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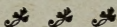


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ESTABLISHED 1872.



The Oldest and Largest Wholesale  
Nursery in the South.

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# The Orchardists' HAND BOOK

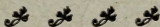
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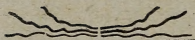
## Huntsville Wholesale Nurseries,

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA.

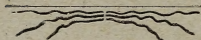
W. F. HEIKES, Manager.



AUGUST 1, 1907.



**We were Awarded a Grand Prize and a Gold Medal  
on Our Exhibits at the World's Fair,  
St. Louis.**



# THE ORCHARDISTS' HAND BOOK.

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS

--OF THE--

## Huntsville Wholesale Nurseries, HUNTSVILLE, ALA.

JESSIE S. MOSS, Proprietor. W. F. HEIKES, Manager.

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**T**HE Huntsville Wholesale Nurseries were established in 1872 and are the pioneer nurseries of this section.

From a small experiment these nurseries steadily grew year by year until the acreage in nursery stock and the number of trees produced exceeded the acreage and the number of trees of any nursery in the United States or any foreign country.

The nursery tract comprises 1005 acres, of which there are each year on an average 650 acres in nursery stock. Besides this tract we have 500 acres at Biloxi, Miss., devoted to the propagation of Roses, Pecans, Japanese Persimmons and Magnolias.

In presenting this little pamphlet we wish to call the attention of those receiving it to the fact that we are making a specialty of growing fruit trees in large numbers with especial reference to supplying the wants of nurserymen and commercial orchardists at the low-

est wholesale prices. We do not retail, and we desire the patronage of those only who are engaged in or about to engage in the nursery business or in fruit growing for the market.

Of the different fruits there are very few varieties that are profitable for the market, and it is, therefore, of utmost importance that orchardists should know what varieties to plant in order to secure the best results. The following pages contain a brief description of such varieties as we recommend for commercial orchard planting. We also give a list of varieties, without description, ripening in the order named, which we propagate to meet the demand for trees suited to family orchards. We do not invite orders for trees of varieties recommended by us for family orchards, but we will supply such trees to any one wishing to include them in an order made in accordance with our rules governing sales to orchardists, provided, however, not less than 20 trees of a kind are taken. The trees grown for family orchards we usually sell to nurserymen who sell at retail through agents.

We make it a rule to offer for sale only trees grown by us upon our own land and under our own personal supervision. By careful attention to cultivation, packing, shipping and extreme vigilance in keeping our varieties correct and pure we have earned the highest reputation for the quality of our trees and their fruiting true to name.

We do not dig trees and set them in trenches, as is done by many nurserymen. As we are not retailers and the climate here is favorable to trees standing in the nursery during the Winter, and as freezing weather seldom interferes with digging more than two or three days at a time we find it practicable to take up separately each order fresh from the nursery rows as wanted.

Our trees are graded with exactness into several sizes, so that all who purchase may be suited in size and price. We recommend for commercial peach orchards June Buds or one year old trees of the medium or smaller grades, as they are more easily trained into the desired shape and are cheaper.

This section has always been free from pernicious insects and diseases injurious to fruit trees, and our patrons may rest assured that all trees that go out from our nurseries are free from San Jose scale, Root-knot, Crown-gall and Aphis. Our nurseries are inspected annually by the State Entomologist and a certificate of inspection is attached to every box or package sent out.

The most favorable season in this climate for transplanting trees to the orchard is in November, December, January and February. The sooner the better after the trees are matured. During the Fall and Winter there is always some root growth, and trees planted early become well established and ready for growth upon the arrival of Spring.

Huntsville is well supplied with railroads for shipments North and South, East and West, and freight rates from here are as favorable as from any point in the South.

### **CULTURE FOR ORCHARDS.**

Until bearing age the orchard should be planted to hoed crops of low growth and kept well cultivated. When the trees begin to bear the land should be given up to the orchard and receive clean, shallow cultivation. In the Fall it is advisable to sow rye, barley or crimson clover and to turn the crop under in the Spring before the trees begin to grow.

### **CONDITIONS GOVERNING PRICES.**

This Hand Book is intended expressly for commercial orchardists, who buy in wholesale quantities. We do not accept orders for trees amounting to less than \$10.00 or for a smaller number of trees than 300 or for less than 20 trees of any one variety. The number of trees ordered may include trees of the various kinds of fruits usually planted in market orchards. In writing for prices give names of varieties and number of trees wanted, and we will quote uniform wholesale prices to all. We will cheerfully respond, as far as lies in our power, to requests for information on the subject of fruit raising.

