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MIDLAND
A Superb New Berry
The Plant Situation... 1946

Greetings and best wishes for the post war years to all our old friends and to the new ones we hope to make. It looks as if there were several good years just ahead for strawberry growers. With our 61 years of experience in growing strawberries and strawberry plants we should be able to help in some way those who want to continue growing or to start growing strawberries. If you have any questions about strawberries, not answered in this Berry Book, please write us. We will give you the answer if we know it.

Supplies. After two very dry growing seasons (1943 and 1944), it’s a relief to be able to say that 1945 weather was much more favorable. In spite of the fact that shortage of labor and plants kept the acreage down and three weeks of continuous rain in July and August ruined some fields or parts of fields on low land, there are more plants available than last year. A few varieties will be short but supplies of Premier, Fairfax, Catskill and other leaders will be fairly adequate. Of the everbearers, Mastodon is shortest, with Gem and Evermore (Minnesota No. 1166) more plentiful.

Prices. For all growers, this year’s crop has been produced and plants will be dug and shipped at the highest cost per acre in history. Nevertheless, the increased yield has made possible some reduction in prices. More important is the fact that most varieties can be had in quantities which automatically carry a lower price per thousand.

Varities. There are no brand new varieties this year to seriously challenge Premier, Catskill, Fairfax, Redstar and a few others for the leadership. Of the newer kinds Midland and Fairpeake are outstanding. If Midland continues its 1945 performance, room for it will have to be made not near, but AT the top. The largest and firmer berries we ever saw were our 1945 Midlands. In the Everbearing list Minnesota 1166 (now named Evermore) has been more widely tried and has generally done very well in the Northern States.

Plants. We are sending you this Berry Book with the hope that if you need berry plants this year you will buy them from W. F. Allen Company. We believe our 61 years of experience, our long list of customers, satisfied year after year, our valued reputation for accuracy and moderation in describing varieties, and the dependability which characterizes our plants as well as our statements—we believe these things amply justify you in sending us your orders. It will pay you—to USE ALLEN’S DEPENDABLE PLANTS.
COLLECTIONS

For All—but especially for those who want the very best of berries in their gardens—but who are too busy to make a detailed study of varieties.

Not for 61 years—since our business started—has a finer group of varieties been offered in one Collection! All four of the kinds, Premier—Fairfax—Catskill and Redstar are strong growers, widely adapted, very productive of good size, fine quality berries. Among them are four superlatives.

PREMIER—the SUREST CROPPER of all
FAIRFAX—the FINEST QUALITY of all
CATSKILL—the BEARING-EST variety of all
REDSTAR—the LATEST GOOD BERRY of all

Together they mean a continuous supply of luscious strawberries, all season from the earliest to the latest.

Expert or novice—you can’t go wrong in selecting one of these collections.

Collection A—100 plants—25 each of the 4 kinds (4 lbs.).......................... $ 4.00
Collection B—200 plants—50 each of the 4 kinds (8 lbs.).......................... 6.75
Collection C—400 plants—100 each of the 4 kinds (16 lbs.)......................... 11.25
Collection D—2000 plants—500 each of the 4 kinds (70 lbs.)......................... 34.00

These collections are adapted especially for States in the latitude of Virginia to Missouri northward to Canada and in higher altitudes farther South.

These collections are not offered as money-savers, although there is a small saving with each of them. They are selected and offered so that those who do not wish to make a study of varieties can be sure to get the BEST without bother.

Order by Collection number—Collection A, Collection B, etc. The prices are f.o.b. Salisbury, Maryland, payment with order. Add postage figured from approximate weight given. Parcel post table on page 30. The larger collections will go cheaper by express collect.
Strawberries Do Pay!

Berries like these will pay any year

Did you buy any strawberries in 1945? If you did you know they sold well, whether you lived on a farm or a small town or in a city.

Did you sell any strawberries in 1945? If you did you know that they sold well. Nearly all berries, regardless of grade or quality, wholesale or retail, sold at ceiling prices.

High prices for good berries will continue for several years!

Good strawberries, any strawberries, have been very scarce for several years. While this has been partly due to wartime conditions, especially scarcity of help, there was no governmental restriction. Strawberries were and are rated as an essential crop and their production urged by Government agencies. The severe summer droughts of 1943 and 1944 were almost as important as wartime scarcities in limiting the total supply of strawberries. Resulting shortage of planting stock caused a drastic reduction in total acreage planted, as well as a poor growth on those acres.

As a result of this continued shortage, not one of the usual outlets for berries has been fully supplied for several years. This has caused a tremendous pent-up demand for good strawberries that will be very helpful in maintaining profitable prices during the first few postwar years. There will be, and should be, a greater premium for fancy berries than there has been during the war years. Poor berries will not continue to bring top prices, but "the price future for good strawberries is very rosy!"

When the period of scarcity is over, what then? It has been variously estimated that it will take two to four years for strawberry production to get back to normal. The most pessimistic of our economic forecasters have predicted several years of great prosperity with high wages, full production and a job for everyone who really wants a job. This situation, together with the great backlog of bond purchases and wartime-saving, will mean that most people will have ample money to buy whatever they need and pay good prices. They will be more particular as to quality.

History repeats itself! Our 61 years of experience have given us much confidence in the strawberry business. We believe the growing of good strawberries will continue to be profitable, because it has always been profitable. All through the depression years, good berries sold well. The best berry year in our history was not the boom year of 1929, nor 1944, but was in 1935, right in the middle of the depression. More consistently than any crop we know STRAWBERRIES HAVE PAID. STRAWBERRIES DO PAY, STRAWBERRIES WILL PAY!

Strawberry Don'ts

1. Don't try to get rich quick by planting more than you can handle.
2. Don't forget that a high profit crop like strawberries should have your best land and best attention.
3. Don't fail to cut costs wherever it does not affect yield or quality.
4. Don't wait until too late. Get good plants of the best varieties and get them set early.
PICKING THE WINNERS

Early
Premier
Fairfax

Midseason
Catskill

Late
Big Joe

Chesapeake

Very Late
Redstar

Everbearing
Mastodorn

Gem

The safe early strawberry. Frost proof. Has produced a crop every year for 29 straight years since its introduction. Very productive, profitable and popular in all Northern and Middle States.


A most profitable early berry for us. At its best equals Premier in productiveness. Superior in size, firmness, beauty. Much better in quality. Avoid very cold frosty sites, far North. Blakemore light and quite tart is fine, early shipping berry adapted chiefly from Maryland South. Midland, a new medium early berry of good size, beauty and productiveness. Best of the newer varieties.

The safe midseason berry. 13 years without a crop failure. Heaviest producer of any leading variety—more big berries than any other. Good quality, firm, attractive. Adapted from Canada South to Missouri and North Carolina. Best midseason berry.

Preferred by many to Catskill—especially in Middle States. It must be good to be among the leaders for so many years. Often sells with Chesapeake. Robinson very highly recommended by Michigan growers.

The aristocrat of Strawberries. For years highest selling late berries. Large, firm, very beautiful, fine quality. Considered shy plant maker but our present strain has always made plenty of plants. Most profitable late berry in many sections. Lupton—a very productive and profitable large, late shipping berry. Poor quality. Fairpeake—highest quality—a good one to try.

The latest very good and the best very late variety. Set Redstar to extend the season of good quality, high priced berries. Sure cropper as late blossoms escape frosts which kill many earlier kinds.

Most popular and widely grown Everbearer. A strong grower. Berries large, good quality, good shippers, excellent for home use and most generally used when planting for profit. A fine spring cropper in addition to summer and fall berries.

A "hanging full" bed of these "sparkling jewels" will be a source of pleasure and pride for the whole family—profit too, with a good sized plot. Many and important are the good things which come from a well kept strawberry garden.

The familiar patent medicine ad says "Children cry for more." Strawberries aren't exactly medicine, but they are a healthful food and brimful of Vitamin C. All the kids will agree that strawberries are much better to take than anything that ever came out of a vitamin pellet or a medicine bottle.

There's health not only in the fruit itself but in the growing of it. Short periods in the fresh air and sunshine with work vigorous enough to be good exercise but light enough to do no harm to the very young or those of advancing years.

To "eat 'em as you pick 'em" and have your fill right in the garden is popular. Fresh berries "sugared down" are good too. A fancy way to enjoy them is to take some especially nice berries and dip them one by one as eaten into powdered sugar.

Strawberry shortcake can't be forgotten. Neither can berries to can and preserve for winter use.

And the surplus berries. Share them with your friends or sell them for profit. There's always a ready sale for good berries at attractive prices.

With early to late varieties (as in our Collections on page 3) the season can be stretched over a long season. With everbearers, fresh strawberries can be enjoyed all through late summer and fall.

