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FEB 23 1923 ★

ORCHARDISTS HAND BOOK

Containing valuable information on-

PLANTING
CULTIVATING
FERTILIZING
SPRAYING
and PRUNING
FRUIT TREES

ALSO DESCRIPTIONS OF THE LEADING
STANDARD VARIETIES

ESTABLISHED 1872

THE HUNTSVILLE WHOLESALE
NURSERIES

Incorporated

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

INSPECTION

Our nurseries are inspected annually by the State Entomologist and a certificate of inspection will be attached to every package sent from our nurseries.

PLANTING

Great care should be used in the preparation of the soil before planting. Too many orchards are planted in land which has been improperly prepared. This causes losses in the stand and allows a much better chance for insect pests and diseases to work on the trees, and also retards growth to a great extent. The soil should be broken deeply - sub-soil where a hard pan is present and thoroughly harrow. This work should be done in the early fall to permit of the planting at the proper time. In this section, and in fact all over the South, we recommend the planting of trees in November, December, January and February; the earlier the better, provided the trees are thoroughly matured, and we will not send out any trees for orchard planting until we are quite sure they are absolutely matured. During the fall and winter there is always more or less root growth and trees planted in the early fall become well established before spring and are much better able to stand the spring drouth which we usually have.

There are a number of methods of planting. We believe, however, that the best method is to lay off the land in checks at the proper distance and at the intersection of each furrow dig a

TO OUR FRIENDS AND PATRONS:—

In presenting this book which we hope will be of value to our customers and friends we think it only proper that we say something of our selves. This nursery was established in 1872. The location was decided on after due deliberation and consideration of climate and soil. The main object was to select a location far enough north to insure the hardiness of trees grown and at the same time far enough south to obtain a long growing period and prevent winter injury to the trees standing over in the nursery.

The leading specialty in all of these years has been the growing of fruit trees, particularly peach, and the supplying of these trees to commercial orchardists. We have, we believe, one of the best organizations for producing high-class fruit trees in the country. Our growers have had a lifetime experience in growing, and not only our head men but even the laborers have been with us for many years. We believe that they understand the business better than most anyone else. The nursery tract itself comprises about 1000 acres, devoted exclusively to the growing of high-class nursery stock. Practically all of this immense acreage is in trees, although we also grow large quantities of cow peas and other legumes to furnish humus, which is in turn absorbed by the trees when they are planted.

All of the trees we offer for sale are grown by ourselves. We make it a rule to sell only stock which we have grown and which we know is pure and true to name. In this booklet

we have described fruit and nut trees, grapevines and other small fruits, but we are growing a complete line which also includes roses, shrubs, hedge plants and shade trees. Descriptions of these are contained in our larger descriptive catalog, copy of which we shall be glad to send on application.

PRICES

In this Hand Book we have given no prices, as our prices are governed entirely by market conditions. We therefore prefer to make quotations from time to time and will be very glad indeed to send Price List giving current prices on request.

Conditions Governing Sales of Trees

We guarantee all stock sent out by us to be in perfect condition at the time of delivery to transportation company, but we do not guarantee any stock to live, or to make good any losses due to improper planting or climatic conditions.

However, we will entertain claim for poor condition of stock provided this claim is entered within five days after receipt of the trees or plants.

SUBSTITUTION

We positively will not make any substitution whatsoever unless specifically instructed to do so by the buyer, and in such case we will in every instance label the variety true to name instead of giving the name of the variety for which it was substituted.

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hole, being careful to allow plenty of room for the proper spread of the roots. The hole should be dug at least twice as large as the spread of the root. In the bottom of each hole there should be mixed in one pound (about one quart) of any well balanced fertilizer. This should be thoroughly mixed with the soil before setting the tree. After the tree is set the dirt should be well worked in around the roots, using the top soil first and the bottom soil last.

Immediate planting of nursery stock is recommended. However, if soil or weather conditions will not permit the planting of the trees on arrival the trees should be removed from the package and bundles cut open and the trees trenched until such time as they can be planted. In trenching the trees should be spread evenly and covered with at least six inches of soil half way up the trunk of the tree.

The trees should be carefully pruned at the time of planting, cutting off all broken or bruised roots and heading the tree back to the proper height. On peach, plum and apricot the trees should be headed back to a height of 18 in. to 20 in., and on apple and pear they should be headed back to about 30 in. This pruning at the time of planting is the only pruning necessary for the first year.