# PEACH TREES.

**Our Budding of Peach Trees This Year Will  
Amount to About 3,000,000.**

**We Bud Only on Seedlings Grown from Southern  
Seedling Pits.**

## Varieties Named in the Order of Ripening.

Each "ripening" extends over a period of 10 to 15 days. The order of succession as given may vary considerably in different seasons and in different localities.

## Peaches Recommended for Commercial Orchards.

### FIRST RIPENING.

**Mayflower.** This is a new peach first brought to notice in 1900 because of its extreme beauty and earliness. It has been well tested in both the home and commercial orchards. This is a wonder among peaches. It is the earliest of all, ripening nearly a week earlier than Sneed. It is about the size of Alexander, color deep, bright red all over, even before it gets ripe enough to ship, very prolific, inclined to overbear and should always be thinned. Blooms large, very hardy in bud and bloom. Sold in the market this year from \$3.00 to \$4.00 per six basket carriers of three pecks. In a shipment, the last of the Mayflowers with the first of the Victors, the Mayflowers sold for \$3.50 and the Victors for \$1.50 per crate. It has outsold any new early variety ever placed on the market. Commission men call for more as it is the only extra early variety they have ever handled that had any color. Remember that the Mayflower is bright red all over. Price of trees \$25.00 per 100. \$150 per 1000. The Mayflower has now fruited for five years and well tested and what we say concerning it can be relied on absolutely.

**Yellow Swan.** Large, color yellow, with mottled red spots on one side, flesh yellow, good flavor, semi-cling. When perfectly ripe sometimes opens free. Earlier than Triumph and Greensboro, ripening with Alexander. The fruit is of uniform size, with but few small peaches, ripens to the seed and is a marvel of beauty. Introduced by Sneed & Wood, leading successful orchardists of Tyler, Texas. They and their associates have planted large orchards of this variety. We went to see the Yellow Swan trees last year in the shipping season and the fruit was selling in



the Kansas City and Chicago markets for \$2.50 to \$3.00 per crate. This variety is being sold under a trade mark label and this name cannot be used by anyone without the consent of Sneed & Wood. We have a contract with them for growing and selling this variety under their trade mark. Price of this tree is \$25.00 per 100; \$150.00 per 1000.

**Arp Beauty.** This variety is a little later in ripening than the Yellow Swan but begins to ripen when the season for the Yellow Swan is about half over and laps over into the season for Greensboro. It is quite distinct from any variety that we know, and we believe it will prove a very valuable sort for commercial orchards as well as for family orchards. It is the most showy and by far the best in quality of any peach of its season. The flesh is of a rich, inviting yellow color; the skin a pleasing shade of yellow, very attractively painted and mottled with bright crimson. It belongs to the Chinese type, the same type to which the Carman, Belle of Ga. and the Elberta belong. It is very prolific, has large flowers and is one of the hardiest in tree, bud and bloom. We believe it to be a cross between the Chinese type and the Indian type. It has the shape and the outside appearance of the Chinese type, but a pronounced yellow skin not seen in that type. The mottled crimson coloring shows the Indian type. In its richly colored yellow flesh and exquisite flavor it equals the Columbia, the best of the Indian type and the standard for quality among peaches. The Arp Beauty is a freestone, but only in the texture of its flesh, as the flesh, like that of all exceptionally early freestone peaches, clings more or less to the seed. In size it is about the same as Yellow St. John. The Arp Beauty originated near Jacksonville, Tex., where it ripens May 23rd to June 5th, according to the season. Jacksonville is in the same latitude as Marshallville, Ga. This is a new peach, not yet tested outside of the neighborhood of Jacksonville, where orchards of this variety have been in bearing the past three seasons, fully establishing its value, both as a fruit for market and home use. Orchardists there, since seeing the fruit, have been sending us large orders for the trees.

**Greensboro.** This is a popular variety with orchardists. Its size is large for an early peach; skin white, shaded with yellow, beautifully colored with light and dark red. Ripens perfectly to the seed, from which the flesh parts freely when fully ripe.

## SECOND RIPENING

**Mamie Ross.** A seedling of the Chinese type. Fruit large, white, almost covered with delicate carmine; flesh white, juicy

and of good quality. A regular and very prolific bearer. Popular throughout a wide region in Texas, where it is valued as being the finest early cling.

**Waddell.** Chinese type. Fruit of medium size and delicious quality; creamy white with bright blush all over the sunny side. Semi-cling until fully ripe, when it parts freely from the stone. Inclined to overbear. If properly thinned the fruit grows to a good marketable size. One of the most showy sorts.

