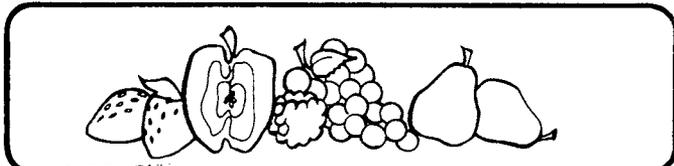


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FRUIT GROWERS' LETTER



TO: Minnesota and Wisconsin Apple Growers

June 1980

The Minnesota Fruit Growers Association will host the annual Minnesota and Wisconsin Summer Orchard Day.

When - Friday, July 25

Where - Minnesota Harvest Orchard
Jordan, Minnesota

The Sponsels, owners and operators of Minnesota Harvest Orchard, will host the 1980 Minnesota-Wisconsin Summer Orchard Day. The orchard is located 35 miles S.W. of Minneapolis and 2 miles from Jordan, just off of U.S. Highway 169.

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. and continue until 10. Tours of the orchard will then take place and include:

1. Plantings of McIntosh, Haralson, and Paulared, all growing on M26, M7, M106, M111, as well as seedling rootstock.
2. Planting density comparisons of several varieties and rootstocks.
3. Winter damage.
4. Pick-Your-Own.

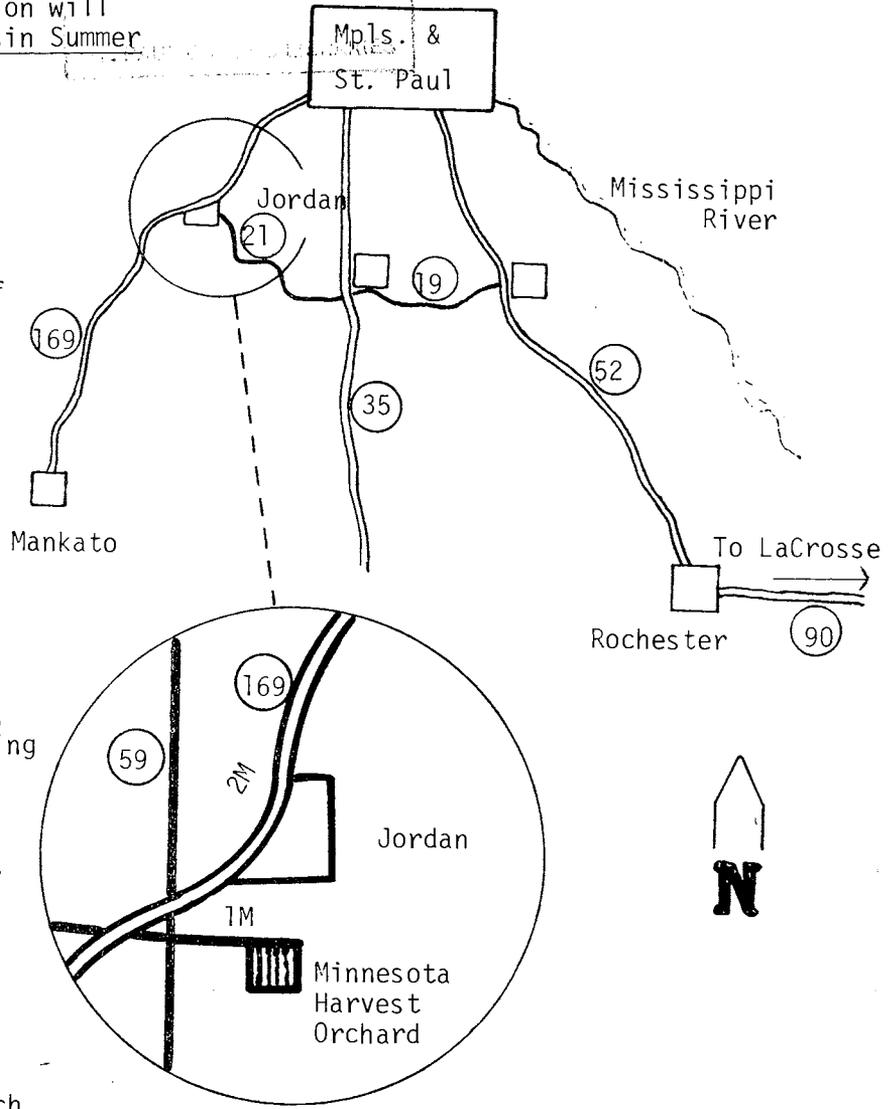
As a special treat, lunch will be a "Pig Roast Barbecue," served at the orchard site. A program follows lunch and will include a summary of 1980 apple prospects for both Wisconsin and Minnesota. We will then tour the excellent grading, sales room, and apple cider plant and Minnesota Harvest Orchard.

The orchard is easy to reach, so drive over and spend the day in east central Minnesota. This is an opportunity to see an excellent orchard, exchange experiences and ideas, and visit with your fellow growers.

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Resistance of Apple Disease Organisms to Fungicides

Resistance of pests to pesticides is not new, but this problem in apple diseases is fairly recent. Apparently some mechanisms of action in control are more susceptible to the development of resistance than others. The systemic fungicides and bactericides were the first disease control chemicals to which the disease organisms developed significant resistance. Resistance of the scab fungus to dodine (Cyprex) was the first case, followed by scab resistance to benomyl (Benlate). Streptomycin formulations have been used since the 1950's for control of fire blight. Recently resistance of the fire blight bacterium to streptomycin was reported from California.

The systemics provided good disease control before resistance developed, and we want to continue using them as long as possible because of several advantages. The use of one of the older protectant fungicides along with Benlate, both at full strength, is recommended by the manufacturer and experiment stations. This is an attempt to prevent or delay the development of resistant strains of the scab fungus in areas where they do not already exist.

Streptomycin is being replaced by one or more of the other antibiotics where resistance has been found.

All apple growers should be aware of the resistance problem and make the indicated changes to prevent or delay the appearance of the problem in their individual orchards and for the good of the industry. At present, if Benlate is used, it should be used in combination with a protectant fungicide. (From H.G. Johnson, Plant Pathology)

New Spur-type McIntosh

Starkspur UltraMac has been introduced by Stark Bros. Nurseries, Louisiana. According to a Stark release, the new variety has completely colored and bright red fruit and has a compact spur-type growth habit.

Starkspur UltraMac originated in 1968 as a whole tree mutation of Summerland Red McIntosh, in British Columbia, Canada.

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Leonard B. Hertz
Extension Horticulturist

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