Suitable Distances for planting:

Apples, standard	30 to 40 feet
Pears, standard	20 to 30 feet
Peaches and Apricots	16 to 20 feet
Cherries, sweet	18 to 20 feet
Cherries, sour	18 to 20 feet
Plums	16 to 20 feet
Grapes, (bunch)	8 to 10 feet
Grapes, (muscadine)	10 to 25 feet
Figs	15 to 18 feet
Currants	3 to 4 feet
Gooseberries	3 to 4 feet
Raspberries	3 to 4 feet
Blackberries	5 to 7 feet
Strawberries	3½ by 1½ feet
Pecans	60 by 60 feet

FERTILIZING

The matter of fertilizing a young orchard is one that must be governed to a certain extent by the local soil conditions. However, there should be good quantities of nitrate of soda used to insure a strong healthy growth of the trees for the first two years. After that time there should be used good quantities of potash, fish-scrap and bone-meal. These fertilizers will give strength and vigor to the tree as well as color and firmness to the fruit. Your local County Agent and State Horticulturist will be able to give you specific instructions as to the proper fertilizers to use in your soil. It is next to impossible for us to map out a regular plan for fertilizing without being acquainted with the soil on which this fertilizer is to be used.

SPRAYING

To secure fruit free from insects and diseases that will command the highest market prices it is absolutely essential that intelligent spraying be done. As a rule the only spraying necessary for the first year or two is one application while the trees are in a dormant condition. Lime Sulphur is the best for this purpose, one application usually being sufficient. However, as soon as the trees set a crop of fruit they should be sprayed according to the enclosed chart.

PRUNING

The pruning of the young orchard should be well and carefully done, the aim being at all times to produce a low, open or flat head admitting the sunlight to the center of the tree as well as the sides. This work should be started after the first season's growth. The shape of the tree can then be arranged, and the pruning should be continued from year to year, as necessary.

All the way through this booklet in the descriptions we have listed the varieties in the order of ripening without giving dates, as the dates will vary according to the climate. Doubtless there are one or more varieties which we describe with which you are familiar. The time of ripening of the other varieties can be reckoned from the description of this one variety.

In submitting the following list of varieties in this booklet we have been careful to select only those varieties of tested and proven worth - varieties that will not only make good in the ordinary home orchard but that will prove profitable for growing in a commercial way. There are numerous good varieties which we are not listing - varieties that do well in some particular locality. If you do not find listed herein the particular variety in which you are interested please communicate with us, as we are not offering near all the varieties we grow. In every case we have listed our fruits in the order of ripening.

REMEMBER WE GROW ALL
OF OUR TREES AND GIVE
THE DIGGING AND PACKING
OUR PERSONAL SUPERVIS-
ION. THIS IS IMPORTANT.

APPLE

EARLY HARVEST - May and June. Medium size; pale yellow; slightly acid; good quality. Ripens at a season when no other apple is in. Should be in every orchard.

RED JUNE - Early. Medium size; dark red; white flesh; juicy; sub-acid; ripens over a long period; bears well and a very heavy cropper.

YELLOW HORSE - Late summer. Large size; yellow - slightly red where exposed to sunshine. One of the best cooking apples and fills in between seasons better than almost any other. Highly satisfactory all over the South.

GRIMES GOLDEN - Early Winter. Large; golden yellow; of high quality. Tree vigorous and a heavy bearer.

JONATHAN - Early Winter. Medium size; dark red; excellent quality; tender, juicy and of rich flavor; early bearer and vigorous grower.

DELICIOUS - Late fall. Almost too well known to need description here. Fruit large; dark red; fine grained flesh; crisp, juicy and of high quality. A splendid shipper and prolific bearer.

ROME BEAUTY - Winter. Large and handsome; yellow with creamy cheek. Almost covered with bright red where exposed. Its large size and beautiful appearance render it a valuable market sort. Of vigorous growth and a heavy young bearer.

STAYMAN'S WINESAP - Winter. Larger and more prolific than the Old Winesap. Rich, dark red; firm; fine - grained and juicy; adapted to wide range of soils and climates.