With a frozen food locker or a quick freezing unit of your own, your strawberry garden will enable you to enjoy a real merry-berry-go round the seasons.

Order plants for your berry garden now—you can have so much for so little in time, effort and money.

Tioga Co., N. Y., June 19, 1945. Last spring a year ago I sent to you for 100 strawberry plants, 50 Dorsett and 50 Fairfax. They are bearing now and I want you to know I think they are the largest and best tasting I ever had, the vines are so large and just loaded with berries.

Mrs. George Button

Suffolk Co., Mass., March 24, 1945. I can't think of the names of the berries we had four years ago, but they proved a very good group. We sold over 200 quarts and I put up more than 50 quarts. I also made strawberry jam to sell.

Mrs. Fritz Schwarz
OWN BERRY GARDEN
the Strawberries

Hartford Co., Conn., March 25, 1945. In the fall of 1943 we placed a small order with you for Mastodon strawberry plants. We have had marvelous luck—especially for rank amateurs. Our plants have furnished us with a strawberry shortcake once a week starting about the middle of May right through until snow falls. The darn plants don't seem to know when to quit bearing. This spring we uncovered the plants (we cover them through the winter with a 2-2" layer of leaves) to find numerous buds on the plants, so it looks like another good berry year for us. We think that our Allen plants are the tops—our neighbors think so too.

Mr. M. Charles Schroeter

Franklin Co., Ohio, February 6, 1945. Had wonderful success with plants I bought from you two years ago. Had all the berries we could use and can, and still sold $50.00 worth from the small patch I had.

Mr. J. O. McAdams

Loudon Co., Va, March 25, 1945. Thanks for the postage refund. I just want to say that about ten years ago I bought plants from you and I could go into my patch and pick a gallon of berries in two or three minutes of big luscious berries that were solid all through. You may expect a repeat order for next year as I expect to get all my "straws" from Allen's.

Mr. R. H. Osborn

Greene Co., New York, February 21, 1945. I am enclosing order for plants to be shipped April 15th. From 600 plants from you in spring 1943 I picked 706 quarts on ground not used for about thirty years. Catskill and Redstar were far the best. Premier rotted before they were fully ripe.

Mr. George A. Appleton

Successful Berry Gardens

Floyd Co., Ind., Feb. 12, 1945. Thank you for your 1945 Book of Berries. Strawberries thrive in this vicinity and many are grown for shipment to northern markets. The standard varieties grown are Blakemore, Premier and Aroma, principally the latter two. I do not consider them best for home use. They are too sour and require too much sugar. Consequently, I have chosen Fairfax. It does well here. In my estimation it has no equal. If the other varieties selected will grow as well in this location as the Fairfax, I should have an all season dandy patch for home consumption.

Mr. Arthur D. Avery

Bergen Co., N. J., February 12, 1945. The plants which you sent me two years ago have given splendid results. We had a fine crop of large berries this past spring, and are very well pleased. We had Fairfax and Gem.

Mr. Charles M. Aldrich

Harford Co., Md., Feb. 29, 1945. Plants I purchased from you two years ago this spring were most satisfactory. They were Dorsett, Fairfax, Catskill and Gem. The berries were just about the largest and most beautiful I ever saw.

Mrs. H. L. Armstrong

Dauphin Co., Pa., June 28, 1945. This spring I bought a small order of plants from you and they were beauties, and how they did grow! They are at this time the finest and most lovely plants in our garden. Now to the point. Am I too early to place an order for some more of your really very fine strawberry plants? Are we pleased with them? I should say so!

Mr. John M. Bower

Those All-Star Collections on page 3 are just the thing for boys and girls—grown-ups too.
Other good varieties of strawberries are frost resistant. Premier is the only one so far that can really be called frost-proof. There are 29 straight years of heavy cropping—ever since Premier was introduced—to make the frost-proof claim a fact.

This frost-proof fact together with other fine qualities make Premier the Safest strawberry to plant. Where the grower cannot afford to miss a crop or where a steady volume of berries is essential to some other business Premier is the one best variety to tie to in localities where it is best adapted.

The primary Premier region includes all the Middle and Northern states as far West as the Mississippi Valley and in the higher altitudes as far south as North Carolina and Tennessee. In this whole area Premier is the most popular commercial variety, being planted on more acres and generally giving greater profit than any other kind (Catskill being a good second). Premier gained first place in a very few years after its introduction and has held its leadership easily. That's a mark of real distinction during these past 25 years when scientific breeding has brought out thousands of new seedlings for testing and selection.

Premier is a most prolific berry. On good land and with ample moisture at fruiting time, there seems to be no end to its productiveness. An early ripening variety, it continues bearing until most of the midseason berries are about through. In very dry years it is impossible for the plants to size up the great quantity of berries and there are many small fruits among the later ones unless irrigation is provided. With hot wet weather at fruiting time Premier tends to rot too much if the beds are matted too thickly or have been left unmulched.

Under favorable conditions yields of 5,000 to 10,000 quarts per acre of good, marketable Premier berries are not unusual.
The Premier berries in the picture give an idea of the shape and general appearance of the fruit. They run medium to large in size, medium to high in quality and medium to good in firmness. Premier berries grown in New England, New York, Pennsylvania and other northern parts of the Premier territory will be larger, firmer, brighter and more attractive in appearance and much better quality than Premier berries grown farther South.

Premier plant growth is moderately vigorous. Plants of good Premier stock (see picture) will usually make plenty of new runners for a good fruiting row. Premier foliage is extremely healthy. In many fields it is almost impossible to find the slightest trace of leaf spot or any other foliage trouble.

In states of the Middle Western, Middle Atlantic and New England groups we truly believe over half of all the records for wonderful yields and high profits have been made with the Premier variety. We know it's sound advice to expert growers or beginners to say

**Plant Premier for Profit**

A splendid field of superb Premier plants for your orders this spring. It is a result of good plants, good land, and early setting.

Wayne Co., Pa., Jan. 24, 1945. I am placing my order a little earlier this year with the hope of getting it filled. Last year I ordered the middle of February but you were sold out of Premier plants and refunded my money. No other strawberry amounts to anything in this section except Premier. I can truthfully say that all the years I have had plants from you our dealings have been very satisfactory and all our plants have been true to name.

Mr. Raymond Avery

Marion Co., Ohio, January 25, 1945. In 1943 I bought of your firm some of the improved Premier. From a plot of 360 plants in 1944 was picked over 400 quarts of the finest berries I have raised in ten years of berry culture. For 21 straight days these plants produced.

Mr. D. H. McCoy

Butler Co., Pa., February 23, 1945. Am sending for more Premier plants. I ordered 400 two years ago. They were the best I have ever seen. I like Premier very much.

Mrs. E. A. Aspelin

Iredell Co., N. C., February 19, 1945. I ordered 1,000 plants and picked over 400 quarts of berries. The Premier bears best. I like your plants fine.

Mr. V. A. Sherrill

Lamoille Co., Vt., Sept. 6, 1945. A few years ago I set some of your strawberry plants and cannot begin to explain how pleased I am with the results. I never would have believed there was so much difference in plants and bearing as in the ones you sent to me and the ones I set out from my own stock. I set out 1700 plants of yours year before last. We picked 2,000 quarts last year. This year (1945) we picked 2,450 quarts besides the late frost got some of the blossoms. Almost twice as many as I got from my home stock. Well, I want some more next spring, about 1,500 of the Howard 17. Please let me know what your 1946 prices will be and don't forget to send me a catalog also. Many thanks in advance. The trick of it is the plants we get from down there have such an awfully good root system while ours up here don't have so many; likely the cause is on account of the short season.

Mr. D. H. Maxfield

HOWARD 17—Premier is also sold as Howard 17, which was the original name. The varieties are identical in every respect. It's a "pippin" no matter which name you use. Price list page 31.
FAIRFAX...Royal Quality!

"Have you any more of those large, dark berries? They're wonderful!"
"In these days of sugar shortage, I'm more fond of Fairfax than ever."
"My customers don't want other varieties, since I started growing Fairfax."
"There's nothing in our garden as popular as those Fairfax berries."

What's a grower going to do when he hears comments like the above from his customers and his family, season after season? Sure, he's going to grow FAIRFAX! And that's just what he has been doing.

In large commercial plantings Premier and Catskill are tops in the North and Blakemore in the South, but in family gardens or small plantings for local or roadside trade where quality counts most

Fairfax is King!!!

There are, we believe, more separate plantings of Fairfax than of any other variety on earth. There should be. They are the best of all to eat and as easy as any to grow.

Let no one think that the superb quality and flavor of the berries is the only good thing about Fairfax. It's really splendid in many other ways.

