METHODS ADOPTED FOR THE SYSTEMATIC TESTING
OF NEW FRUITS.

A CIRCULAR TO THE ORIGINATORS OR PROPRIETORS
OF NEW FRUITS.

A LIST OF FRUITS NOW UNDER TRIAL AT THE
STATION.

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The first nine bulletins issued in the new series are now nearly out of print, and copies cannot be supplied.
Note.—The author is not responsible for the typographical errors, or mistakes in capitalization in this bulletin, as the proof-reading was done by the printers without authority.

HORTICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

EMMETT S. GOFF.

BULLETIN NO. 15 - NEW SERIES.

METHODS ADOPTED FOR THE SYSTEMATIC TESTING OF NEW FRUITS.

Believing that the extensive pomological interests of our State are entitled to a larger share of attention from our Station than they have heretofore received, it has seemed wise to extend this department of our work. While there are several directions in which this might be done, the one that seemed most urgent was the enlarging of the variety tests, inasmuch as considerable time is required to establish a bearing plantation of the larger fruits. The limited tests of fruits made in the past have shown that enterprising fruit growers are very generally interested in comparative trials of the more recently-introduced varieties.

Although in the greater part of our State the winters are not so severe as to necessitate the selection of the so-called ironclad fruits, in our northern counties, which lie in the latitude of central Wisconsin, experience has shown that only the hardier sorts can be successfully fruited. On this account it
has seemed wise to test the so-called Russian varieties as well as the less known native sorts.

The question as to the method of securing the newer varieties had to be considered. Many of these are advertised to a considerable extent before the plants are offered for sale. Originators are often unwilling to place plants of supposed valuable varieties at a public institution like our Station without some guaranty that they shall not be disseminated. On the other hand, the Station should not be expected to purchase plants at the extravagant prices charged for novelties, and then be limited as to its privileges with them. It was finally decided that inasmuch as the proprietors of new fruits are the ones most directly interested in their dissemination, it is their office to furnish the plants for trial, and as the object of the Station test is the information of the fruit grower and not the distribution of plants, it is quite right that the proprietors should be protected against dissemination from the Station. The following circular was, therefore, sent to as many of those who are growing new varieties for introduction as could be conveniently reached:

A CIRCULAR TO THE ORIGINATORS OR PROPRIETORS OF NEW FRUITS.

NEW YORK AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION,

GENEVA, January 3, 1888.

It is proposed to make the testing of new fruits a special feature of the horticultural department of this Station in the future, in order that all persons interested in fruit culture may be enabled to see and compare the newer varieties growing under, as nearly as can be secured, equal conditions. A portion of the Station grounds well adapted to fruit has been set apart and will be reserved for this special purpose. The soil will be kept well fertilized and the culture given will be first-class. Accurate notes will be kept on all points that have a near or remote interest to the fruit grower, such as the time of maturity, yield, size, color, firmness, flavor, keeping quality, etc., of the fruit; the vigor and hardiness of the plant or tree, the attacks of insects or disease, the date at which the leaves and flowers appear, etc. This information will be published from time to time for the information of the public, either in the form of bulletins or in the annual report of the Station, and a copy of such bulletin or report will be mailed free of cost, and without appli-
cation, to all who have contributed one or more varieties desired for trial. Thus each contributor will be informed not only of the merits of his own variety, under the conditions of our trial grounds, but also of those of all other varieties under test.

The advantages of such a trial Station for the newer varieties of fruit, both to the introducers and to the public, must be obvious to all. It enables the former to take their new varieties where they are certain to receive proper treatment, where they are seen by many fruit growers and where their exact merits, as compared with those of other varieties under the same conditions, will appear. It enables the latter to examine for themselves the exact qualities of different varieties under the conditions of our trial grounds, or to those who are unable to visit our Station, it offers an opportunity of securing exact data concerning any variety on trial, with the assurance that all testimony is disinterested.

Only such varieties are desired as are not already in possession of the Station, have not been already well tested, and as are fully believed by their originators or proprietors to be worthy of general introduction. Varieties that are being propagated for introduction, but which have not yet been offered for sale, are especially desired, in order that the results of our tests may be available to the public as early as possible.

It is very desirable that a brief historical statement accompany all varieties sent. If the variety is known to be a cross, or a hybrid, the fact should be stated, and the names of the male and female parents should be given if known. In the larger fruits the stock on which the variety has been worked should be stated, also the age of the specimens sent.

It is understood that the plants or trees of all varieties sent for trial are the exclusive property of the Station for trial purposes, but not for dissemination. In the case of grape vines, however, the surplus wood will be returned to the proprietor for a limited time, at his expense, if this is desired.