WINESAP - Winter. Medium size; dark red; good quality; keeps well. Tree is a hardy grower and good bearer. A popular variety and well liked everywhere.

YATES - Winter. Small; yellow with dark red stripes. Not strictly speaking a commercial apple but because of its sure and heavy crops has proven one of the most desirable Southern sorts.

APRICOTS

We do not recommend the planting of apricots in a commercial way in this section, and list only the two varieties that have proven best.

EARLY GOLDEN - Small; pale orange-yellow; juicy and sweet; highly flavored. Recommended for southern planting.

ROYAL - A standard variety; medium to large; pale yellow with orange cheek; very desirable and equally valuable for canning or drying.

GEORGIA—"The Undersigned ordered 300 peach trees from you three years ago. Am glad to tell you we are well pleased with them. They had fine fruit on them and those who see them think they are the finest in the neighborhood."

PEARS

The pear is not, strickly speaking a commercial orchard proposition in this section. However' there have been several orchards of the Japan varieties: Kieffer, Le Conte and Garber, that have made money for their owners. We would not recommend the planting of a general assortment of pears, but would rather confine the planting to these varieties.

KOONCE - Very early. Tree a vigorous grower; comparatively free from blight. Fruit medium to large; skin yellow; flesh highly flavored.

BARTLETT - Probably the most popular of all pears; large; juicy; bears early and abundantly.

DUCHESS - Very large; fine quality; keeps well into winter. Tree a strong vigorous grower.

BUERRE de ANJOU - A large, greenish pear shaded with crimson; highly flavored; rich; vinous and of excellent quality. Tree a vigorous grower and a good bearer.

FLEMISH BEAUTY - A large, beautiful melting, sweet pear. Tree vigorous and succeeds well in most parts of the country.

LE CONTE - Large with a smooth, yellow skin; flesh white, firm and juicy. Tree is free bearer and vigorous in growth.

GARBER - Resembles Kieffer in size, appearance and quality. Will succeed almost anywhere, is excellent for canning and preserving and recommended for a pollenizer for the Kieffer.

KIEFFER - A money-maker on account of its remarkably vigorous growth and early productiveness, its extraordinary size, splendid keeping and shipping quality and its excellence for canning and preserving.

SECKEL - Fruit medium in size, russet-brown and of very sweet flavor. Probably the finest flavored of all the pears. Particularly valuable for the home orchard.

PEACH

The growing of peach trees for commercial orchard purposes has long been our leading speciality. We believe that our soil and climate naturally produces the best peach trees grown anywhere. These facts coupled with our knowledge of what it takes to produce a real good peach tree has done a lot to establish the reputation we now enjoy of sending out the very best peach trees. All of the varieties listed are good, but are not all recommended for commercial planting. For a strickly commercial orchard we would recommend the following list: EARLY ROSE, CARMAN, BELLE of GEORGIA, HILEY, ELBERTA.

Through the South we do not recommend the planting, in a commercial way, of any peach that ripens later than Elberta.

The buds for the propagation of the commercial orchard varieties are all taken from bearing orchards that have a good record for quality and productiveness.

For commercial orchard planting we recommend the use of the June Bud trees or small one year trees, because the June Buds and small one year trees are cheaper in price and are more easily trained into the desired shape.

In addition to the list of varieties shown herein we can also supply a great many other varieties that have proven valuable in certain sections. A list of these varieties will be furnished on application.

The list is arranged in the order of ripening and no date given as the time of ripening varies with the section.

RED BIRD CLING (cling) A very early white fleshed, red cheeked peach; an excellent shipper but quality not so good as Early Rose.

MAYFLOWER (semi-cling) Probably the earliest of all peaches; small size; bright red. Not as large as Early Rose but on account of its extreme earliness is a valuable sort; very prolific.

EARLY ROSE (cling) One of the most valuable of the recent introductions; ripens about one week later than Mayflower to which it is far superior; is an extremely free bearer and comes into bearing young. The fruit is roundish, medium to large size and ripens 90% red; is a good keeper and carries well. Last year and again this year this was the only early variety that showed a profit.

ARP BEAUTY (free) Medium size; yellow mottled with bright crimson; flesh is of rich yellow color and is really of very good quality for an early peach. Tree is hardy and very prolific.

