

Louisiana Now Grows Avocados

J. E. COIT.

Orange growers in the Delta country below New Orleans often grow West Indian avocado trees from seeds of Cuban fruit. Such trees are tender to cold and seldom reach an age old enough to fruit unless protected by fires in winter.

Mr. Andrew Lobrano of Buras, Plaquemines Parish, has grown a number of trees and provided frost protection. This year one of these matured over 100 fruits. Lobrano intends to use this tree as a source of bud-wood with which to bud his other seedlings, of which he has quite a number. He plans to attempt to produce avocados in commercial quantity. One fruit was picked on October 4th and mailed to the Editor of the Yearbook.

This fruit arrived in perfect condition and kept well until eaten on October 11th. The fruit is typical West Indian, light green, weight 14 oz., and the seed 4 oz., or 28%. The seed was tight and the cavity clean. The skin was leathery, peeling off readily. Flesh thick at neck, but only $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick at point of greatest diameter. Fibre, none; texture good; flavor fair to good. There was no sign of scab or other imperfection of the skin.

For a West Indian, this was an excellent fruit, well worthy of propagation. The suggestion was made that when propagated, it be named the "Lobrano" after the originator.