NEW RASPBERRY VARIETIES

By George L. Slate

SEPTEMBER

September red raspberry originated from a cross between Marcy and Ranere made in 1934. It was selected in 1939 from a population of 17 seedlings and was introduced in the fall of 1947 by the New York State Fruit Testing Cooperative Association, Inc., Geneva, N. Y.

September is the second autumn-fruiting, or so-called everbearing, raspberry to be introduced from the raspberry breeding program of the Station. Indian Summer, the first, was introduced in 1936. It has been grown widely in home gardens and to a limited extent commercially. September is superior to Indian Summer in that the fall crop ripens 3 or 4 weeks earlier than the fall crop of that variety. September has not shown the tendency to crumble, a failing that has appeared in some stocks of Indian Summer. The fruits of September are firmer and brighter in color, of equal quality in the fall, but not as good in the summer.

The plants of September are vigorous and bear satisfactory crops in the summer and again in the fall. Winterkilling has not been a problem, and mosaic, although observed, has not yet appeared to be a problem. The fruit of the summer crop is borne out in the open where it is easily seen and reached by the pickers.

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The berries are of medium size, very firm, bright red and of fair quality in the summer. The flavor is much better in the fall. The berries are inclined to stick to the plant making picking difficult if pickers try to get them off before they are fully ripe. The firmness of the berries makes it possible to wait until they are fully ripe.

The fall crop is borne near the tips of the new canes, and on vigorous plants the weight of the fruit bends the canes down to the ground so that the berries are soiled. Moreover, high winds may batter the ripe and partially ripe berries until they are ruined. It is advisable to tie the canes with their fall crop to a support, either a stake or a wire.

September is pruned like the one-crop varieties. The tips which bear the autumn crop do not fruit again the following year and are removed at the dormant pruning. The summer crop is borne lower on the cane in the usual manner.

September has been widely distributed since its introduction. A recent survey brought reports of its successful performance as far south as Georgia and Arkansas. Its suitability for culture south of the areas where raspberries do well is probably inherited from Ranere, a variety that also grows well in the same region. North of the main line of the New York Central Railroad and of a line from Albany to Boston, much of the fall crop may be destroyed by early frosts.

September is the best autumn-fruiting variety in the region where it ripens most of its fall crop. It is also well worth growing for its summer crop both for home use and for market. The summer crop begins ripening a week earlier than Newburgh and a day or two earlier than June and Indian Summer, a valuable feature where earliness commands a premium.

**Milton**

*About one-half natural size*
on the market. It would seem too that September might also be grown commercially for the fall crop.

Plants above medium height, vigorous, upright, hardy and productive, producing suckers freely; primocanes medium slender, tinged with red, glabrous, glaucous with very slightly glandular tips; prickles numerous, medium long, slender; leaflets 3, medium size, ovate, taper-pointed, flat, medium in length and width, medium green. Fruit uniformly of medium size which is maintained well throughout the season, regular, roundish with a medium sized cavity and light bloom; drupelets numerous, medium size, cohering strongly, color light red, medium juicy, firm, subacid, quality fair in summer, good in autumn; season very early for the summer crop, or a day or two before Indian Summer and June, and early, about September 1 at Geneva, for the fall crop, or 3–4 weeks before Indian Summer.

MILTON

Milton (N. Y. 13618) red raspberry originated from a cross between Lloyd George and Newburgh made in 1917. It was selected in 1931 from a population of 577 seedlings and was introduced in the fall of 1942 by the New York State Fruit Testing Cooperative Association, Inc., Geneva, N. Y.

Milton was introduced primarily because of its characteristic of escaping mosaic, a serious virus disease of raspberries. In a test planting of many varieties and selections established in 1934 at Milton, N. Y., it remained free from mosaic during the seven years that the test was continued, whereas many other varieties and selections soon became infected. Mosaic spreads very rapidly in the Hudson Valley.

The other plant characteristics are good. Winter injury has not been serious at Geneva, nor in the Hudson Valley. The canes are sturdy, not requiring support, and the fruit is not hidden and comes off easily in picking. Yields have been satisfactory.

The berries are large and long conic, resembling those of Taylor. The medium red color is slightly dull from the fine pubescence, but is similar to Newburgh in that respect. Milton is the latest red raspberry to ripen at Geneva, being two or three days later than Taylor and Latham.

Plants tall, vigorous, upright, hardy and productive, producing suckers freely; primocanes stocky, with very fine, short pubescence, not glaucous, green with a slight reddish tinge; prickles few, short, slender, purplish; leaflets 5, medium size, long, medium wide, ovate, taper-pointed, flat, medium green. Fruit uniformly large, maintaining size well throughout the season, regular, long conic with a small cavity and medium amount of bloom; drupelets numerous, medium size, cohering strongly; color medium red, slightly glossy, medium juicy, firm, mild subacid, good; season late, 2 or 3 days later than Taylor and Latham.
AMBER

A mer raspberry was produced by crossing Taylor with Cuthbert in 1936. A population of 287 seedlings was raised and from them Amber was selected in 1940. It was introduced in the fall of 1950 by the New York State Fruit Testing Cooperative Association, Inc., Geneva, N. Y.

Amber is a variety for the home garden. Its unusual color and high quality make it a worthwhile and interesting novelty. Later ripening, a characteristic which can be accentuated by severe dormant season pruning, extends the season for home-grown raspberries. Amber is not considered suitable for a market variety and the jam is muddy colored.

The plants are unusually tall, being the tallest of any red raspberry in the Station’s variety planting at Geneva. Very little winter injury has been observed on Amber at Geneva. The reaction to mosaic is not known.

The berries are as large as those of any variety being grown at Geneva, are long conic, slightly irregular, not crumbling and are moderately firm with a large cavity. The flavor is sweet and the quality of the best.

Plants very tall, vigorous, upright, hardy, productive, producing suckers freely, primocanes stocky, green, glabrous, glaucous, with eglandular tips; prickles numerous, short, medium thick, green; leaflets 5, large, abruptly pointed, curled, medium wide, long, medium green; new leaves at tip of primocanes without reddish tinge. Fruit uniformly large, maintaining size well throughout the season, slightly irregular, long conic, with a large cavity and a slight bloom; drupelets numerous, medium size, cohering strongly, color amber, slightly glossy; juicy, tender, melting, sweet, highly flavored; quality very good; season late or soon after Taylor.

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