

NOTES ON VARIETIES

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I am advised by our President, Mr. Dutton, that some points in my experience of ten years in avocado growing may be of some service to those who are working along similar lines.

It has been a pleasure to assist those who have sought information of me, but my opinion must be taken as from one who is continually seeking light himself. My opinion of the Fuerte can be best stated that I have increased my holdings of that variety from 80 to 150 trees and that the number of my trees of Puebla, Dickinson and the long list of varieties advocated ten years ago remain the same, except that I have allowed half of the forty Lyon I had then to die.

The following list of nine Wilson Popenoe selections which the United States Department of Agriculture gave out from 1918 to 1920, seem to me to justify further trial in any section where the temperature does not fall below 28 degrees, or where it can be kept at that figure artificially:

Benik—A fine rich fruit ripening in April, about one pound weight.

Cantel—A very good variety, ripening in August and often weighing 20 ounces.

Ishim—A hybrid weighing from seven to fifteen ounces with a shiny, purple skin, fruit ripening from January to March.

Ishka—Rather slow to come into bearing but having a fine fourteen ounce fruit, ripening in June.

Kanan—Quite similar to the above.

Mayapan—A slender growing strong tree, an excellent bearer with one pound fruit, ripening in March and April. It sometimes shows fibre markings, which are not really fibre.

Nabal—A good growing tree with fair production of valuable fruit, maturing in summer.

Panchoy—A remarkably vigorous, handsome tree, a fair bearer of fruit up to twenty-eight ounces of clean fine material; August ripening.

Tumin—A good 16 to 20 ounce fruit, which turns a deep purple often six months before it ripens in October; flesh sometimes shrinks in shell even when fruit is ripe.

I have not yet obtained fruit from the Chota Valley selections and if any are

grown by members, I would be very glad of an opportunity to test them. I am, however, in position, through a friend in Florida, to say that there, the Tamayo endured a freeze with a temperature of 23½ degrees F. I feel that the insurance of a hillside terrace in frosty weather repays for' the trouble of terraces and I am thankful to the industry for the interest which has come to me through employing myself in it and the health which it has given me.