Fairfax normally makes as good a fruiting row as Premier—not as many plants but larger, stronger ones. The foliage is beautiful. In ornamental plantings where low border plants are needed, strawberries are often used. Fairfax is the favorite variety for this purpose. The sturdy plants with the large, dark green, shiny leaves, the very large white blossoms with the bright yellow centers, and later on the ruby red berries, explains why Fairfax is a favorite where beauty is the aim.

Fairfax plants are fairly heavy producers—not as productive as Premier and Catskill but well up with the average. Excellent yields at the rate of 5,000 to 8,000 quarts per acre are frequently obtained under good conditions.

Fairfax berries, in addition to their unsurpassed quality are among the firmest. Only Blakemore, Midland and a very few less well known kinds are as firm. If picked on time Fairfax berries can be shipped anywhere strawberries are supposed to go. Some sections of the South grow and ship Fairfax. Good Fairfax nearly always top the market when shipped in competition with other kinds.

The one criticism of Fairfax berries is that they get dark on holding. After keeping long enough to rot many varieties, Fairfax does turn very dark, almost purple, but retains its firmness and high quality a few more days before finally rotting. As more and more people learn about Fairfax the dark purplish color becomes a symbol of quality, not of decay.

When they first ripen Fairfax berries are a shiny, bright red—beautiful in appearance—resembling Chesapeake. The very large first berries are often fan shaped but the main crop is of more normal shape as shown in the hand on next page.
While not quite as rugged as Premier, Fairfax is a very hardy variety that usually comes through with a fine crop. It is just as widely adapted as Premier. It is good in North Carolina and Tennessee, splendid in the middle states and is voted the best roadside market berry in Maine.

As a berry for Commercial planting, Fairfax is good! And Profitable!
As a berry for Local and Roadside Trade, Fairfax is grand! And Popular!
As a berry for the Home Garden, Fairfax is strictly TOPS!

Leavenworth Co., Kans., Feb. 26, 1945. I think about four years ago I ordered from you my first Fairfax plants and I am very much an admirer of the Fairfax. Right now while sugar is so scarce I am more than fond of the Fairfax, it is such a sweet berry.

Mrs. Edna E. Davis

Caldwell Co., N. C., January 4, 1945. I am pleased to report that the 500 Fairfax that I got from you two years ago have been the best that I have ever grown. They produce a good bed of plants and berries in spite of cold weather and dry weather.

Mr. Glen T. Hickman

Washington Co., R. I., March 20, 1945. I’ve forgotten how many years since I first experimented with your Fairfax plants, but I do know that half a dozen neighbors sent to you for Fairfax plants the next year and some of them still are buying your plants. I have never lost a single plant from your stock.

Mrs. L. D. Hoskins

Bradford Co., Pa., February 1, 1945. In 1943 I bought 200 Premier, 200 Catskill, 200 Fairfax from you. The Fairfax seems to be the best for my ground, as they made the most even setting and are strong enough to hold their berries up. During the early picking last year we had some very hot days with thunderstorms. It affected the Premier with a brown soft rot so that even the green berries lost two pickings. It affected the Fairfax very little. I have thought because the Fairfax held their berries up where the air could get to them is what saved them. My troubles are small, I suppose, but that is the reason I am ordering Fairfax, and if you have to substitute give me a variety with some of the good qualities of the Fairfax.

Mr. Harry B. Hancock
MIDLAND

The largest and firmest berries we have ever grown or seen were our 1945 Midland! In freezing tests at the Maryland Experiment Station in 1945, Midland was outstanding—far better than any other of the many varieties in the tests. Midland is definitely the most promising of all the newer varieties.

Midland is a U. S. Department of Agriculture cross of Premier and Redheart. It has been tested for several years and certainly looks like a winner. Briefly, here is how we rate Midland on our experience with it to date:

Plant Growth. Very vigorous and healthy. Makes plenty of large strong plants instead of great numbers. Like Fairfax and Redstar in vigor.

Productiveness. Very heavy, equal or close to Premier and Catskill.

Firmness. Great! As good or better than Blakemore and Fairfax.

Size of Berries. Great again. See first line above.


Quality. Finest flavor and quality, not quite as sweet as Fairfax but claimed by some of our local enthusiasts to be just as good.

Season. Medium early—between Blakemore and Fairfax.

Adaptation. Recommended in the official U. S. Department Circular for trial for the general market from Virginia to Southern New England and Westward to Arkansas and Iowa. We have comments of growers from several widely separated states. Price list on page 31.

Ontario Co., N. Y., Sept. 26, 1945. Midland has not been very productive here so far, but we have not given it a fair test as we have usually taken most of the plants for our new planting, and this year I picked up most of the flowers to use in breeding. From what I have seen of it here it has not been very productive, but the berry has been excellent. Walter Clark of New York, one of our good fruit growers, sent word to me last summer that Midland looked very good with him and was bearing a heavy crop. He was enthusiastic about the variety.

Mr. George L. Slate

Polk Co., Nebr., February 20, 1945. I think Midland will be one of the greatest strawberries for this part of the country. I bought 125 strawberry plants from you last year, 25 each of Midland, Premier, Fairfax, Starbright and Redstar. We had about the wettest and coldest spring on record. I got the strawberries planted on April 25th and on May 6th it was so cold it froze three inches of ice. Only about one half of Redstar lived and about 7/4 of Starbright, Fairfax and Premier, but every plant of Midland lived and was far head of the other varieties, a much stronger grower than Premier and most of its runners made with strong plants before Premier got started. I left a few blossoms on one plant and had a few nice berries. All the plants arrived in fine shape, which is more than I can say for those received from other places.

Fador Kernine

St. Marys Co., Md., August 19, 1943. The Midland is the finest berry I have ever seen. People came from far and near to get these berries, even from Washington and Solomons Island, Md. I sold these berries 50c per quart by the case and could not supply the trade.

Mr. J. A. Henderson

SENATOR DUNLAP A fine old variety that has been grown in the Middle and Northern states for many years. It is an extremely vigorous grower, making lots of plants, which are very productive. Berries are medium in size, a bright rich red clear through, and of good quality. One of the best for canning. The hardiness of Dunlap plants makes the variety a favorite where the cold winters injure weaker kinds. Canada, Maine, Iowa, Minnesota are among the places where Dunlap is appreciated. Of this variety we have the largest and best stock in years. Here's the place to get your Dunlap plants. Price list, page 31.
DORSETT
At Its Best - There is No Better

Dorsett is usually at its best in the latitude of Virginia, Maryland and New Jersey. Even farther north on the New England coast and in the Hudson River Valley, as well as in states as far west as Missouri, some growers rate Dorsett as one of the best.

Where it grows well there is plenty of reason to put it at the top. The plants are more vigorous and just as productive as Premier. The berries run larger in size, are brighter and more attractive in appearance and will outsell Premier on most markets. Dorsett berries are extra fine in quality, better than any except Fairfax and Starbright, and about equal to them as a dessert berry. Dorsett is excellent for home garden and local market and is firm enough to ship if picking is kept up reasonably well.

In spite of being good in so many ways, Dorsett will never be universally popular because of two weak points. It is not as hardy as Premier, Catskill or Fairfax. When planted far north or on cold frosty sites it is more susceptible to injury from winter cold and from late spring frosts than most other good varieties. Also, Dorsett is a fairly weak pollenizer. It is so vigorous that it often sets far too many plants which not only cuts down the size and yield of fruit by excessive competition for water and plant food, but also by making damp, shaded conditions where proper pollination is difficult.

Fairly well thinned beds enable Dorsett to set the tremendously heavy crops of which it is capable. Growers who can produce Dorsett at its best are really "sitting pretty." Price list, page 31.

NORTHSTAR Makes large, healthy, vigorous plants - but not enough of them except under ideal conditions. Berries average very large in size, quite firm, beautiful bright red color. Quality and flavor excellent, very aromatic. Productiveness fair, in latitude of Maryland, Virginia, Missouri, poor in tests farther North. Grow only where a few very large, very beautiful and very high quality berries compensate for a very light yield. Price list, page 31.

MISSIONARY Leading berry in Florida and popular in other Southern States. Missionary will do well on almost all soils, but will do better than most on the lighter soil types. The berries are medium in size, dark red in color, rather tart quality and attractive in appearance. It is a very good shipper and is also a favorite with the "cold pack" or "juice" man. Price list, page 31.
BLAKEMORE

Early
Solid
Productive

A Great
Shipping
Berry

LEADS THE WORLD IN ACREAGE—2 TO 1

More than twice as many acres are planted to Blakemore as to any other one kind. In fact with scores of varieties being grown, 25% of all commercial strawberry acreage is Blakemore!

Blakemore is the best early shipping berry the Southern States have ever had. It does well as far north as Maryland, Southern New Jersey and the Ohio Valley. With few exceptions, it is not recommended farther north. The remarkable popularity of Blakemore in these Southern and lower Middle States is based on performance alone. It has revived the industry in many areas. Here are some of the reasons:

Blakemore is a strong, vigorous grower which makes a good fruiting bed under almost any conditions.

