

## **Report of the Committee on Varieties 1943**

With the impact of war conditions on the timing of our program today, it has been requested that the report of the Committee on Varieties be very brief. It is not difficult to comply with this request as there is no essential change in the relative status of varieties and seedlings under study.

We have now operated for a full year under war conditions. The Committee itself has been streamlined to meet these conditions and to better cope with the practical working of certain new projects being considered. The membership of the Committee now consists of seven men—Dr. Coit, A. R. Chenoweth, H. B. Griswold, C. S. Crawford, J. N. Thille, M. B. Rounds and Carter Barrett. A very large list of co-operators is carried, who from time to time are advised of information and whose opinion is sought.

Restrictions on travel, stemming from the war, have made it very difficult to carry on many activities which have given the work of the Committee a broader background than has been possible the past year. The same reason, coupled with the exacting demands of wartime conditions on the time of the members of the committee, have made it seem inadvisable to call meetings of the committee, when there have been no apparent indications of any serious or critical changes in the status of varieties under study.

We do not believe that this study so vital to the industry has suffered, however. It has been confined more closely to the studies of co-operators, who are carrying on the trial plots, which are now beginning to prove their worth. Three of the members of the Committee are doing outstanding work with trial plots on their properties at very considerable expense to themselves.

We have been exceptionally fortunate in having Mr. Rounds to tie all the loose ends together. This has been done in two ways—through the constant upbuilding of the master file which he maintains for the Society and through his ability to be over the whole field constantly. Mr. Rounds' position with the Citrus Experiment Station takes him over the whole growing area very often in dealing with their authorized studies. His own interest and enthusiasm in the study of avocado problems enables this industry to avail itself of the observations and contacts of a trained man in this field. He has also done much to distribute scions and trees of varieties under study to the co-operators, which would have otherwise been next to impossible. His comprehensive study of all areas has been invaluable and has kept the Committee's information up to date.

Therefore, in order to pay further tribute to one whom this Society honors today for accomplishment along this line of work and because, due to this intensive field work he is in a better position to give you the details of variety status than anyone else, the Chairman of the Committee is breaking a precedent, in not presenting those details himself, and is asking Mr. Rounds to present observations on the present standing of varieties and seedlings under study by the Committee. As these observations will be printed in the Yearbook together with this preliminary statement, the result will be a

report similar in scope to that customarily presented by the Committee and will, we trust, meet with your approval.

Respectfully submitted,

CARTER BARRETT, Chairman