The Station will reserve the right to exchange any surplus plants, trees, cions, buds or cuttings of any variety sent for trial with any other Experiment Station established under national or State laws, provided the proper restrictions are agreed to by that institution. In no other case will any variety be knowingly permitted to leave the trial grounds of the Station, unless special permission is secured from the donor. The Station will assume no responsibility, however, in case of theft, though all reasonable care will be taken to prevent it.

All varieties accepted will be acknowledged in the annual report for the year in which they are received.

In the apple, cions or trees will be accepted, though cions are preferred. In the other large fruits, trees are preferred, though in the pear, cions or buds will be acceptable.

In the strawberry the smallest number of plants upon which a full report will be made will be twenty-four, and five in the raspberry,
blackberry, currant and gooseberry. In the grape, and in the tree fruits, two plants of a variety will be the standard number for trial.

It is requested that all who contemplate sending one or more varieties for trial will notify the Director of the Station as early as convenient.

Respectfully,

PETER COLLIER,
Director.

The names of those who responded to our circular will be found in our list of donors in the next annual report.

This circular met with very generous responses, and by its means the following varieties were added to those previously on trial at the Station. In cases where our list of the more standard sorts was deficient, old varieties were accepted on the same terms as new ones:

LIST OF FRUITS NOW ON TRIAL AT THE STATION.

APPLE.

Arctic, August, Bailey sweet, Benoni, Blood red, Canada Baldwin, Canada reinette, Chicago, Clark, Cogswell, Colvert, Dartmouth, Delaware red winter, Delaware winter, Dickinson, Early Colton, Early ripe, Ellaw, Excelsior, Fanny, Flora, Gideon, Gideon sweet, Golden médal, Gracie, Hartford rose, Haskell sweet, Holland pippin, Indian, Jacobs winter sweet, Jonathan, Landon, Lankford, Late duchess, Lord Nelson, Low, Magog red streak, Mann, Martha, McIntosh red, McMahon white Milding, Milligen, Missouri pippin, Montreal beauty, Mosher sweeting, Nodhead, North-west’n greening, Ohio beauty, Ohio pippin, Palmer greening, Paul’s imperial, Peach, Peter No. 6, Picta striata, Pound sweet, Princess Louise, Salome, Sankermanky, Schiawasse beauty, Scott’s winter, September, Smith’s cider, Stark, Summer rose, Swaar, Tobias apple, Tobias black, Tobias pippin, Van Wyck, Victoria Sweet, Walbridge, Washington strawberry Wealthy, Winter queen, Wolf river, Yellow forest, Yellow transparent, York imperial, No. 1 sweet (Gideon), No. 2 sweet (Gideon), No. 3 sweet (Gideon), No. 30 (Gideon).
Russian Varieties.


CRAB APPLES.

Currant, Lady, Large red Siberian, Angouleme, Anjou, Anna Nels, Bartlett, Beacon, Belle lucrative, Beurre de Brignais, Bordeaux, Bosc, Boussack, Brandywine, Beurre de l’Assumptic In, Brockworth park, Buffum, Clairgeau, Clapp’s favorite, Comet, Congress (souvenir de Congress), Marengo, Minnesota, Red Siberian, Yellow Siberian.

PEAR.

Craig, Dana’s Hovey, Dearborn, Directeur Alphand, Dr. Hoskins, Dr. Reeder, Easter Beurre, Fortune Boisselet, Gans, Gansel’s seckel, Giffard, Goodale, Grand Isle, Hardy, Howell, Josephine of Malines, Lawson, Lawrence, Le Conte, Little gem, Louise Bonne of Jersey, Manning’s Elizabeth, Marshall, Madame Millet, Mount Vernon, Osband’s summer, Pitmaston’s duchesse, Pound, Refreshing, Rutter, Seckel, Sheldon, Souvenir d’Esperon, Summer doyen, Superfin (Beurre super-fin), Tyson, Van Cott, Urbaniste, Winter Nels.

Russian Varieties.

Bezi de la motte, Crassane bergamotte, Moscow, No. 4, Peffer, No. 3, No. 122, No. 345, No. 347, No. 358, No. 392, No. 396, No. 418, No. 439, No. 506, No. 513, No. 520.
PLUM.