Blakemore will stand more abuse and neglect in growing, picking and shipping than any other variety ever known and still make money for the grower.

Berries are very firm—ideal for long distance shipping.

Berries ripen uniformly all over and have a bright attractive color which they retain even after they get quite ripe.

Blakemore berries are most popular with commercial canners and packers. At times they will take no other variety. The fact that the berries are quite tart as well as firm may partly explain this. As fresh fruit they must have sugar added to be good.

Blakemore berries are medium to large in size when beds are not too thick. Some thinning of plants helps eliminate the small berries which very thick beds and dry weather tend to produce.

Yellows resistant plants. Due to the nature of Blakemore yellowing, no one can know for sure that their stock is yellows-free. However, for two straight years we have not been able to find any trace of yellowing, either in our stock plants or in the fields; grown from them for your orders.

Southern Growers—all Blakemore growers—set Blakemore for productiveness and profit. Protect your profits with Allen’s Yellows-resistant Blakemore plants.

Price list, page 23
Big Joe, Joe, and Joe Johnson are all names that have been given to this fine old variety. Big Joe makes a strong, vigorous plant growth. The individual plants are quite large and usually do not need spacing. The plants are moderately productive and under favorable conditions may be very productive. The berries are large and of very fine quality. A brilliant red flesh color, prominent red to yellow seeds and a big green cap combine to make a very showy and attractive berry. Big Joe berries are fairly firm and in this shipping section of Maryland they have for years sold well on local auction markets, outselling Catskill much of the time.

In tests for several years Big Joe has been one of the very best for freezing. More recent trials show Midland as best but Big Joe still high on the list of desirable varieties for freezing.

One weakness of Big Joe is that it isn't always a heavy producer. A heavy frost or light freeze may kill the crop or nip the blossoms enough to make too many misshapen berries with hard, knotty green ends. In this respect Big Joe is supposed to be more susceptible than many other varieties. However, in spring of 1945 after the late frost that drastically reduced the crop in this section, Big Joe had a good yield—as good as several other varieties considered much more hardy. At any rate a selection of planting sites to avoid frost pockets or proper handling of mulch in spring will enable growers who know and like Big Joe to grow it safely and profitably.

If you are a Big Joe grower, be careful of mixed plants. We are positive that our stock is straight, but there are dozens of farmers in Maryland and Delaware who have Big Joe thoroughly mixed with Lupton. As both are good varieties here and nearly the same season, they don't try very hard to get them straight. We have seen so much of this particular mixture that we have been extra careful on these varieties and can supply you from a stock that is straight. Price list, page 31.
Catskill, like Premier, is at its best in all the Northern States as far west as the Mississippi Valley and in higher elevations as far South as North Carolina and Tennessee. Also, like Premier, Catskill is one of the hardiest varieties known.

What a team these two make! With Premier for early and Catskill for midseason your investment in commercial strawberry growing is on a solid foundation. Both are dependable for big crops of big berries every year.

Here are some of the things that make Catskill the great:

Plant growth is vigorous and healthy. Enough strong plants made for a good fruiting bed. On very rich soil they may have to be thinned a little. Like most of the New York varieties, Catskill shows a little leaf spot when grown this far south, but never enough to affect the crop.

Big Berries. Catskill will produce not only a greater total yield but a larger quantity of big berries than any other leading variety. Of course there are some medium sized berries, but they are in addition to and not "in place of" a big yield of big berries. The new Midland rivals Catskill in size of berries.

Good Berries. Catskill berries have very good quality. They're somewhat better than Premier and when fully ripe have much the delicious flavor of the old Marshall. They're really good to eat.

The group in the picture is typical of the beauty of the group in the picture is typical of the beauty of the varieties.
KILL
Berries . . Larger Crops than any other

Productiveness is all that could be desired. Here in Maryland it is even more productive than Premier. We believe our record of 32,000 quarts of Catskill on three acres is absolute tops for any field of its size in this section. In New England and New York State, yields up to 15,000 quarts per acre are reported.

Pretty Berries. Catskill fruit has a fresh green cap and an attractive bright red color which makes them very showy in the package. The very large primary berries are somewhat ridged but the late ones are smooth and uniform.

Firm Berries. More solid than Premier, just as firm as Dorsett. If picked when ready and shipped moderate distances, Catskill is firm enough to stand up in fine condition. There is no trouble at all in handling Catskill for local and nearby markets.

From Cornell Extension Bulletin by Professor M. B. Hoffman, published in 1939, we quote the following about Catskill:

"Catskill, recently introduced by the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, is unquestionably the best midseason variety for commercial production in the strawberry areas of New York. It has rapidly found favor with the growers who have given it a trial. The plants are very vigorous, highly productive, hardy and healthy. The berries are rather large, roundish wedge shape, bright medium red, moderately firm and of good quality. During the first pickings, the berries tend to be somewhat irregular but this does not seem to detract from the appearance of the pack."

In the six or seven years before Professor Hoffman's bulletin was published, Catskill was making its great reputation. In the six or seven years since then Catskill has consolidated its position as the best midseason berry. Except for Blakemore in the south and Premier in the north, no new variety has ever won public approval so fast or held it as well as Catskill. You can't go wrong in backing the champ—Catskill. Price list, page 31.
CATSKILL
Best of the Mid-Season Varieties . . Bigger Berries . . Larger Crops than any other

Catskill, like Premier, is at its best in all the Northern States as far west as the Mississippi Valley and in higher elevations as far South as North Carolina and Tennessee. Also, like Premier, Catskill is one of the hardiest varieties known.

What a team these two make! With Premier for early and Catskill for midseason your investment in commercial strawberry growing is on a solid foundation. Both are dependable for big crops of big berries every year.

The group in the picture is typical of the beautiful berries which Catskill produces in such abundance.

Here are some of the things that make Catskill the great berry that it is:

Plant growth is vigorous and healthy. Enough strong plants are made for a good fruited bed. On very rich soil they may have to be thinned a little. Like most of the New York varieties, Catskill shows a little leaf spot when grown this far south, but never enough to affect the crop.

Big Berries. Catskill will produce not only a greater total yield but a larger quantity of big berries than any other leading variety. Of course there are some medium sized berries, but they are "in addition to" and not "in place of" a big yield of big berries. The new Midland rival, Catskill in size of berries.

Good Berries. Catskill berries have very good quality. They are somewhat better than Premier and when fully ripe have much of the delicious flavor of the old Marshall. They're really good to eat.

Productiveness is all that could be desired. Here in Maryland it is even more productive than Premier. We believe our record of 32,000 quarts of Catskill on three acres is absolute tops for any field of its size in this section. In New England and New York State, yields up to 12,000 quarts per acre are reported.

Pretty Berries. Catskill fruit has a fresh green cap and an attractive light red color which makes them very showy in the package. The very large primary berries are somewhat ridged but the late ones are smooth and uniform.

Firm Berries. More solid than Premier, just as firm as Dorsett. If picked when ready and shipped moderate distances, Catskill is firm enough to stand up in fine condition. There is no trouble at all in handling Catskill for local and nearby markets.

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SCARLET BEAUTY  "Once in a Lifetime. Only in every 20 to 30 years do we get a strawberry of the quality of Scarlet Beauty. Its great size, exceptional flavor and its great growing ability makes Scarlet Beauty the outstanding strawberry of America today. Without any doubt Scarlet Beauty is the finest strawberry that has ever been introduced to the public. It is the biggest strawberry grown today. On local markets it will bring 5c to 10c per quart more than Premier because of its bright, light red color. This wonderful berry ripens about 5 to 7 days later than Premier here (in Michigan)."

All the above is quoted from the catalog of the introducer from whom our planting stock was obtained. We have not fruited Scarlet Beauty here but we can agree that for vigor of plant growth and health of foliage it is very fine.

Scarlet Beauty and Robinson are identical varieties, according to some reports. We are not absolutely sure about this as we have not seen the fruit of Scarlet Beauty. However, our best experts can find no difference in the plant growth: the color, type and general appearance of the plants in the beds are amazingly alike. Rarely does a grower go as completely "all out" for a variety as has been done for Scarlet Beauty. Both Robinson and Scarlet Beauty, whether the same or different, must be excellent varieties to justify the claims made for them by responsible growers. Price list, page 31.