**Carman.** Large to very large, rich creamy white or pale yellow, with crimson cheek where exposed to the sun, resembling in shape the **Elberta**, of which it is a seedling or of the same type. The **Carman** is one of the most beautiful peaches grown. Flesh white; fine quality; freestone when fully ripe; skin tough; travels well. Tree a good grower and prolific.

**Hiley.** (Early Belle.) A seedling of **Belle** (of Ga.) which it much resembles, but more highly colored on the sunny side. Fruit of large size; color creamy white with rosy cheek. A perfect freestone. Ripens two or three weeks before **Belle** and a week or more before **Mountain Rose**. The **Hiley** is the most profitable market variety in its season. An excellent shipper, none of the later varieties being superior to it in this respect.

### THIRD RIPENING.

**Mountain Rose.** An old well known variety. Very hardy in tree, bud and bloom. Medium to large, round, skin white with bright, rosy cheek. Delicious in quality.

**Family Favorite.** Large, white, with red cheek; freestone; prolific. Belongs to the Chinese Cling type. Very popular wherever planted. Very hardy in bud and bloom. Succeeds over a wide range of territory.

### FOURTH RIPENING.

**Belle (of Ga.)** Very large, oblong, creamy white with red blush on the sunny side. Extremely productive. A perfect freestone of the best quality. More hardy than **Elberta** in bud and bloom and next to **Elberta** in popularity.

**Elberta.** The most popular of all varieties. Large to very large, oblong, rich yellow with red cheek. Until this year we have sold more trees of **Elberta** than of all other varieties taken together. Some of the older and most successful orchardists are increasing their plantings of the well-tested earlier varieties.

### FIFTH RIPENING.

**Crawford's Late.** Very large; yellow, with a fine dark red cheek; flesh deep yellow; quality excellent; freestone. A splendid market fruit.

## SIXTH RIPENING.

**Beer's Smock.** Large; orange yellow, mottled with red; flesh yellow; freestone. Tree hardy and very prolific. A valuable market sort.

## SEVENTH RIPENING.

**Salway.** Large; yellow, beautifully mottled with dark red; flesh yellow; quality good; freestone. A good succession to Beers' Smock.

**Henrietta.** (Levy's Late.) A handsome late yellow cling of large size, productive and excellent. Among other merits it possesses long keeping qualities.

## EIGHTH RIPENING.

**Stinson's.** (Stinson's October.) Large; white, with red cheek, flesh white; good quality; clingstone. The best very late white peach. Keeps and ships well.

**The Eight Great Market Varieties of Peaches:** Mayflower, Yellow Swan, Arp Beauty, Waddell, Carman, Hiley, Belle of Ga., Elberta.

There are localities where from six to eight varieties, some ripening earlier and some later than Elberta, may be planted for commercial orchards with the best results, but in most localities it is more profitable to plant a smaller number of varieties, while in others it is better to plant Elberta alone.

We will take pleasure in giving any one who desires it the benefit of our experience as to the best varieties to plant in any given locality.

## Peaches Recommended for Family Orchards.

## FIRST RIPENING

**Mayflower**  
Sneed  
**Arp Beauty**  
**Greensboro**  
Admiral Dewey  
Alexander

## SECOND RIPENING

**Mamie Ross**  
**Waddell**  
**Carman**  
**Hiley (Ea. Belle)**

## THIRD RIPENING

**Mountain Rose**  
**Family Favorite**

## FOURTH RIPENING

**Belle (of Ga.)**  
 Capt Ede  
 Champion  
**Elberta**  
 Reeves' Favorite  
 Globe

## FIFTH RIPENING

Old M. Free  
 Old M. Cling  
**Crawford's Late**  
 Stump the World

## SIXTH RIPENING

**Beer's Smock**  
 Lemon Cling

## SEVENTH RIPENING

Heath Cling  
 Picquet's Late  
**Salway**  
**Henrietta**

## EIGHTH RIPENING

**Stinson's October**

**Directions for Planting and Care of Peach Trees—**

Prepare the ground well, as you would for corn. Then check off the land 18 x 18 ft. with a two horse plow, going twice in a furrow as deep as possible, throwing the ground both ways. At the intersection of these furrows make the holes for the trees deep enough so that the trees will stand two inches deeper than it stood in the nursery. Make the hole for the tree six inches deeper than necessary and fill up this space with top soil, well mixed with a small handful of fertilizer, containing about 2 per cent. ammonia, 8 per cent. phosphoric acid and 6 per cent. potash. When the hole is nearly full spread a handful of cotton seed meal over the soil about the tree and then complete the planting, leaving an elevation about the tree of quite two inches.