Belle de September, Imperial gage,
Botan, Improved green gage,
Burbank, or Tobias gage,
Copper, Kingston,
Czar, La Fayette,
De Caradeuc, Mariana,
Early orange prune, Middleburg,
French damson, Miner,
Golden gage, Monroe,
Grand duke, Moore's arctic,
Gui, Niagara,
Hudson river, Ogden,
Hudson river purple Oullins golden,
egg, Prunus Simoni,
Huling's superb, Quackenboss,
Ickworth imperatricie,

Arab, No. 1, Communia,
Arab, No. 2, De Soto,
Arab, No. 3, Hungarian,

Russian Varieties.

Merunka,
Rollingstone,
Wolf.

CHERRY.

Archduke, Louis Phillippe,
Brandywine, Luelling,
Catskill, Lutovka,
Florence, Montmorency, large
Kirtland's Mary, fruited,
Lithauer's Weichsel, Murdock's Bigarreau,

Osheim,
Rostraver Bigarreau,
Schmidt's Bigarreau,
Wragg,
Yellow Spanish.

PEACH.

Alberge yellow, Kenrick's heath,
Brevoort, Lady Ingold,
Chair's choice, Malta,
Cooledge's favorite, Moore's favorite,
Crockett's white, Morris white,
Druid hill, Mountain rose,
Foster, Myer's seedling,
Garfield, Princess of Wales,
Globe, Reeve's favorite,
Haine's early, Rosier,
Hill's Chili, Royal George,

Royal Kensington,
Salway,
Schumaker,
Stevens' rareripe,
Stevens' late,
Surpasse melocoton,
Thurber,
Wager,
Walburton's admirable,
Willetts,
Yellow St. John.

APRICOT.

Alexander, De Coulange,
Alexis, Gibb,
Blenheim, J. L. Budd,
Catherine, New large early,

Nicolas,
Orange,
Oullins's early peach,
Purple.
QUINCE.
Winter sweet.

GRAPE.

Adirondack, Elsinburgh,
Aledo, Elvibach, Montefiore,
Amber, Elvira, Moore's diamond,
Ambrosia, Etta, Missouri reissling,
Arnold's No. 1, Eva, Nectar,
Arnold's No. 2, Faith, Niagara,
Arnold's No. 16, Gaertner, Noah,
Beagle, Geneva, Northern muscadine,
Beauty, Goethe, Norton,
Black eagle, Governor Ireland, Olita,
Brighton, Grayson, Oneida,
Clevener, Grein's golden, Pearl,
Clinton, Hartford, Perkins,
Concord chasselas, Ideal, Poughkeepsie,
Cottage, Ives, Profitable,
Creveling, Janesville, Rebecca,
Crotan, Jewell, Red bird,
Cynthiana, Little blue, Red eagle,
Daisy, Mabel, Roscoe,
Delaware, Marion, Rommel,
Diana, Maxatawney, Rustier,
Dracut amber, Massasoit, Rutland,
Duchess, Mills, Standard,
Early market, Merrimac, Telegraph,
Eldorado, Metterney, Triumph,

Seedlings Not Named.
(From A. J. Caywood & Son).

No. 1, Rogers, No. 5, Rogers, No. 32,
No. 16, Rogers, No. 13, Rogers, No. 39,
(From D. S. Marvin).
No. 2, Rogers, No. 24, Rogers, No. 41,
No. 3, Rogers, No. 28, Rogers, No. 44.
No. 4, 

Strawberry.

Banquet, Cardinal, Enhance,
Belmont, Carmichael, Excelsior,
Bomba, Crawford, Farnsworth,
Bubach, Crimson cluster, Foster's seedlings,
Bubach, No. 5, Daisy, Garden,
Burt's seedling, Dawley, Gold,
Hampden, Lida, Summit,
Haverland, Louise, Warfield’s No. 2,
Henderson, Mammoth, Seedling from J. & J.
Hoffman seedling, New dominion, L. Leonard,
Ivanhoe, Ohio, Seedling No. 70, P. M.
Jessie, Pineapple, Auger & Sons.
Jewell,

RASPBERRY.

Ada, Pioneer, Spry’s early,
Carman, Pomona, Thompson’s early pride,
Champlain, Rancocas, Thompson’s early pro-
Crystal-white, Reliance, lifec,
Genesee, Scarlet gem, Seedling, No. 2 (J. T,
Golden queen, Schaffer, Macumber).
Hale’s early,

BLACKBERRY,

Ancient Briton, Evergreen, Minnewaska,
Barnard, Kittatinny, Snyder,
Dorchester, Lawton, Thompson’s early
Early cluster, Lincoln, mammoth.

CURRANT.

Prince of Wales (black), Saunders’ No. 1 (black), Seedling (white) from Saunders’ No. 2 (black), A. J. Caywood & Son.
Red flowering,

GOOSEBERRY.

