Thornless Loganberry (midseason)
Boysenberry (midseason)
Chehalem (midseason for Clark
and Lower Cowlitz counties)

Boysenberry (for protected areas)

Thornless Evergreen

Eldorado
Texas
Darrow

Seneca (white)
Ontario (white)
Campbell (Island Belle, Blue)
Fredonia (black, blue)
Diamond (white)
Worden (blue)
Van Buren (trial)
Buffalo

Csaba (white)
Schuyler (blue)
Cardinal (large, red)
Interlaken Seedless (white)
Van Buren (blue)
Seneca (white)
Perlette (white, seedless)
Delight (white, seedless)
Buffalo (blue)
Campbell (blue)
Alden (black)
Black Monukka (black)
Chasselas Ciotat (ornamental,
white)
Delaware (red)
Concord (blue)
Steuben (blue)
BLUEBERRIES

Earliblue (early)
Concord (early to midseason)
Bluecrop (early to midseason)
Stanley (early to midseason)
Pemberton (midseason to late)
Dixie (late)

GOOSEBERRIES

Oregon Champion
Poorman

CURRANT

Red Lake

STRAWBERRIES

Northwest
Marshall
Columbia (red stele resistant)
Puget Beauty
Siletz (red stele resistant)
Red Rich (ever-bearer)
Superfection (ever-bearer)
Rockhill (ever-bearer)

Oregon Champion
Poorman
Fredonia

Wilder
Red Lake
Perfection

Earlidawn
Pocahontas
Puget Beauty
Marshall
Northwest
Midway
Gem, Superfection, Brilliant (ever-bearer)
Red Rich (everbearer)
20th Century (everbearer)
Ogallala (everbearer)