

DISCUSSION OF MR. MURRIETA'S PAPER

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I would like to say a few words of appreciation of Mr. Murrieta's paper. Perhaps not all of us realize how much we are indebted to him as one of the pioneers of the avocado industry. In addition to growing trees of his own and producing such valuable varieties as those grouped together and called the Murrietas, he has from time to time distributed quantities of the best obtainable seed from Mexico. On two occasions I obtained such seed from him. Of the first lot probably the Sharpless was the best. I sold the young tree to Mr. Gockly who was the owner of the Sharpless ranch before its present possessor, Mr. Sharpless. On my own property I have several mature trees bearing fruit of considerable value out of this lot. The second lot has resulted in trees of very promising appearance, possessing characteristics quite different from their predecessors. None have yet borne, but the bloom has appeared on some, so probably we will know what the fruit is in a year or so.

I should have mentioned above that the so-called Smith-Clark tree of Villa Park, a variety of undoubted value is from one of Mr. Murrieta's introductions.