Crown Bob, Whitesmith, Seedling No. 2, from
Crystal, Seedling No. 1, from S. L. Dagwell,
Pale red, S. L. Dagwell, Seedling from L.
Pearl, Roesch.

HUCKLEBERRY.

Red.

The plants of most of these varieties made a good start the past season. As was to be expected, some failed. As they arrived at different times, and were in different degrees of freshness when planted out, no report of their comparative vigor is offered at this time, as such a report could hardly be just until all have recovered from the shock of transplanting.

In order that those interested may be informed of the total number of varieties now under trial at the Station, a list of those secured previous to the past season is appended. Of this list, the larger fruits are just coming into bearing. Of the
smaller fruits, reports have already been made in previous volumes of the Station report, and additional dates will be given in the report for the coming year.

APPLES.

Summer Varieties.

Carolina June, Keswick codlin, Sweet bough,
Early harvest, Primate, Tetoisky,
Early strawberry, Red astrachan, William’s favorite.
Golden sweet, Sops of wine,

Autumn Varieties.

Alexander, Fameuse, Menagere,
Aunt Ginnie, Gravenstein, Munson’s sweet,
Baldwin, Haas, or fall queen, Oldenburg,
Blenheim pippin, Hurlbut, Pumpkin russet,
Chenango, Jefferis, Red Beittigheimer,
Fall pippin, Jersey sweeting, St. Lawrence,
Fall wine, Maiden’s blush, Stump.

Winter Varieties.

Amasia, Lady sweet, Reinette de Caux,
Ben Davis, Lord Suffield, Rhode Island green-
Brownlee’s russet, Melon, ing,
Cooper’s market, Mother, Rome beauty,
Cox’s Pomona, Monmouth pippin, Roxbury russet,
Dominie, Northern Spy, Small’s admirable,
Downing’s winter Occident, Sutton beauty,
maiden’s blush, Ontario, Talman’s sweet,
Duke of Devonshire, Peck’s pleasant, Tompkins king,
Dumelow’s seedling, Pewaukee, Tuft’s,
Eila, Pomme grise, Twenty ounce,
Esopus Spitzenburg, Pumpkin sweet, Vandevere,
Fallawater, Rambo, Wagener,
Golden russet, Rawle’s Janet, Westfield seek-no-
Great Newtown pippin, Red Canada, further,
Grimes golden, Red russet, White pippin,
Hubbardston, Reinetia a feuille Winesnap,
Lady apple, d’Aucuba, Yellow bellflower.
Lady Henniker, Russian.

Ananarnoe, Grand Duke Constant- Red transparent,
Antonooskoe, tine, Repka,
Astravaskoe, Grand Sultan, Restchestwenskoe,
Belborodooskoe, Groskoe Selenke Titouka,
Berkoff, Gruner, Workaroe,
Count Orloff, Kalkidouskoe, Zarkischip,
Karabowka,
Coral, 
Hyslop, 
Large red Siberian, 

Oblong, 
Transcendent, 

Whitney's seedling Siberian.

Pears.

Andre Desportes, 
Ansault, 
Beurre de l'assomption, 
De Lamartine, 
Comice, 
Duhamel du Monceau, 
Fondante de bhiorel, 
Frederic Clapp, 

Henri Desportes, 
Hoosic, 
Jacques Molet, 
Jones seedling, 
Jules Bivort, 
Keiffer, 
Madame Andre Leroy, 
Madame Appert, 

Madame Treyve, 
Marie Benoist, 
Maurice Desportes, 
President Mas, 
Raymond de Montlaur, 
St. Crispin, 
Theresa Appert.

Peaches.

Alexander's early, 
Alexandra, 
Amsden, 
Beatrice, 
Conkling, 
Crawford's early, 
Crawford's late, 
Early silver, 
Early York, 
Foster, 
George IV, 

Goshawk, 
Hale's early, 
Large early York, 
Lord Palmerston, 
Louise, 
Magdala, 
Mrs. Brett, 
Nectarine, 
Oldmixon clingstone, 
Oldmixon freestone, 

Red cheek melocoton, 
River's early York, 
Saunders, 
Shanghai, 
Snow peach, 
Stump the world, 
Ward's late, 
Waterloo, 
Wheatland, 
Wildcr.

Plums.

