

THE WAGNER, LAMBERT AND SURPRISE AVOCADOS

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The Wagner avocado is a seedling from the Walker Royal, the seed of which I planted sometime in 1908. In 1913 the tree had 3 avocados, and about three dozen in 1914; 440 in 1915, and 190 in 1916. The last two years the fruit was mostly picked in April and May. I think they will be four to six weeks later this year. The average weight is about 10 to 12 ounces, but a good many weigh 14 to 15 ounces. The seed is rather large; the fruit round and of good quality. I kept some of the fruit on the tree until December last year. I think there are about 400 to 500 on the tree now.

The Lambert is a seedling from a Mexican fruit, planted in 1909. It bore 3 fruits in 1915, and 4 in 1916. This year (1917) it had 10 dozen. The fruit is green and round, and weighs about 1 pound; flesh, rich in fat and very smooth. Picked most of fruit in March. There are still a few large fruits on the tree. Seed is of medium size. The tree is a vigorous grower and is in full bloom now (April). About 10 per cent of the fruit cracked at the blossom end, causing some of them to have a dry rot almost to the seed about the size of a fifty-cent piece, but it didn't seem to affect the balance of the fruit.

The Surprise is also a tree from a Mexican fruit which I planted in 1909. It bore 1 fruit in 1915; in 1916 it had 81 fruits; and this year we will get about 250 to 300 fruits. Average weight of fruit is 20 ounces; oval shape and green; flesh, very smooth grain, but not so rich as the Wagner and the Lambert. Last year I picked the fruit in February and March, but I think they will improve very much by letting them hang several months longer. The biggest part of this year's crop will still be on the tree in May. The tree is making new fruit buds now (April). The tree has a fine shape and is also a vigorous grower. The cold weather didn't seem to affect any of my trees here in Hollywood. The seed of the fruit weighs 3 ounces.