

## **Historic, Archive Document**

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1916  
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Report of the New York  
Experiment Station  
on the

# EMPIRE

**E**MPIRE is one of the most promising new red raspberries on the station grounds, having hardiness, productiveness, vigor of bush, healthiness and large, handsome, firm, well-flavored fruit as its chief asset. The canes need no winter protection in this region; equal any other variety in productiveness; are unusually vigorous, reaching a height of six or eight feet; and this season, 1916, when anthracnose was everywhere rampant, showed but a trace of this disease. A peculiarity of the canes is that in mid-summer they are purplish-red, but become brown at the close of the season. The berries average larger than those of the well-known Cuthbert, and are about the same color as those of that variety; they ripen a little earlier and have a longer picking season. The fruits are mild, rich and sweet, so that the variety may be ranked among the best in quality. The texture is firm and without doubt the berries will stand shipment well and may be kept long. With such an array of good characters, it seems certain that Empire must take high standing among commercial red raspberries.

Empire originated in 1904 with L. E. Wardell, Marlboro, New York. It was obtained by crossing Ruby with Coutant. It was introduced by its originator in the fall of 1916. Mr. Wardell was also the originator and disseminator of Marlboro and Ruby. The first hill of Empire, twelve years old, is still vigorous, healthy and productive.

Plants tall, vigorous, upright, with medium number of suckers, hardy, very productive; canes smooth except for the few scattering, short prickles, stocky, long; prickles medium in thickness, short, few, becoming more numerous towards the base; internodes medium to short; buds large, long, pointed, plump, free. Leaves large, wide, medium in length, thick, dark green, rugose. Flowers appear early. Fruit matures in early mid-season, clings well to the torus, yet picks easily; large, uniform, retains its size well to the close of the season, regular in outline, roundish-conical; cavity deep, medium in width; apex roundish or tapering slightly; bloom slight; drupes small, numerous, with strong coherence; color medium to dark red, glossy; flesh juicy, firm, mild, high-flavored; very good in quality; seeds medium in size.

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## Prices

First-class sucker plants for Fall delivery

Per doz., \$1.50	Per C, \$10.00	Per M, \$50.00
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Transplants

Per doz., \$2.00	Per C, \$12.00	Per M, \$60.00
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Green Plants

Per doz., 75c.	Per C, \$5.00	Per M, \$25.00
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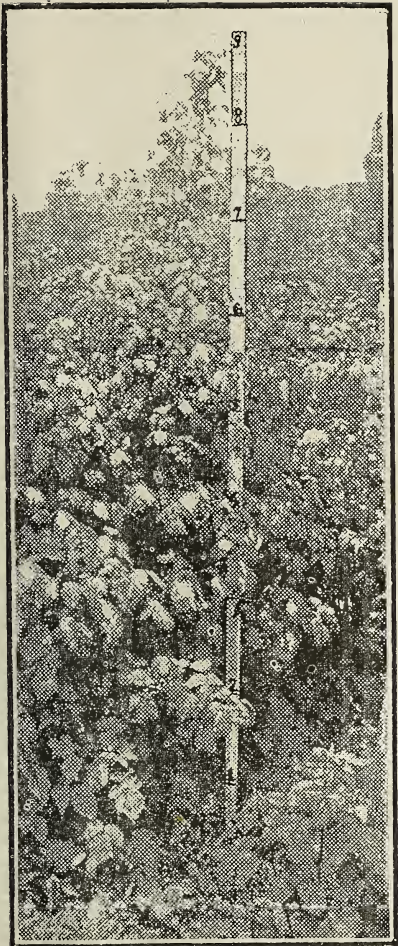
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Introduced and for sale by

**L. E. Wardell & Son and**

**C. G. Velie & Son**

**Marlboro, N. Y.**



Height of bush compared with 9 foot pole



CHRISTY INC. ROCH. N. Y.

**EMPIRE RED RASPBERRY.** The most promising red raspberry grown today; having hardiness, productiveness, vigor of bush, healthiness and large, handsome, firm, well-flavored fruits as its chief assets. As a commercial berry it is far ahead of any other in cultivation at the present time. For the garden it is far superior to other varieties, as its adaptability to all kinds of soils and its excellent canning qualities make it a great acquisition.