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WILLSON'S WONDER

NATURAL SIZE



FIG. 1.

# WILLSON'S WONDER WALNUT



THE greatest combination of good qualities in one walnut in existence. The EARLIEST HEAVY and CONTINUOUS BEARER. THIN SHELL, PERFECTLY SEALED and WELL FILLED. Highest quality of kernel, blossoms late and blight resisting.

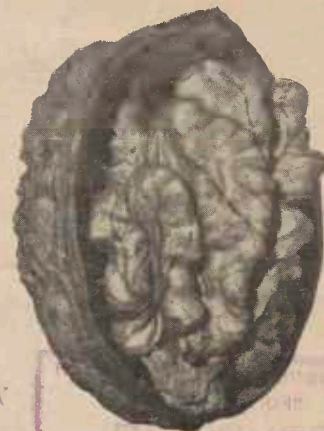


FIG. 2.

Answered

## THE CAMERA TELLS THE STORY



FIG. 3.

Original, Parent Tree, of Willson's Wonder Walnut. This tree, now in its fourteenth year, has borne twelve heavy crops, beginning second year after transplanting, on side of main San Francisco and San Jose road, and growing under adverse conditions as to moisture and cultivation.

Tree has never been shaped up, having been heavily cut for propagating purposes the last eight years, which also reduced the bearing surface.

Since advertising I have not been able to get the fruit unless I picked it unripe, and so have not had a chance to give weight of crop, nor had samples to send out. But a standing invitation is extended to those interested to come to headquarters and investigate for themselves.

"WILLSON'S WONDER" WALNUT originated with F. C. Willson at Encinal Nurseries, Sunnyvale, Santa Clara Co., Cal., fourteen years ago. It is bred up from French "BIJOU" as grandparent on one side, IMPROVING its GOOD QUALITIES and ELIMINATING its BAD ONES. The tree is an exceptionally STRONG, STURDY grower, with DENSE FOLIAGE of a dark green color, and leaves of MUCH SUBSTANCE, which is in its FAVOR in hot localities, to RESIST SUNBURN. (IN THE PICTURES SOME OF THE LEAVES WERE REMOVED TO SHOW UP NUTS BETTER.) It BEGINS BEARING HEAVILY in NURSERY or ORCHARD NEXT YEAR after GRAFTING, which is the EARLIEST it POSSIBLY could do, and keeps this up every year without fail, as is SHOWN by the CAMERA, in trees from 1 to 12 years old. Trees which were left growing where they stood in the nursery row for the purpose of taking grafting wood, now SEVEN years old, have borne SEVEN CROPS OF NUTS. It bears largely in clusters of from 3 to 10 nuts. (See Fig. 4.) The clustering accounts for the nut being narrower at stem end, the reverse of most varieties. The bloom and foliage put out about half way between the common Santa Barbara Soft Shell and the Franquette, generally the latter part of April or May first, which varies somewhat as to location. Thus it AVOIDS the LATE SPRING FROSTS, which in some localities is so destructive to the early blooming varieties. At the same time it is not so extremely late as to be objected to in the southern part of California, where they have hot weather early in the season. This variety is abundantly supplied with MALE BLOOM, so necessary to insure fertility, and thus the crop of nuts. The nuts are very large—14 of some of the largest from young nursery trees placed side by side completely covering a 3 ft. rule. (See Fig. 4.) Those on mature trees with heavy crop are not quite so large, and have smoother shell. The shell is THIN as is safe in handling, VERY SMOOTH for one so large, PERFECTLY SEALED, and well filled with exceedingly sweet, rich kernel. KERNEL has NONE of TANNIN or ACID, which walnuts often have, that makes one's mouth sore when eaten.

Before introducing this variety Mr. Willson watched and tested it out for years to see if anything detrimental would show up. But as nothing appeared, NOT EVEN BLIGHT (with the very NEXT trees on EITHER SIDE, and others in vicinity, BADLY AFFECTED), he thought himself justified in introducing this variety, and growing the trees for sale. (If variety WITHSTANDS

blight for 11 YEARS under such CONDITIONS it must surely be considered VERY STRONGLY RESISTANT to that disease.)