Robinson — Buyers scramble for them"

TEMPLE  More than any variety we have ever known, Temple is made to order. When a good many of the low ground strawberry soils of Eastern Maryland and other states became infested with red stele, it became necessary to develop a good red stele resistant variety to replace the susceptible varieties then being grown. To meet this need, Drs. C. E. Temple and W. F. Jeffers of the Maryland Station, co-operating with Dr. George M. Darrow of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, have bred and tested several hundred seedlings of which Temple is the first named selection. For much of this breeding work Aberdeen, the most resistant variety known, was crossed with Fairfax. Temple, as would be expected, has many of the good qualities of both parents. Note the following:

High red-stele resistance from Aberdeen.
Great vigor of plant growth from both kinds, exceeding either, as hybrids often do.
Good size from both. Fine quality from Fairfax.
Excellent color—lighter than Fairfax, darker than Aberdeen.
Firmness satisfactory—much firmer than Aberdeen—softer than Fairfax.

Better varieties may come from this breeding work. Until they do Temple is a real blessing to those whose soils have red stele and a dandy variety worthy of trial for all berry growers. Price list, page 31.
ABERDEEN This variety is no good as far south as Maryland. It is a vigorous, healthy grower and very productive of large, light colored attractive berries. But they are of poor quality and very soft—being more subject to sunscald following a shower at picking time than any variety we have grown. In the North where grown on heavy soils and close to market, the large size, heavy yielding and attractive appearance of the berries have made Aberdeen a big profit maker for some growers. Aberdeen is very resistant to the red stele disease. It is being used to breed improved red stele resistant varieties for areas in which strawberry soils have become infested with this disease. Price list, page 31.

PATHFINDER A seedling of Aberdeen, originated by Professor Clark and introduced several years ago by the New Jersey Station. It is a very rugged grower, usually making plenty of plants and large strong ones. Among the most productive of all varieties. Should be grown from central New Jersey north as a second early or early midseason variety. On heavy northern soils where it is adapted, Pathfinder berries run medium to large in size, unusually uniform in shape, firm enough for local or nearby market, of good quality and attractive appearance. Pathfinder is not good in the South or lower middle states, but in the north it is a volume producer of satisfactory berries that good growers turn into handsome profits. Price list, page 31.

SPARKLE Another good variety originated by Professor Clark and introduced a few years ago by the New Jersey Station. After fruiting it several times we find Sparkle to be a very vigorous grower and very productive. The berries are mostly rather round in shape, somewhat like Pathfinder, but have a much more shiny skin than that variety. Color bright rich red becoming somewhat dark on holding, but not as dark as Fairfax. Note the name "SPARKLE". The quality is excellent, better than Premier or Catskill, not quite as good as Dorsett, Fairfax or Fairpeake. Berries run only medium in size, smaller on very thick beds and in dry seasons. Larger on well thinned beds or with good moist soil or irrigation. Professor George L. Slate of the New York Experiment Station makes this comment about Sparkle: "In Oswego County Sparkle grows well and it looks good here. I think Sparkle is a fine variety to push, from what I have seen of it."

Another New York State letter from F. G. McCollum, Putnam County, states "I planted the new Sparkle from the New Jersey Station last season, and must say Sparkle was the best all round berry I have ever tested. It was just grand." It seems likely that Sparkle may be another of those varieties that are better in the north than in the lower middle states, although it is not bad in Maryland. We have some beautiful Sparkle plants. Price list, page 31.

There's lots of pleasure and profit in one of the All-Star Collections offered on page 3.

Good Plants — Good Land — Early Setting. These are the Big 3 items in getting sufficient growth for a fine fruiting bed.

MASSEY A late shipping berry of good size and high quality for the South and lower middle states. Probably more Masseys have been grown in North Carolina where it originated than in any other state. In its shipping season Massey practically always tops the market. It is a free growing variety that makes plenty of plants. The berries are large, roundish, firm, of high quality and have a beautiful bright green cap and brilliant red color which makes them very attractive in the package. No wonder they sell well, especially when you consider that most of the southern shipping berries are very tart and acid, while Massey quality is "swell." When you eat one, you want more. Well worth growing from Maryland south. Price list, page 31.

AMBROSIA A very late variety, highly recommended a few years ago by most of the Michigan plant growers. These same growers did not offer Ambrosia in 1945. It may be because of a shortage of Ambrosia plants in the drouth years or it may be that the variety failed to live up to its early promise. We have grown Ambrosia chiefly because of its "boosting" by other growers. Here in Maryland it is a vigorous grower, but only moderately productive. Berries are large, firm, attractive and of good quality, resembling Gandy in size and shape of fruit. For those who know and like Ambrosia we have a small stock of very nice plants. Price list, page 31.

The Aristocrat of Strawberries

Chesapeake has always had a host of friends who consider it about the last word in fancy strawberries, in beauty, size, rich color, firmness, attractiveness, in all of those qualities which make a strawberry ship well and sell well. But it has generally been admitted that Chesapeake is a shy plant maker and not too productive, perhaps because the plants were not there to produce. However, the strain of Chesapeake we have had for the last several years has made new runner plants much more freely and yields have been better.

Chesapeake is nearly frost-proof because it blooms so late in the season, but in very cold climates it is susceptible to winter injury and should be well mulched before hard freezing occurs.

Under normal conditions all Chesapeake berries, even the very last ones, reach a good marketable size. The brilliant red flesh color, the prominent golden yellow seeds and the fresh green caps, make Chesapeake one of the most attractive of all strawberries. The quality is excellent, differing from Fairfax but considered by many close to it in taste and flavor. As a shipping berry Chesapeake stands out.

It's no wonder Chesapeake berries have for years sold at a higher price than any other late berries. They are worth more, these Aristocrats of the strawberry world! Price list, page 31.

FAIRPEAKE A U. S. Department of Agriculture cross of Fairfax and Chesapeake (the same parentage as Redstar and Starbright). We have never yet told our readers how good we think Fairpeake really is. If in another year's trial it does do as well as it has in the past, we are going to say this about Fairpeake:

More vigorous and better plant maker than either Chesapeake or Starbright, and more productive than either of them.

Berries ripen a little later than Chesapeake—but earlier than Redstar.

Size and firmness of berries equal to Chesapeake.

Quality of berries—equal to Fairfax—but we'll keep that fact in small type this year because we haven't many plants.

The U. S. D. A. official circular says "Fairpeake is introduced as a sweet, high-flavored home garden and general market late variety of great beauty, for trial from Maryland to Southern New England and west to Missouri and Iowa. Price list, page 31.

STARBRIGHT The prettiest berries you ever saw. Starbright is a U. S. Department of Agriculture cross of Chesapeake X Fairfax, combining most of the best qualities of both. The berries are almost as good in quality as Fairfax, firmer than Chesapeake and handsomer than either of them. They have a delightful aroma. Usually, before price ceiling were established our Starbright berries were sold for higher prices than any other variety on our list, not even excepting Chesapeake.

Starbright has a beautiful, healthy, dark green leathery foliage, but is a shy plant maker and a light cropper. If it made plants freely and were as productive as Premier and Catskill, Starbright would have everything. The berries have everything anyway—beauty—size—firmness—quality. Try a few. Price list, page 31.

Don't overlook those All-Star Time-Saver Collections on page 3.
LUPTON  •  GANDY  •  AROMA

These Three Veterans of the Strawberry World
Have Much in Common

All are free-growing varieties, making a fine fruiting row with lots of medium to small plants—often need some thinning or restriction of runners for best crops.

All three are late shipping berries—firm enough to ship as far as necessary. Gandy slightly later than the others.

All three bear beautiful berries of large size and bright color so that they bring top, or near top prices on the market.

None of the three is of top quality, although Aroma and Gandy are better than Lupton, which is of rather poor quality.

All three are moderately productive, Gandy being about like Chesapeake, the shyest bearer of the three. Lupton and Aroma usually bear about like Big Joe or Fairfax—less than Catskill.

Lupton, Gandy and Aroma have all stood the test of time and have proved themselves profitable commercial varieties.

Their adaptation is interesting and important.

Lupton—Delaware, New Jersey, Eastern parts of Maryland and Pennsylvania, Long Island—to some extent a little farther west and south.

Gandy—most of the Lupton states, but extending definitely farther North and West.

Aroma—Arkansas, Missouri, Tennessee, Kentucky and Southern parts of Illinois, Indiana and Ohio. Very few Aroma grown in Eastern States.

We have a fairly adequate stock of high grade plants of all three—Lupton, Gandy and Aroma. They are recommended chiefly for those who know and have grown and like them. Price list, page 31.

Lupton—a profitable late shipping berry
REDSTAR
The Latest Very Good and the Best Very Late Variety
Redstar has all of the virtues of a really great strawberry.

PLANTS
Redstar makes a very robust plant growth—plenty of large, strong, deeply rooted plants with foliage so healthy and green it might well be on a beautiful ornamental plant.
Those big plants really turn out big crops. They are most productive for a very late variety.

