

WHAT APPLES TO PLANT

MAXWELL SMITH'S ADVICE TO FRUIT GROWERS OF THE INTERIOR

TWELVE VARIETIES THAT HE BELIEVES TO BE MONEY-MAKERS

In a circular letter just issued Maxwell Smith, dominion fruit inspector, says:

I am so frequently asked what varieties of apples I should advise planting in the Okanagan valley and other districts in British Columbia having similar climatic and soil conditions, that I have prepared the following list, and while there are, of course, a number of other good varieties, I can with a reasonable degree of confidence, recommend the following as money makers:

Duchess of Oldenburgh, Wealthy, McIntosh Red, Gravenstein, Cox's Orange Pippin, Fameuse, Northern Spy, Esopus Spitzenburgh, Jonathan, Delicious, Stayman Winesap, Yellow Newton Pippin.

Of these twelve, eight are highly colored varieties of rare beauty, viz., Duchess of Oldenburgh, Wealthy, McIntosh Red, Fameuse, Esopus Spitzenburgh, Jonathan, Delicious and Stayman Winesap, but the other four, viz., Gravenstein, Cox's Orange Pippin, Northern Spy, and Yellow Newton Pippin, possess such excellent qualities and are so well known in the markets of the world, that I hardly think we can afford to leave them out of the list. I should like to point out also that the keeping qualities of these 12 varieties, are fairly well indicated by the order in which they are named; beginning with the Duchess of Oldenburgh, which does not keep successfully longer than the end of September and ending with the Yellow Newton Pippin, which, under proper conditions may be kept over until May.

There are four of these varieties, viz., Cox's Orange Pippin, Esopus Spitzenburgh, Stayman Winesap, and Yellow Newton Pippin, concerning which particular care should be exercised to give the proper name when ordering, as there are other inferior varieties bearing similar names; that is to say, there are Orange Pippins, Suitsenburghs, Winesaps and Newton Pippins, which are of very inferior quality to the Cox Orange Pippin, the Esopus Spitzenburgh, Stayman Winesap and Yellow Newton Pippin.

While I submit the names of 12 varieties I should not advise any one grower to plant more than four of these and for convenience I should recommend dividing them into three groups, about as follows:

Group 1—Stayman Winesap, Jonathan, Wealthy and Duchess of Oldenburgh.

Group 2—Delicious, Esopus Spitzenburgh, Fameuse, McIntosh Red.

Group 3—Yellow Newton Pippin, Northern Spy, Gravenstein, Cox's Orange Pippin.

In planting an orchard I should strongly advise against planting a large block of any one variety. The reason for this is the advisability of getting different varieties in close proximity so as to render effectual the operation of interpollination by the action of wind and honey gathering insects.