The following extract from the "California Farmer" in May, 1912, from the pen of John Isaac, editor, and eminent along the lines of entomology and horticulture, may be interesting: "One of the most promising walnuts which has ever come to our attention is the Willson Wonder, a nut which, if all that it promises is realized, is well named. The points of superiority claimed for this nut, and which from our personal investigation we believe to be well founded, are large size,

early bearing, prolificacy, blight resistance, thin shell, large meat content, and general hardiness.

"These claims would seem to cover about all that is desirable in a walnut, and certainly the Willson Wonder appears to make good its claims. In size, the Willson equals or surpasses the Bijou, the largest of the commercial nuts. The Bijou has a very rough,

hard shell, deeply convulated, and is often deficient in meat content; the Willson, on the contrary, is thin shelled and the shell is filled to its capacity. It presents a much larger proportion of meat to shell than any nut we know of.

"In regard to its early bearing age, we have seen whole rows of these trees in nursery, where every one-year graft presented walnuts, and in orchard small trees planted a year ago showed a good crop of nuts. We are used to the small sizes, but if this new nut keeps up to all its present promises, and from what we have seen of it we believe that it will, the Willson Wonder Walnut will be the great nut of the future."

Some competitors with a case of "sour grapes" say: "It may be all right for the show window, but it is too large for commercial purposes." On that score, the following is from the HEAD BUYER from California's FOREMOST FANCY GROCERY house: "If you can produce a nut like this—large, with a smooth, thin shell, and a light colored kernel as this has (even if of only medium quality)—it will sell MUCH MORE READILY, at a much INCREASED price."



FIG. 5.

Tree in nursery, less than 2 ft. tall, bearing 8 mature nuts 18 months from insertion of graft. (Note 2 ft. rule and tape.)

There is no doubt in my mind on this point. And it is my opinion, invariably admitted, that we cannot have ANY FRUIT or NUT TOO LARGE, of which a person would HELP himself to MORE than ONE. I have asked many dealers about this, and they have INVARIABLY spoken in FAVOR of the LARGE NUT. And many have expressed surprise at being asked such a question, as if there could be any doubt about it. Better plant the variety that will give you the CROP, having LARGE SIZE and QUALITY, and bring you largest NET RETURNS.

In planting out an orchard for PROFIT, we want, first—a variety that gives a HEALTHY, VIGOROUS tree that will bear the EARLIEST and HEAVIEST crops POSSIBLE. WILLSON'S WONDER WALNUT does this—because it begins to bear the EARLIEST it POSSIBLY can in nursery, and keeps it up EVERY year with a heavy crop—the original tree being now 14 years old without failure of HEAVY crop, and growing on side of road under adverse conditions as to moisture and cultivation. The cuts in this circular fully bear out the above statement.

Second—We want the product that will ATTRACT the trade that will pay the HIGHEST PRICES, and having the combination of good qualities that will HOLD THAT TRADE. WILLSON'S WONDER WALNUT will do this, because it has the SIZE and

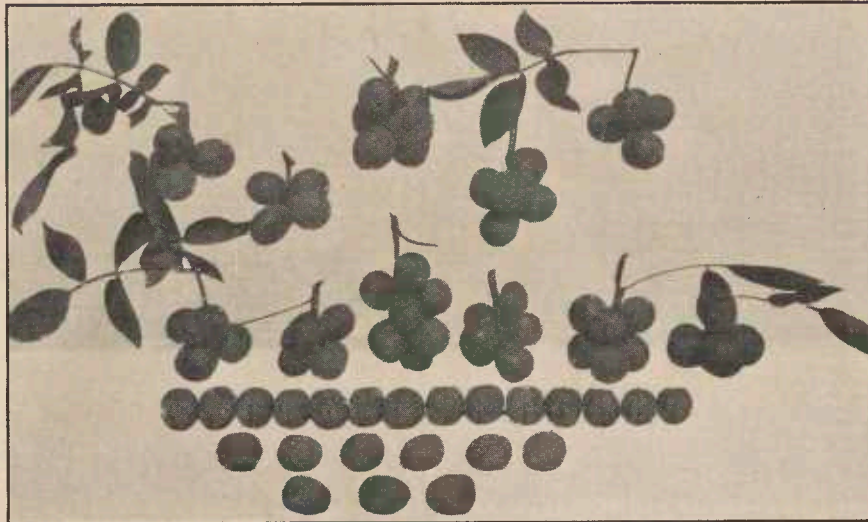


FIG. 4.