BERRIES
Large average size, with the largest ones broad and slightly ridged (see pictures below and on back cover).
Fine quality—some say next to Fairfax.
Firm enough for distant shipment.
Very attractive with a bright red color which does not turn dark, a tough glossy skin with slightly raised yellow seeds, a light green cap. Pretty as a picture, Redstar berries entice the eye. They sell well.

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING ABOUT REDSTAR IS LATENESS OF RIPENING
Many days after all other good varieties are through, Redstar will still be turning out berries in abundance!
If pickers are scarce you can nearly double your production of fancy berries by stretching out the season with Redstar!
Prices in normal times will be much better because of avoiding local competition with all other varieties!
Grow Redstar in all the Northern States as far south as Virginia and West to Missouri.
We are still rather short on Redstar—so place your order early. Price list, page 31.

Late Berries for High Prices
1. Plant Redstar—latest good berry.
2. Elevations—each 100 feet higher altitude means 1 day later ripening.
3. Heavy clay soil—4 days later than sandy soil.
4. North slope—berries ripened 10 days later than south slope.
5. Mulching—can delay ripening 10 to 14 days.

Redstar—delicious berries after others have gone
Growing Everbearers

Everbearing strawberries make a delightful and useful crop for the home garden. They have become very popular in recent years.

You don’t have to wait very long. No other fruit crop can touch Everbearing strawberries for quick returns. Plants are set in March or April. Berries are ripening from August to November of the same year.

Strawberries provide one of the best of all sources of Vitamin C (which cannot be stored in the body). Everbearing varieties make possible a continuing and pleasing source of this vitamin all through late summer and fall.

Although they have been grown for many years, they still have a novelty appeal. Lots of people still get a real kick out of having nice fresh strawberries from their own vines, so far out of the regular season.

They have a good record as a money crop. Growers who had fairly heavy yields of berries in small garden plots found the surplus so easy to sell at good prices that they increased their plantings. Now many fall berries are shipped profitably even to wholesale markets.

Some Everbearing varieties, especially Green Mountain, Mastodon and Gemzata make a very good regular spring crop in addition to the summer and fall berries.

Everbearing varieties during the first few weeks must build up the strength and vitality to produce fruit this year as well as to continue growth.

Set good strong plants on well prepared land and set them early on soil that is retentive of moisture or where water can be applied or conserved by mulch.

Cut off the spring blossoms as soon as they appear and remove the summer blossom clusters at each hoeing until about the middle of July.

Everbearers give a greater response in fall fruit production to liberal applications of stable manure broadcast before planting than to any one thing we can mention.

Everbearers are often grown by the hill system, as it is thought the plants produce more fruit if runners are removed. Where this system is used plants may be set closer together. Plants 18 inches apart in rows 2 feet apart are not too close for hill culture.

Yields. Everbearing plants set early on good, moist soil should yield one pint or more per plant during late summer and fall. Much better yields are often obtained. Yields as high as 2 quarts per plant have been recorded.

REMARKS REGARDING REDSTAR

"Some of my berries were mammoth, especially Redstar."
Mr. E. W. Day, Litchfield Co., Conn., Jan. 16, 1945

"The 2,500 Redstar plants I got from you in 1943 were picked last season and they really turned out."
Mr. Richard Satterthwaite, Burlington Co., N.J., Jan. 24, 1945

"The late Redstar blooms escaped the frost and bore more than any of my other varieties."
Mr. Irvin A. Markley, Montgomery Co., Pa., Sept. 1, 1945

"Our Redstar berries were the most vigorous of any and produced well with excellent quality. I think this is the coming late berry."
Mr. L. B. Ressegue, Frederick Co., Va., Jan. 29, 1945

(Caution—Late varieties are more likely to run into dry weather at fruiting time than early ones. If irrigation is not available be sure to select rich, moist soil for your Redstar.)
"In the late summer and early fall the everbearers produced a good crop, but must admit that Gem produced about nine tenths of them. In my opinion for flavor, size and yield, Gem as compared to Mastodon, is way out in front. Am so pleased with Gem that I am getting 200 more from you this spring."

Litchfield Co., Conn., Jan. 16, 1945
Mr. E. W. Day

"I picked the last Gem berries December 2nd. The berries were nearly ripe when it started to snow, so I covered the berries for protection. When they were ripe I cleaned off the snow and picked them.

Cerro Gordo Co., Iowa, Feb. 24, 1945
Mr. Max A. Minott

While Mastodon is more generally grown, many growers even in northern states agree with us that Gem is a better everbearer. Here in Maryland it produces more late summer and fall berries.

Gem berries are at least equal to Mastodon in size, quality and flavor. They are firmer, brighter, more uniform in size and shape, more attractive in appearance and sell better on the market than the Mastodon.

Although Gem is much better here for the late summer and fall crop, it is nowhere near as good for the spring crop as Mastodon. This may account largely for the greater generality of popularity of Mastodon.

Gem plants are not usually as large and strong as Mastodon and may not be able to stand as much abuse. But if you set Gem plants early and give them a good start they will make a vigorous growth with plenty of new runners. On rich moist soil Gem plants will produce their sparkling beauties (see picture) in abundance all through late summer and fall. Year after year Gem has given us here in Maryland more berries the first season than any other Everbearer, although in single seasons both Gemza and Evermore (Minn. 1166) have been as good or better than Gem. Another interesting thing about Gem is that so many of its new runner plants start bearing as soon as they become rooted. Our Gem plants this season will please you. Price list, page 31.

MASTODON the most popular everbearer does well in all the northern and middle states and as far south as North Carolina and Tennessee on higher elevations.

More people in more states grow Mastodon (and like it) than any other Everbearer. Some of the other varieties may be much better or much poorer under varying conditions, but Mastodon almost never lets you down entirely. It makes a strong, rugged plant which can stand some abuse and still make a fair showing. Like Premier and Catskill of the standard sort, Mastodon is the one everbearer that can be most confidently depended upon.

Furthermore, it is a fine midseason berry for the spring season, entirely apart from its everbearing crop. Very logically this begets confidence in Mastodon as a safe berry to plant. The berries, from either crop, are large, bright red and good quality, firm enough for local or nearby markets. Price list, page 31.

CHAMPION (Progressive). This was the first good Everbearer. It is still the sweetest of all. The plants are very productive although the berries are rather small. Champion is not as strong a grower as the Mastodon or Green Mountain, but has done well in most states and is one of the best in the South. Sweetness and productiveness are the strong points of this variety. Price list, page 31.

We secured plants of the Marvel Everbearer last spring, and have watched it carefully this year. In both plant and fruit characteristics Marvel seems to be the same as Champion. If they are not identical they are so near alike that there seems to be little reason to grow them as separate varieties.
EVERMORE (Minnesota No. 1166) "At last! An everbearing strawberry that has everything." One of the leading plant growers in Michigan starts his description of Minnesota 1166 with those words. This same grower considers the flavor good as Wayzata and its productiveness equal to any everbearer he has ever grown. Commenting on the keeping quality of Minnesota he says it will never spoil in the hottest weather but will dry up like a raisin before it will spoil.

These comments are important because Minnesota 1166, or Evermore as it has now been named, seems to be distinctly a northern berry, like Green Mountain. Mr. Adelbert L. Sylvester of Franklin County, Maine, confirms this idea. "Minnesota 1166 is O.K. for Franklin County here in Northern Maine. They produce well and have plenty of runners. I would recommend them to anyone in cold climates."

In our experience with Evermore it has been a very vigorous, healthy grower, making plenty of plants, probably more than any other variety. In 1944 Evermore was the most productive everbearer we had. In 1945 not as productive as Gem.

The berries are firm, dark, nice looking and fairly good in quality but more tart here than they seem to be when grown farther north. For everyone who has had good success with other everbearers, we strongly recommend trying Evermore. Price list, page 31.

GEMZATA This rather new Everbearer comes from the Middle West—Northern Indiana. It is said to be a cross of Gem X Wayzata. That is certainly distinguished parentage in the Everbearing strawberry group. Good reports have come from a number of places although the variety has not been too widely distributed so far. Mr. Lester L. Sylvester writes from Franklin Co., Maine under date of September 28, 1945. "Except for a slight tendency to Red Leaf disease, Gemzata seems to be a perfect berry in all respects. Vigorous. Good plant producer. Berries large, firm, somewhat irregular in shape."

With us here in Maryland, Gemzata has been a vigorous grower, most years not quite as productive as Gem, but larger berries, with the largest berries slightly ridged. About equal to Gem in quality and firmness, with the same light color which make them both so attractive in appearance.

For the spring crop Gemzata is better than any of the everbearers except Green Mountain and Mastodon. Of this variety we have both the largest stock and the nicest plants we have ever grown. Price list, page 31.

GREEN MOUNTAIN

This is a good everbearing variety in regions adapted to it. Green Mountain thrives best on fairly heavy soils and in rather cold climates.