GREENSBORO (semi-cling) Large; oblong; white with red blush, not recommended for commercial orchards but should be in every home orchard.

CHAMPION (free) Large; white, lightly blushed; almost round; of good flavor; extremely hardy but not a good shipper. Should be in the home orchard and grown for local market.

CARMAN (free) Large; creamy-white with deep blush; fine flavor; hardy in production; a good shipper; strong grower and early bearer.

HILEY (Early Belle) One of the best early shippers; large; white with bright red cheek. Has proven one of the most profitable sorts for commercial orchards.

BELLE of GEORGIA (free) Very large; white with red cheek; firm and excellent flavor; uniformly large and a very prolific and sure bearer.

ELBERTA (free) A standard by which all other varieties are judged; very large; yellow with red cheek; flesh yellow; firm; juicy and of high quality; hardy; sure bearer and excellent shipper.

J. H. HALE (free) Larger than Elberta; ripens several days earlier and is superior to Elberta in flavor; a beautiful golden yellow with deep ermine blush. Has proven to be one of the best money-makers of recent introduction.

ST. JOHN (free) A large, brilliant, showy, yellow peach of good flavor and high quality.

OLD MIXON CLING (cling) Skin yellow with red cheek; flesh pale white; very juicy, rich and highly flavored; one of the best of white clings.

CHINESE CLING (cling) Large; white with red cheek; excellent quality; exceedingly juicy. A very popular peach although not recommended for commercial orchards.

HEATH CLING (White Cling) (cling) Skin and flesh tinged with red, tender, juicy and of high flavor. A wonderful peach for canning and pickling.

WONDERFUL (free) Large; yellow over spread with carmine; highly flavored and very firm.

SALWAY (free) Tree a strong, vigorous grower; very productive; fruit pale yellow tinged with red; juicy and fine.

KRUMMEL'S OCTOBER (free) Deep yellow with carmine blush on sunny side; later than Salway; a splendid shipper and keeps well.

PLUMS

In our list of plums we have endeavored to list only those varieties that have proven worthy. For commercial orchard purposes the Abundance, Burbank and Red June have proven highly satisfactory-

ABUNDANCE (Botan) Medium to large; color bright red overlying a yellow ground; cling. Tree strong, thrifty and upright grower and an early and prolific bearer.

BURBANK - Large mottled red and yellow; good quality; cling. Tree a strong straggling grower and immense bearer.

RED JUNE (Red Nagate) Medium to large; deep red; handsome bloom; very showy; quality good; good shipper and ripens a week earlier than Abundance. Tree a vigorous, upright grower; late bloomer; sure and heavy bearer

WICKSON Probably the most beautiful tree of all plums; color deep red; flesh firm; yellow and of very good quality. The principal objection to this variety is the fact that it is inclined to be a rather shy bearer.

WILD GOOSE One of the best known of all plums; large; deep red when ripe; good quality; very juicy. One of the best native varieties, ripening earlier than the Japanese sorts.

SHROPSHIRE DAMSON Medium; dark purple flesh; grown largely for preserving purposes. Probably the best preserving plum.

COMPASS-CHERRY-PLUM A cross between the Sand Cherry and the Plum; fruit about as large as the ordinary cherry; very bright red; acid. Valuable because of its sure, heavy cropping qualities; used principally for preserving; absolutely hardy.

CHERRIES

SWEET OR DESSERT VARIETIES

BLACK TARTARIAN Of large size; heart-shaped; purplish black; flesh tender, juicy and of fine quality. Tree an erect, beautiful grower and heavy bearer.

GOVERNOR WOOD Light yellow; extremely sweet, juicy and of rich flavor. Tree vigorous and productive.

CHERRIES

SOUR OR PIE VARIETIES

LARGE MONTMORENCY One of the best flavored cherries in its class; larger and finer than Early Richmond and ripens ten days later. Tree of rapid growth and a heavy bearer.

EARLY RICHMOND Extra early; bright red; very valuable for canning. Tree extremely hardy and productive.

ENGLISH MORELLO Fruit large, dark red, almost black; acid; rich and of good quality. Tree dwarf, slender and bears well.

QUINCE

ORANGE Very large; yellow; rich and of excellent flavor; one of the best.

MEECH PROLIFIC A vigorous grower and very productive; very large; orange yellow; of great beauty and delightful fragrance.