Cluster from original tree at Encinal Nurseries, 8 years old. 4 to 10 nuts in cluster. 14 nuts (side by side) cover a 3-foot rule.

The 14 nuts in a row are from young tree in nursery row, and are rougher and larger than average.

The lower ones are from mature loaded tree and are smoother—of size shown on front page. (See Figs. 1 and 2.)

Practically every tree in nursery row 1 yr. old from grafting, forms nuts.



FIG. 6.

Tree in nursery row 5 ft. tall with 36 mature nuts 18 months from insertion of graft.

This tree bore 20 nuts in nursery row next year after grafting, 1909.

In 1910 it was transplanted from nursery and formed 14 nuts, which were pulled off.

In 1911, 1912, 1913 and 1914 this tree has borne heavily—five crops in the five seasons it has grown since being transplanted from nursery.

As tree was planted on side of county road, it has been impossible to get the nuts ripe to tell number of pounds. But every year crop has been very heavy.



FIG. 7.

Showing tree of WILLSON'S "WONDER" next year after transplanting on side of road. Photo taken after one-half crop was stolen. Crop was 61 nuts.

These are not unusual specimens of this variety. They all do the same if they have anything like a fair show.

But it is not wise to let the trees overbear at first just because they will do it. Better let them get a start first and bear according to their strength. They **CANNOT HELP** bearing when you will **LET** them.

No other variety can compare with this for early and continuous heavy bearing.

APPEARANCE to ATTRACT, and the fine qualities of kernel, thin shell, etc., to HOLD the customer. It will command a FANCY PRICE in preference to the ordinary sized walnut; and at WORST will have a PREFERENCE at equal price if supply ever equals demand. It will be a long time before the "FANCY TRADE" can be fully supplied at FANCY PRICES, even in our own country, while the ORDINARY sized nuts attend to the ordinary trade. Even the culls of this variety are FANCY walnuts. Then why plant the ordinary sorts when you can get a walnut which will give you the BIGGEST RETURNS in the SHORTEST TIME?

Those who plant inferior varieties will be left in the race. It is also necessary to GET the CROP.

Even if trees do cost a little more to start, that is nothing when you consider WHAT YOU GET and HOW SOON YOU GET IT.

## CAUTION

I have good reason to believe walnut trees have been sold for "Willson's Wonder," which were not that variety, e. g.: A party wrote to me to see if he could get some Willson's Wonder Walnut trees. Afterward wrote and said he had taken orders for several hundred trees and expected to get a large order. Later he sent for 20 trees for early delivery—all I ever sent him. After that another party wrote me that he had seen "Willson's Wonder" LABEL on trees in first party's tree depot that he had sold to him of ANOTHER VARIETY. First party has since gone into bankruptcy. "A word to the wise is sufficient."

Also, some nurserymen catalogue "Willson's Wonder" at reduced price, who do not have it, and when inquiry is made say they are out of it and try to sell something else, figuring on getting a chance at trade they would not otherwise get.

Headquarters is always safest place to "find out."



FIG. 8.

Showing tree in third season after planting in orchard. Second heavy crop of nuts.

## TESTIMONIALS

Following are (samples) of many voluntary testimonials which we have received:

October 4, 1913.

"Replying to your inquiry as to my opinion of the Willson's Wonder Walnut at this time, I beg to say that the nursery grafted trees I bought from you during February, 1911, are now from 10 to 15 feet high, and many of them have this year as many as 64 nuts as their maiden crop.

"The trees show great vitality and vigor, and grow wonderfully. They are surely all you claim for them, and in the opinion of many who have seen them are a most wonderful tree."

October 1, 1913.

"Three years ago last winter you told me the Willson's Wonder Walnut bore nuts next year after grafting, and showed me some walnuts from such trees. I wanted to see for myself, so I visited your nursery and found things as you stated—trees right along in nursery row, showing where they had been loaded with nuts, next season after grafting. I bought two trees. Two years ago you sent me a little grafting wood. The accompanying photograph shows the tree loaded with nuts (305)—the third crop in less than 3 years. (It had one nut same year it was grafted.) I have found the Willson Wonder all you recommended it to be. It beats anything else I ever saw or heard of for bearing, grows well, and nuts are fine, with no blight. I can heartily recommend it to anyone contemplating planting walnuts."