The plants make a strong, healthy foliage that is also tough and leathery. Very productive as a fall cropper in many sections, but frankly the most enthusiastic reports on Green Mountain have been as a spring bearer. In spring Green Mountain is a very late, very productive, very firm, very handsome profit maker with berries shorter and more conical than the long fall berries. The summer and fall berries are sweet, rather dry, glossy skin with beautiful yellow seeds, very attractive. Good shippers, sell well. We can sell you Green Mountain plants only with the understanding that you are not to propagate them for sale to others. Price list, page 31.
COMMONSENSE METHODS FOR GROWING GOOD STRAWBERRY CROPS

Strawberries are grown successfully in every State in the Country. They are relatively easy to grow. Beginners can produce fine crops by following common sense methods.

WHEN DO THEY BEAR? Standard varieties set in March, April or early May 1945 will bear their best crop in May or June 1946. Everbearing varieties set in early spring produce berries in late summer and fall of the same year. Fall setting is not a good practice in most cases.

WHAT KIND OF SOIL AND LOCATION ARE BEST? Any soil that makes good yields of garden or field crops will produce strawberries in abundance, whether that soil is a light sandy loam or a heavy clay. Here are some pointers. 1—In rolling country a sloping field gives better air drainage and less injurious frosts. 2—Run the berry rows across a steeply sloping field rather than up and down to help prevent erosion. 3—Follow a hoed crop to make less weeds and grass to contend with in the strawberries. 4—Avoid sod land that may harbor grub worms which cut or injure your plants. 5—Change the place of the strawberry bed every few years. It will help keep up the vigor and growth and reduce the danger of a build up of disease and insect trouble. 6—A rank growth of weeds and grass on a vacant lot, garden plot or unused field indicates soil fertile enough to grow good crops of strawberries. 7—Most important of all, select land that holds moisture well because (a) it is naturally springy (b) it has a low water table (c) irrigation is available or (d) because lots of organic matter in the form of animal manures or green crops has been incorporated in the soil.

HOW SHOULD I PREPARE THE LAND? In late winter or very early spring the land should be plowed or (in small plots) spaded to a depth of 6 or 8 inches. Then with harrow or rake it should be leveled off to form a smooth friable planting bed.

Here are some things which are not necessary— but which are very helpful in getting bigger, better crops of berries:

1. Plowing under in late summer a heavy growth of green crops such as peas, beans, clover, sowed corn, weeds, grass, etc. All these rot quickly and are much more valuable if plowed under while still green.

2. Early fall sowing of rye or wheat to give a heavy sod to be plowed under in late winter or very early spring. This will be easier to handle if discarded thoroughly before plowing.

3. Applications of horse, cow, hog or sheep manure at the rate of 5 to 20 tons per acre. This is the best of all preparation for a fine crop of berries.

Results are almost equally good if one of these applications has been made for the previous crop. Poultry manure is better when applied to the previous crop but is helpful to current crop if full of litter and only three to four tons per acre are used. Excessive applications of poultry manure may cause some burning especially in dry seasons.

For small areas a good guide in the application of horse, cow, sheep or hog manure is to figure 1 to 2 bushels for every 100 square feet.

SHOULD CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS BE USED? On very fertile garden soils none is needed. On most good soils fertilizers will not prove beneficial if plenty of stable manure of any kind has been applied. On some soils chemical fertilizers will be very helpful. 600 pounds per acre of any fertilizer containing 3 to 6% of organic nitrogen and 5 to 10% of phosphorus may be used. This may be stirred into the soil down the row before the plants are set or applied as a side dressing in one or more applications after growth starts. Inorganic nitrogen like nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia should not be used in these

WHEN SHOULD PLANTS BE SET?

EARLY! EARLY! EARLY!

The most important single thing in growing strawberries successfully is to set the plants EARLY. With no other crop that you grow is early spring so ALL IMPORTANT.

In the Southern States this means February, March and early April. In the Middle States, March and April. In the Northern States April or the first half of May in late seasons and in states far North. In all states it means just as early as the weather permits you to get the ground ready and the plants set.

A good stand and growth are easy if plants are set early so they can become established while the soil is still cool and moist. With late setting good results are very unlikely unless soil and moisture conditions are entirely favorable.
applications as they will injure either roots or leaves if they come in direct contact. Organic nitrogen materials, like tankage, fish, dissolved bone, cotton seed meal, dried blood, etc., are safe to use. Any form of phosphorous is O. K.

Whatever the soil preparation and earlier treatment it is well to examine the plant beds in late August or early September. If the growth is satisfactory and the leaves have a rich dark green appearance, no further fertilizer treatment is necessary. If growth is not satisfactory at that time apply as a top dressing directly on the plant beds about 600 pounds per acre of 6-8-2 or any fertilizer mixture your dealer has containing 4 to 6% of nitrogen, 6 to 10% of phosphorus and 2 to 5% of potash. Apply only when foliage is thoroughly dry and brush loose material off the leaves at once. This is important to prevent injury.

An application of 600 pounds per acre means about 1 pound for each 20 feet of row.

WHAT ABOUT LIME? If other crops, weeds or grass have made a good growth on the land you have selected for strawberries, it does not need lime. However, if you want to have your soil tested for acidity a pH range of 5.7 to 6 is best, 5 to 7 is satisfactory.

WHAT CARE DO PLANTS NEED? They should be set promptly on arrival if possible. Dip the roots in water and keep them protected when taken to the garden or field for setting. A hot day is bad for setting strawberry plants. A hot windy day is terrible. A cool cloudy day is fine. Sometimes plants must be kept a while because the ground is not ready or for some other reason. Small lots of plants can be kept in excellent condition for many days in the family refrigerator if there is room. Burying the crate or package for a while in a snowbank is O. K.

The very best way to hold plants is in cold storage at 32 Degrees F. If such storage is not available, open the bundles and spread the plants in thin layers along a V-shaped trench about four or five inches deep. Cover the roots with two or three inches of soil, leaving the buds exposed. Wet the soil and plants thoroughly. A light covering may be necessary.

Incidentally, there is one way to play safe. If you have cold storage available order your plants shipped in March while they are still thoroughly dormant. Even moderate delays in transit won’t hurt them at that time and they will keep perfectly in cold storage at 32 degrees F. until planting conditions are just right. If plants are dug after they have made lots of foliage and possibly blossoms, they should not be held more than a few days even in storage.

U. S. Government and New York State experiments have shown that anyone who cannot normally set plants by April 15th, could confidently expect much better results with stored dormant plants than with freshly dug ones.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLANTS FOR VARIOUS PLANTING DISTANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 ft. apart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3½ ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3½ ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 ft. 8 in.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHAT IS THE BEST METHOD OF SETTING PLANTS? Any method is good which leaves the roots reasonably straight down in the soil, spread some if possible, with the soil pressed firmly against the roots and the bud just at the surface of the packed down soil. A good garden trowel is the best tool for the work in small plots. Others are a spade, dibble, paddle, a big spoon or in larger fields a horse or tractor drawn transplanter. With plants that have very long roots clipping them off to about 4 or 5 inches in length will make it easier to get a good job of setting. It will not hurt the plants. No matter how long or how short the leaf stems, fruit stems or roots may be at time of setting, the bud must be just at the surface. (See picture.)

HOW FAR APART SHOULD PLANTS BE SET? In general, we recommend setting plants 18 to 20 inches apart in rows 3½ to 4 feet apart. This requires about 7,000 plants per acre. (See table.) Somewhat closer planting is satisfactory in small gardens where space is limited, for the hill system as with ever-bearers, or for late setting where a good stand is uncertain.

For the small garden order 7 plants for each 10 feet of row you want to set or figure 1 plant for each 5 square feet. Thus for a plot 10 x 10 ft. you would need about 20 plants.
HOEING, CULTIVATING AND TRAINING. Frequent hoeing and cultivating make larger, stronger fruiting beds and a better crop of berries. The purpose is to keep down weeds and grass and to keep the top soil loose. Loose top soil helps conserve soil moisture and makes it easier for new runners to take root. Shallow cultivation is best—1 to 1 1/2 inches deep with the hoe or slightly deeper with horse cultivator.

There are three other important jobs to be done along with the hoeing work.

1) Uncover the buds. At the first or second hoeing any of the plant buds which have become covered with packed or caked dirt must be uncovered. Neglect in this is often the greatest single cause of a poor stand. The outside leaves may remain fresh and green for some time but if the bud is smothered the whole plant will eventually die.

2) Cut off the blossoms at each hoeing. The vitality necessary to mature a cluster or two of berries is needed by the newly set plant to make a strong, vigorous plant growth. Blossoms may be left on vigorous plants of Everbearing varieties after July 20.

