

# FRUIT GROWERS' LETTER



By Leonard B. Hertz, extension horticulturist

February 1974

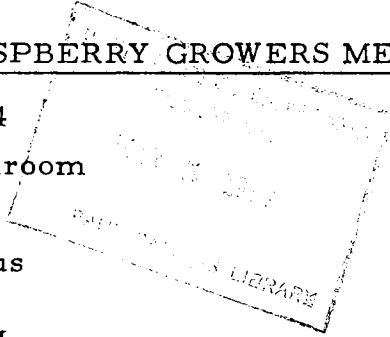
## MINNESOTA STRAWBERRY AND RASPBERRY GROWERS MEET

March 18, 1974

North Star Ballroom

Student Center

St. Paul Campus



### PROGRAM

- a. m. A. A. Duncan, presiding
- 9:00 Registration and coffee, second floor, Student Center, St. Paul Campus
- 10:00 Pest problems of strawberries and raspberries
  - Weed control for sandy soils . . . . . L. B. Hertz
  - Plant and fruit diseases and control . . . . . H. G. Johnson
  - Insect control is important . . . . . J. A. Lofgren
- 11:00 Observations from growing strawberries in Ohio. . . . R. G. Hill
- 12:00 LUNCH
- p. m. M. Brenner, presiding
- 1:30 Strawberry and raspberry varieties for Minnesota
  - Northern . . . . . D. Wildung
  - Western . . . . . W. Gray
  - Southern . . . . . C. Stushnoff
- 2:15 Minnesota raspberries--frozen or dessert . . . . . S. Munson
- 2:45 Coffee
- 3:00 Irrigation--can you afford to raise strawberries without it? . . . . . F. G. Bergsrud

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Current information available from University of Minnesota Extension: <http://www.extension.umn.edu>.

CHARACTERISTICS OF RASPBERRY VARIETIES  
RECOMMENDED FOR MINNESOTA

Raspberry acreage has declined greatly in Minnesota in the last 30 years. This decline has been due mainly to virus disease infections, winter hardiness problems, and high labor costs. Despite these factors, raspberries remain very popular in home fruit gardens. Commercial production is generally limited to areas near urban development that furnish a market and potential source of harvest labor.

Several factors make the raspberry attractive for commercial production in Minnesota. The fruit commands a good market price. Pick-your-own marketing systems have eliminated a great deal of the production costs and problems. The development of better weed control methods has also helped reduce production costs.

Future expansion of commercial raspberry acreage will probably depend upon improving production techniques, obtaining virus-free hardy planting stock, and development of new varieties that can be adapted to newer production practices. For example, the introduction of the new fall bearing types such as Fallred and Heritage could be of vital importance to raspberry production in Minnesota. These varieties could be mechanically pruned in the spring and all fruit harvested from new 1-year-old shoots in late summer and early fall. This practice would do much toward cutting production costs as well as lessening the winter hardiness problem to second year canes. The earlier fall fruiting habit of these two new varieties and others that may be developed in the future could signal the beginning of increased commercial acreage of raspberries for Minnesota. Along this line, the raspberry breeding program at Wyoming has produced some very hardy everbearing selections that ripen much earlier than any varieties now available. While the fruit is small, some of these might be potentially valuable. One or more of these selections may be named in the near future.

Red (Summer Fruiting)

Latham. Origin: cross of King X Loudon. Introduced in 1920. Fruit: ripens midseason, highly productive, red, large fruit, comparatively rapid picking, very hardy, fair quality, often crumbles. Canes tall, robust, nearly thornless, reddish with heavy bloom. Fruit color bright attractive red, medium juicy, medium sweet. Drupelets medium to large, pick easily, stand up well in marketing. Good for dessert, preserving, or freezing. Ripens medium-late in season for long period. Subject to mosaic but resists other diseases fairly well. If planted, virus-free plants are essential.

Newburgh. Origin: Experiment Station, Geneva, N. Y. Newman X Herbert. Introduced in 1929. Bushes low, spreading, much branched until about 3 years old. Hardy in most places, productive. Fruit: large, firm, less crumbly than Latham, flavor mild, quality fairly good, round, very meaty, 3-4 days earlier than Latham, hard to pick until ripe. Leading market variety because of large firm berries that don't become infected with mosaic as fast as Latham. Still recommended for planting in Minnesota. Canes should be cut back or they will bear more fruits than the plants can mature properly.

Boyne. M-534. Origin: Morden, Manitoba by C. R. Ure. Cross of Chief X Indian Summer. Released in 1960. Plant: medium tall (55-60") erect, stock and thick. Reddish often tinged with green. Foliage: medium to dark green, moderately glossy. Rugose thick leaves able to withstand strong winds. Fruit: medium size, dark red, tends to become purplish-red when overripe, medium glossy, fairly attractive, moderate drupelets, medium to small, cohere, tender and juicy. Flavor: aromatic, spritely, medium acid. Good for processing. Dana recommends it in Wisconsin, superior to Latham in hardiness and productivity. We like it in Minnesota.

Has been productive at Grand Rapids with no sign of winter damage. Yield on a 1969 planting was equivalent to 2200 qts/acre in 1971 and 3400 qts/acre in 1972. It has large fruit that are dark in color, but tend to be a little soft. The canes are strong and vigorous. Highly recommended in Minnesota.