GRAPES

CONCORD Fruit dark purple, nearly black, extra large and very sweet. One of the best known and most popular of all the grapes.

AGAWAM Fruit large, red and of fine flavor. A good cropper and very prolific.

DELAWARE Fruit red, rather small, juicy and sweet. We think the best table variety grown.

IVES Fruit of medium size, black, sweet. An excellent wine variety. Vine a vigorous grower and very prolific.

DIAMOND Fruit of a greenish-white color, very large, sweet and of good quality. Vine perfectly hardy and a good bearer.

NIAGARA One of the most valuable white grapes. Bunch and berry large; ripens with Concord. Fruit very tender, sweet and juicy. Highly desirable.

LUTIE A true southern variety. Fruit large, brownish-red and of delicious flavor. A good sure bearer.

SCUPPERNONG Very large, bronze colored fruit; flesh very sweet; grows in clusters, not bunches.

JAMES Large. Fruit of delicate flavor and is borne in large clusters. A strong-growing black scuppernong.

BLACKBERRIES

EARLY HARVEST Ripens ten days to two weeks earlier than any other blackberry; very productive and a good shipper. Fruit is of good size and excellent quality.

ELDORADO Berries very large, reddish black, very sweet and without hard core. Late.

UTAH—"Peach and Pear have arrived in good condition. I compliment your packers. They Certainly know how to put them in the box."

RASPBERRIES

ST. REGIS Sometimes called "Ever-bearing." Usually produces a good crop in the spring and a second in the fall. Berries bright crimson, large and have strong raspberry flavor. Very prolific.

CUTHBERT Fruit crimson, large, firm and very juicy. A strong upright grower and perfectly hardy.

CARDINAL Large reddish-purple fruit; very strong grower and will succeed where other varieties fail.

MULBERRY

DOWNING Strong, upright grower; fruit large, black. A sure, heavy bearer.

NEW AMERICAN Fruit large, black and of delicious flavor. Tree of rapid growth and with large glossy leaves.

HICKS Very heavy bearer; fruit ripens over a long period.

FIGS

BROWN TURKEY Fruit medium to large, pear shaped; coppery-brown skin with white or yellow tinted flesh. Very productive.

CELESTIAL Very hardy; vigorous grower. Fruit small but very juicy and of excellent quality.

JAPANESE PERSIMMONS

COSTATA Fruit medium size, conical and almost seedless. Skin yellow. Flesh light yellow.

HYAKUME Fruit large, dark brown, very plump, sweet and meaty. One of the best varieties.

TRIUMPH Fruit yellowish red, smooth-skin. Flesh yellow and fine-grained and excellent quality. One of the best varieties.

TANE NASHI One of the best known Japanese varieties. Fruit large, smooth, symmetrical and ripens early. Bears young and is productive.

NUT TREES

AMERICAN SWEET CHESTNUT - A native tree too well known to need description. Nuts sweet and of delicate flavor.

JAPAN MAMMOTH CHESTNUT - Of dwarf growth, not strictly speaking a tree; productive and bears extremely young. Nuts of immense size, of fair quality but not so highly flavored as the native American.

ENGLISH WALNUT Tree valuable for its shade as well as nuts which are thin-shelled full meated and delightfully flavored.

JAPAN WALNUT The tree is a strong, vigorous grower, bears well and is highly productive. Is valuable both as a nut and ornamental tree. Nuts rather thick shelled and flavored somewhat like the Butternut.

PECANS

BUDDED AND GRAFTED

We believe that the planting of budded and grafted pecans in the South is one branch of the orchard business that has a great future. The pecan tree is not particularly choice as to its soil and location; it thrives in any soil that will produce the hickory; is comparatively free from insect pests and diseases; of long life and doesn't require a great deal of attention. If properly handled the land on which the trees are planted can be used for growing other crops such as cotton, peas, etc., until the trees are large enough to require more room.

DELMAS Large size; plump and well filled. The tree is a strong grower and fruit productive.

FROTCHER Medium to large size; plump; rich meat. Tree very hardy and a strong grower.

SCHLEY Thrifty, strong grower. Nut rather long, well filled and of high quality.

STUART Probably the best known and most valuable of all pecans. Extremely hardy and a strong grower. Nuts of good size, plump and well filled.

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