3) Most of the training of new runners is done at hoeing time. A well spaced matted row is the best system for getting the largest crops of the best berries. It will not pay to be too fussy about exact spacing distances but it should be kept in mind that 4 to 8 plants per square foot of fruiting bed is plenty. An excess is no better than weeds. Train the first strong, new runners out like spokes from a wheel and root them until a fruiting row 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 feet wide has been formed. When that has been done as many as possible of the later runners should be pulled off or cut off.

IS MULCHING NECESSARY? Mulching is necessary for winter protection in all the Northern States and would be helpful in many fields as far South as Virginia and Kentucky. In addition to giving protection from cold, mulching helps to keep down weeds and grass, to conserve soil moisture and to keep the fruit bright and clean.

The mulch should be applied in the fall after frost and light freezes (23 to 26 degrees F) have occurred but before hard freezing (20 degrees F or lower). It should be removed (at least partly) soon after growth starts in the spring.

Wheat straw and marsh grass are considered the best materials. Rye straw, pine needles, coarse strawy manure and various kinds of hay are satisfactory. Use whatever you have or can buy at a reasonable price.

WILL IRRIGATION PAY? If you have irrigation, it will certainly pay to use it for strawberries, especially just before fruiting time. However, irrigation is not necessary. Most of the fine berry crops in this country are produced on good strawberry soil that holds moisture well because stable manure and green crops have been added, or because of a high water table.

DO STRAWBERRIES NEED SPRAYING? When good varieties are selected and clean healthy plants are used, strawberries do not need spraying as a rule. If insect or disease troubles should appear, our FREE circular on STRAWBERRY INSECTS AND DISEASES may be helpful in identifying the cause and applying the remedy.
Allen's Plants Pay

GOOD PLANTS • TRUE TO NAME • DEPENDABLE

A very wise strawberry man once said that plants grown on good fertile land has a big advantage over plants of the same variety grown on poor, thin land. If that is true there should be something SUPER about our plants this year. Most of them were grown on the best land we ever farmed in 60 years of growing plants. In addition, they have all the things which normally go to make fine planting stock.

Well grown, with strong crowns and vigorous, well developed root systems.
Healthy, with both foliage and roots free from insect and disease troubles.
True-to-name in the field and kept that way by careful handling to reach you with every bunch correctly labelled.
Vitality, to make a vigorous growth and produce big crops.

Expert Packing. They reach you in good condition, ready to grow and thrive and bear—to take full advantage of all the care and attention you can give them—or to root for themselves if necessary.

Allen's plants are backed by 61 years of experience in growing, handling, packing and shipping good strawberry plants.

IT WILL PAY YOU TO USE ALLEN'S PLANTS

Fulton Co., Ill.
Feb. 13, 1945

"For the first time since I came to Allen's, on down through the years, I am disappointed. The disappointment, however, has nothing to do with the quality of Allen's plants but with the limited supply available.

"For a number of years I went from plant farm to plant farm, floundering like a fish in the shallows, and for the most part losing money annually. Yes, I saw Allen's advertisement, but it's a long ways from Spoon River to Maryland. Eventually, I gave Allen's plants a try, from that day on I have been floating, like a white-winged gull, on the crest of the wave and the jingling coins in my pockets have been music every step of the way. Of course, I have to pay income tax since I got to playing around with Allen's plants, that's what they do for you.

"I had intended planting 8,000 plants this season to take care of the ever increasing demand for my berries but in the last minute before making out my order I noticed your limitation notice. I nearly cried.

"I am sending you my order for 2,000 each of Premier and Catskill in the fondest hope that I may get this number for March 25th delivery, or as near that date as possible.

"There are no substitutes for these varieties, Mr. Allen, as these are the only two varieties, Green Mountain excepted, that have ever made me any money. 500 Red Star impressed me very much this past season.

"Hoping this order may be booked and filled in due time, I am as ever the same old customer who looks forward to the coming of Allen's Berry Book as to the next installment of a good yarn."

Charles W. Bandle

Mr. Bandle's letter was so enthusiastic that when we wrote to thank him for his order and to tell him what we could supply, we asked him if, after cooling off, he still meant what he had written. His reply follows:

"Your letter came today telling me that my order had been accepted. It is extremely good to learn that I will be able to make the planting even of this size this year: I had well nigh given up hope and when I tell you that strawberries constitute a major item of my income, you get some idea of how I felt. Of course I could have gotten plants from other reputable nurseries, but I had bought of these firms for years and never did realize what I should have on the investment.

"One of the fondest memories I cherish is my first copy of Allen's Berry Book, handed to me by a friend. It was like being found in the woods by my father and being led back to the homestead. No, Mr. Allen, the frail testimony of my letter is sincere, and if you should find my letter or any part of it worthy of your little book, I shall be happy to read my name along beside others that doubtless feel as I do about the matter.

"Many thanks to you for the way in which you handled my order."

Charles W. Bandle

Mr. Bandle's actions have certainly backed up his words. Here is his purchase record of Allen's plants for several years:

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<th>1939</th>
<th>1940</th>
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<td>$9.50</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>$30.25</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
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</table>
TRY AGAIN, PLEASE!

Last year we had to send back thousands of orders amounting to hundreds of thousands of plants because of a shortage of stock on nearly all varieties.

There are more plants this year, but still not a normal supply of most varieties.

We would like to supply you with plants — of the varieties you want. So order early, won’t you? Your orders will help us and our plants will work faithfully for you.

The Early Bird!

Order early to be sure of getting the varieties you want.

Set plants early to be sure of getting maximum growth for vigorous, productive fruiting beds.

Make an early decision to set some plants this spring. If neglected now you must wait another whole year (until spring 1948) before picking a full crop of berries, as late summer and early fall setting is not practical.

IT WILL PAY YOU TO USE ALLEN’S PLANTS! THIS SPRING! EARLY!

INSTRUCTIONS TO PURCHASERS


Packing. No extra charge made for packing at prices quoted on page 31.

Time of Shipment. We ship plants from November 1st to May 1st. See paragraph on page 26 “When should plants be set?”

True to Name. We take every precaution to have all plants true to name and we will refund your money if any prove otherwise, but we will not be responsible for any sum greater than the cost of the plants.

Late Shipments. All plants ordered shipped after May 1st will be packed and shipped in best possible condition but at purchasers’ risk.

Our Guarantee. We guarantee all plants ordered shipped before May 1st to reach you in good condition. If they are found to be otherwise, either through a slip on our part or delay in transit, notify us immediately so that we can refill your order. Any claim for poor condition must be made immediately on receipt of plants as we cannot be responsible for drought, floods, insects, etc., which may affect the plants after their arrival, as these things are entirely beyond our control.

WHEN TO ORDER—AND HOW TO SHIP

ORDER as soon as you have decided what varieties and as many as you want. Write plainly, so that we can get your name and address correctly for prompt acknowledgment of order and delivery of plants. Be sure to fill in your County on the order sheet.

EXPRESS is generally satisfactory and the best way to ship plants if your order is large, or if the distance is great. PARCEL POST. Generally cheapest and most satisfactory for small shipments and with larger shipments in adjoining and nearby states.

Strawberry plants packed for shipment weigh approximately 4 pounds per 100 plants. Make up your order, calculate the approximate weight and if you do not know your zone from Salisbury, Maryland, use distance given herewith, or ask your postmaster.

With zone rate published here you can easily calculate the amount of postage to send.

BE SURE TO SEND ENOUGH POSTAGE AS ANY EXCESS WILL BE RETURNED.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
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<th>Each additional pound or fraction</th>
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<tr>
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<td>1 ct.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
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<td>10th</td>
<td>1800 to 2000</td>
<td>18 cts.</td>
<td>9 cts.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Copyright, 1946, by W. F. Allen Co., Salisbury, Md.

WE HAVE NO AGENTS—If you want to be sure of getting Allen’s plants, order direct from this catalog. Many agents buy their plants where they can get them the cheapest, regardless of quality, and sell them for as much, or in man cases more, than the cost of the best. To be sure of getting ALLEN’S QUALITY PLANTS at the best price, MAIL your order to us.
## Price List for Fall 1946 - Spring 1947

### Early Varieties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variety</th>
<th>25 plants</th>
<th>50 plants</th>
<th>100 plants</th>
<th>200 plants</th>
<th>300 plants</th>
<th>400 plants</th>
<th>500 plants</th>
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### Midseason Varieties

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### Late Varieties

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### Everbearing Varieties

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( Minnesota No. 1186)

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**W. F. ALLEN COMPANY**

**SALISBURY, MARYLAND**

All plants f.o.b. Salisbury, Maryland at prices quoted, express or parcel post charges extra.

On quantities of more than 5,000 plants of one variety write for quantity rate.

*Green Mountain plants are bought with the due understanding that they are not to be propagated for sale without permission of patent holder."
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Salisbury, Maryland

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latest
Real Good
Strawberry