Itasca. Origin: Excelsior, Minnesota, by E. T. Anderson, University of Minnesota Fruit Breeding Farm. Introduced in 1965. Newburgh X self, tested as Minn 399. Fruit: medium large, similar to Latham, round, orange red, glossy, drupelets rather large, juicy, flavor pleasant, rather soft, acceptable in processing tests, hangs well, easily picked, very productive. Bush: well-adapted to cool rather humid areas of North Central Minnesota, vigorous, hardy, strong fruiting laterals produced, cane smooth, nearly spinefree, strong, vigorous, susceptible to anthracnose disease. Introduced for use mainly in central and northern lakes area of Minnesota. At Excelsior it has been vigorous, hardy, and very productive in some years but in others anthracnose has been bad and reduced the crop. In northern Minnesota, it has been free of anthracnose. Carries fruit well out from the foliage, fruit develops well out from the foliage. Foliage resembles Newburgh. In one operation near Grand Rapids preferred to September and Latham. Since berry is rather soft, its main value is as a home or pick-your-own variety. No longer being planted widely.

#### Red (Fall Fruiting)

Fallred. Origin: Durham, N. H., by A. F. Yeager and E. M. Meader, N. H. Agr. Exp. Sta. Introduced in 1964. NH 7 X New York 287. Tested as NH 56-2. Bush: produces crops continuously on highly productive branched primocanes until curtailed by frost, vigorous upright, produces suckers freely, mowing of overwintered canes recommended to eliminate hand pruning and as an aid to control diseases, tested widely, adapted to states from Maryland northward and in the central western states. Fruit: red, superior to Durham, firm, flavor good, ripens 1 week before Durham. Fall crop begins in mid-August until frost. In Wisconsin the fruit is large and of good quality, but the fruit stems are brittle and break easily. At Grand Rapids we have had a few fruit on a second year planting. The fall crop has ripened in late August. Recommended in Minnesota as ever-bearing type.

Heritage. Origin: Geneva, N. Y., by George Slate, New York State Agr. Exp. Sta. Introduced in 1969. N. Y. 463 (Milton X Cuthbert) X Durham. Tested as N. Y. 696. Bush: tall, 5-7 feet, very vigorous, hardy, suckers prolifically, primocanes very erect, sturdy, requiring no support; leaves distinctive oblong shape; in Maryland more long laterals are produced than further north where its growth is more compact. Fruit: size medium, conic, skin red, attractive, flesh very firm, quality excellent, first crop ripens mid-July, second crop about September 1 at Geneva, a month earlier in Maryland. The fruit remains in good condition on the plant even when overripe. It ripens 2-3 weeks earlier than September at Geneva. Under good growing conditions a fair crop can be produced the first year. Dana--superior to other everbearers in Wisconsin. He doesn't expect much commercial planting, but is recommending it for home gardens especially in southern Wisconsin. Has excellent quality and medium size fruit. In Minnesota, Heritage is recommended in southern Minnesota and suggested for trial in northern Minnesota.

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From a report by D. Wildung, Horticulturist, North Central Experiment Station, Grand Rapids, MN

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MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN APPLE GROWERS' SCHOOL

March 5-6, 1974  
Midway Motor Inn  
Hoffman House  
LaCrosse, Wisconsin

8:00 a. m. -  
10:00

Registration and coffee

10:00

Summer Pruning related to Wis.-Minn. Growing Conditions--  
Leonard Hertz, Extension Horticulturist, University of  
Minnesota, St. Paul, MN

10:45

Summary of the 1973 Market Season--John Polich, Cash Crops  
Marketing Specialist, Wis., Department of Agriculture,  
Madison, WI

11:15

What's New in Weights, Measures, Packaging and Labeling--  
Al Lemke, Field Supervisor, Foods and Standards Div., Wis.  
Department of Agriculture, Madison, WI

Noon

Apple Growers' Luncheon

Tuesday, March 5  
Afternoon Session  
Chairman, Jim Ness  
County Extension Agent  
LaCrosse County

1:30 p. m.

Ethrel--A Management Tool for Apple Growers--a panel

"Ethrel--its development and use"--John Kirch, Group Product  
Manager for Ethrel Amchem Products, Inc., Ambler, PA

"Ethrel--research results as reported on apples"--Mark Brenner,  
Horticulturist, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN

3:00

Coffee Break

3:15

"Ethrel--for early apples"--F. A. Gilbert, Horticulturist,  
University of Wisconsin, Sturgeon Bay, WI

"Ethrel--a film on usage"--Larry Palmore, Amchem Repre-  
sentative for Wisconsin

"Ethrel--grower success and failure"--Wis. and Minn. apple  
growers

7:30 p. m.

If growers are interested we will get together for an informal  
"gab" session about 7:30. "Open season" on anything!

Wednesday, March 6  
Morning Session  
Chairman, Al Becker  
County Extension Agent  
LaCrosse County

9:00 a. m.

Farm Safety in relation to OSHA plus the Energy Situation--  
Professor Don Jensen, Safety Specialist, University of  
Wisconsin, Madison, WI

- 9:30 "Epidemiology of Venturia inequalis, the apple scab organism"--  
J. D. Moore, Plant Pathologist, University of Wisconsin,  
Madison, WI
- 10:45 Coffee Break
- 11:00 Apple disease control recommendations--Professor E. K. Wade,  
Extension Plant Pathologist, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI
- 11:45 Apple Growers' Lunch

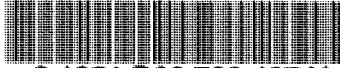
Wednesday, March 6  
Afternoon Session  
Chairman, Russ Krech  
Houston County  
Minnesota

- 1:00 p. m. New developments in weed control--L. K. Binning, Extension  
Weed Specialist, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI
- 1:30 "Insect Pest Management"--C. F. Koval, Extension Entomologist,  
University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI
- 3:00 Alternate Fruit Crops for Apple Growers--Professor G. C.  
Klingbeil, Extension Horticulturist, University of Wisconsin,  
Madison, WI

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