# PLANTING



WALNUTS will do in a wide range of soil, from sand to adobe, if other conditions, such as climate, care adapted to the individual needs, etc., are present. I think I may say all counties of California have some locations where walnuts will do well, and all have locations and soil conditions where no walnut tree should ever be planted.

Plant NURSERY GROWN GRAFTED trees (either your own or some other).

A TRANSPLANTED tree, taken up with plenty of GOOD ROOTS, and PROPERLY HANDLED, is BEST.

The method of planting the nuts in orchard form where trees are to stay and grafting afterward has been exploded, and is the most costly and disappointing way one could adopt. Grow your own trees if you think best, but do it in NURSERY ROW and TRANSPLANT.

After ground is well prepared, dig holes roomy and deep enough to allow roots a chance to SPREAD OUT NATURALLY, with TENDENCY DOWNWARD. Let one person shovel WELL-PULVERIZED soil and another hold tree and see that soil is distributed in AMONG the roots and FIRMED lightly with the toe (not tamped) until roots are well covered. Then hole may be filled with loose soil if moist. If soil is rather dry, soak well to bottom of hole with water. Soon after water disappears, fill up the hole with loose soil. (The drier the soil when tree is planted the firmer it should be made round the roots.)

Walnut trees may or may not be cut back when planted. But if cut back, should have wound waxed over at once. Trees should be staked to protect the young tree. WHEN BUDS ARE WELL STARTED, remove all but one, throwing all the growth into one shoot. Trim roots only to remove broken ones, or bruised parts, using sharp shears or knife. PROTECT TRUNKS from SUNBURN by tying handful of TULE AROUND—the VERY BEST PROTECTOR. Do not use paper or burlap.

## PRICES

### Willson's Wonder Walnut.

1 Tree 10 Trees 100 Trees

\$2.00 \$17.50 \$150.00

### Franquette Walnut.

1 Tree 10 Trees 100 Tr

2 to 3 ft.	\$.75	\$6.00	\$ 50
3 to 4 ft.	1.00	7.50	60
4 to 6 ft.	1.25	10.00	75
6 to 8 ft.	1.50	12.50	100

# WILLSON'S WONDER WALNUT

Originated, propagated and Trees for sale by

F. C. WILLSON, PROPRIETOR

## ENCINAL NURSERIES

SUNNYVALE, SANTA CLARA CO., CALIFORNIA

TELEPHONE 18 J



FIG. 9.

Shows growth of Willson's Wonder Walnut tree, with part of crop removed, throwing growth into tree. Same age and conditions as No. 8.

## FRANQUETTE



OF the medium-sized varieties of walnuts, all things considered, I am of the opinion the "GENUINE" Franquette is best. It is a good, shapely grower and consistent, steady bearer. (It blooms very late, avoiding all danger from late spring frosts.) Nuts are shapely, with thin, firm, light-colored shell, and very light-colored and rich kernel.

However, one should always be careful that the trees he plants are of the GENUINE Franquette strain, such as sold by the late John Rock as GRAFTED STOCK, and furnished by him for the celebrated Vrooman orchard—not so-called SECOND-GENERATION trees, for they are only SEEDLINGS, AT BEST, and CANNOT be DEPENDENT upon as "COMING TRUE." One should not plant seedlings of any kind at this stage of progress unless he wants to



NATURAL SIZE

reap a crop of disappointment. Get the best, at whatever cost to start, and in the end you will win out.

Mr. Rock sent to one of the most reliable sources of France for samples of nuts of the French varieties he had fruited in California, and I was with him when the box containing them arrived and helped him open the box and compare them with the California-grown nuts.

We concluded that those fruited here were TRUE to variety, but of BETTER quality than those grown in France. Consequently, when I bought my first Franquettes I procured them from Mr. Rock. The Franquette trees I offer for sale are descended true from this stock.

Trees are grafted on Black California Stock, from selected trees of healthy and vigorous growth.