Bavay's green gage, 
Bradshaw, 
Bryanston's gage, 
Coe's golden drop, 
Duane's purple, 
General Hand, 
German prune, 
Goliath, 
Green gage, 
Imperial gage, 

Italian prune, 
Jefferson, 
Lombard, 
Lucombe's nonsuch, 
McLaughlin, 
Newman, 
Orange, 
Peter's yellow gage, 
Pond's seedling, 
Prince Englebert, 

Prune d'Agen, 
Saint Lawrence, 
Shropshire damson, 
Smith's Orleans, 
Victoria, 
Wangenheim, 
Washington, 
Weaver, 
Yellow egg, 
Yellow gage.

Cherries.

Belle Magnifique, 
Bigarreau, 
Black eagle, 
Black tartarian, 
Cleveland's bigarreau, 
Coe's transparent, 
Downer's late, 
Early purple, 
Elton, 
Eugenia, 

Flemish, 
Governor Wood, 
Kentish, 
Knight's early, 
Late Duke, 
Leib, 
May duke, 
Meyel, 
Montmorenci ordinary, 

Morelo (English), 
Napoleon Bigarreau, 
Olivet, 
Reine Hortense, 
Rockport Bigarreau, 
Royal duke, 
Sparhawk's honey, 
Tradescent's black heart, 
Windsor.
Champion,  
D’Alger,  

Quinces.  
De Constantinople,  
Rea.  

Nectarines.  
Late melting,  
Lord Napier,  
Milton,  
Newton,  
Pitmaston orange,  

Red muscatine,  
Royal,  
Sardinian,  
St. Ambroise,  
Shipley’s,  
Turkey.  

Black,  
Breda,  
Canino Grosso,  
Early golden,  
Early Moorpark,  
Hemskirke,  
Kaisha,  

Apricots.  
Large early,  
Large early Montgamet,  
Malcolm’s breda,  
Montgamet,  
Moorpark,  
Peach,  

Blackberries.  
Early harvest,  
Stayman’s early,  
Stone’s hardy,  

Taylor’s prolific,  
Wilson’s early,  
Wilson’s Junior.  

Dewberries.  
Lucretia,  
Mammoth.  

Gooseberries.  
Industry,  
Mountain seedling,  

Smith’s.  

Currants.  
Lee’s black prolific,  
London red,  
Missouri large fruited,  
Missouri sweet fruited,  
Ogden’s black grape,  
Prince Albert,  

Red Dutch,  
Short bunched red,  
Victoria,  
White Dutch,  
White grape.  

Grapes.  
Agawam,  
Amber queen,  
August giant,  
Bacchus,  
Barry,  
Black Madeira,  
Brighton,  
Burnet,  
Catawba,  
Champion,  
Concord,  
Duchesse,  

Early Victor,  
Eaton,  
Empire State,  
Eumelan,  
Francis B. Hayes,  
Green mountain,
Highland,    Marvin's centennial,    Rochester,  
Iona,       Monroe,        Salem,        
Isabella,    Moore's early,     Senasque,  
Jefferson,    Niagara,        Ulster prolific,  
Jessica,     Norwood,        Vergennes,  
Lady,        Oriental,    Wilder,        
Lady Washington,    Pocklington,     Woodruff red,  
Lindley,     Poughkeepsie,    Worden,   
Mary,        Prentiss,     Wyoming red,   

Raspberries.

Brandywine,    Key's prolific,    Ohio,        
Caroline,       Lost rubies,    Orange,  
Crimson beauty, Mammoth cluster, Palmer's seedling,  
Cuthbert,       Marlboro,       Philadelphia,   
Erie,          Meredith queen, Reder,  
Gregg,         Miller's woodland, Silver queen,  
Hansell,       Montclair,      Souhegan,  
Herstine,      Naomi,        Superb,        
Johnson's sweet, Nemaha,        Turner,   

Strawberries.

Belle de Bordelaise,    James'Vick,     Mrs. Garfield,  
Bidwell,        Jersey queen,    Old ironclad,  
Beuchley's seedling,    Jucunda,        Ontario,        
Charles Downing,         Jumbo,        Parry,        
Cornelia,            Kentucky,       Piper's seedling,  
Coville's early,      Legal tender,      Primo,        
Crescent,         Lenning's White,     Prince of berries,  
Cumberland,      Longfellow,      Red alpine,  
Daisy Miller,    Manchester,       Royal hautboys,  
Daniel Boone,    May king,        Sharpless,  
Excelsior,      Miami,            Triomphe de Gand,  
Garretson,             Montreuil,     Wilson,        
Golden defiance,        Mount Vernon,    Woodruff No. 1.

The Station is still as glad to receive new varieties for trial, under the terms above stated, as ever, and any readers of this bulletin who may have promising new seedlings of fruits adapted to our climate are invited to send sample plants of the same, either this fall or next spring, as is convenient.