A sandy loam is best suited to the peach, but it will adapt itself to almost any soil provided it is well drained. Plant trees 18 x 18 feet, cut the trees back so they stand not over 18 to 24 inches tall when planted, as it is always best to have a low-headed tree. In the spring, after the growth has started, remove all but three branches and let these be distributed so that the tree will be well balanced. For the second year fertilize with well-decomposed barnyard manure, or a mixture of one part of cotton seed or bone meal and two parts of acid phosphate. Apply one and one-half to two pounds to each tree. After the third year avoid nitrogenous fertilizer and use a fertilizer containing a good percentage of bone phosphate and potash. Prune every year by cutting off one-third of the previous year's

growth. The head of the tree should be broad and open so as to allow free circulation of light and air. In preparing orchard land plow deep. If necessary sub-soil. Cotton planted at the usual distance, or cow peas drilled in, two feet apart, leaving at least four feet on each side of the trees, is the best crop to grow in a peach orchard. Cultivate frequently and in February or March turn under the cow peas. When the orchard begins to bear it should have clean cultivation. After the cow peas have been turned under all subsequent cultivation can be done with a harrow and cultivator.

**Plums and Pears.** In some sections orchards of plums and pears are proving very profitable, but as yet few have been planted. Here is an opportunity for those who are wise enough to take advantage of this fact.

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## PLUMS.

### Commercial Orchard Varieties Named in the Order of Ripening:

**Red June.** (Red Nagate.) Medium to large, deep vermilion red all over with a handsome bloom; quality good, semi-cling. Ripens a week before Abundance. It keeps well and ships well. The most valuable for market. Trees vigorous and very productive.

**Abundance.** (Botan.) Medium to large; color bright red almost entirely overlaying a yellow ground; quality best; cling; tree a strong, thrifty, upright grower, an early and prolific bearer. One of the most popular Japanese trees for market.

**Burbank.** Large to very large; color bright, dark metallic red on a yellow ground; quality good to very good; cling. Its large size and attractive color make it a desirable market fruit. Tree a very strong, spreading, wayward grower; an early and profuse bearer.

### Varieties of Plums for Family Orchards Named in the Order of Ripening.

**Red June** (Red Nagate)

America

**Abundance** (Botan)

Wild Goose

Gonzales

**Burbank**

# PEARS.

## Commercial Orchard Varieties Named in the Order of Ripening:

**Garber.** Oriental. Ripens between LeConte and Kieffer. Resembles the Kieffer in size, appearance and quality, and, like the Kieffer, it will succeed almost anywhere. It is excellent for canning and preserves and is rapidly increasing in favor. The Garber is recommended as a pollenizer for the Kieffer, which by some horticulturists is not regarded as being sufficiently self-fertile. If used for this purpose one tree of Garber to twenty of Kieffer will be sufficient.

**Kieffer.** The money-maker. The Kieffer holds the position among market pears that the Ben Davis does among apples and the Elberta among peaches. Its popularity is increasing annually as a profitable market fruit. The tree is remarkably thrifty and healthy and comes into bearing in three and four years—quite as soon as the peach—yielding enormous crops of large, beautiful fruit. If allowed to hang upon the tree until mature and then carefully ripened in a cool dark room its coloring and quality compare favorably with the beauty and juiciness of the Bartlett. One of its great merits is its good shipping quality. It ripens while it travels and keeps well in cold storage at the end of its journey. There are more trees of this variety now being planted in orchards than all other varieties combined. As a canning fruit it has no superior, and is now making an enviable reputation in the “canned goods” market under its own name. Until recently the cans containing Kieffer were labeled Bartlett.

## Varieties of Pears for Family Orchards Named in the Order of Ripening.

	FIRST RIPENING	
Koonce	Early Harvest	
	SECOND RIPENING	
LeConte	Alamo	Bartlett
Howell		
	THIRD RIPENING	
Smith's	Duchess d'Angouleme	
Garber		
	FOURTH RIPENING	
Seckel	Flemish Beauty	Kieffer
	FIFTH RIPENING	
Japan Golden Russett	Magnolia	
Beurre d'Anjou	Lawrence	

## CHERRIES.

We do not recommend cherries for Southern commercial orchard planting. Except in the extreme South cherry trees, the acid sorts, produce sufficiently well on the higher elevations to make them desirable for family orchards. The region about Huntsville has supplied the market with very handsome cherries this year. We name below the best varieties for this climate in the order of ripening :

Dyehouse, Early Richmond, Montmorency, English Morello, Wragg.

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## PECANS.

The Pecan is destined to become the leading nut for home and orchard planting in this country. The area adapted to its culture is very great, comprising all of the Southern States and extending somewhat North of the Ohio river. Within this area the Pecan is likely to do well wherever the hickory thrives, as it belongs to the same family. The demand for grafted and budded trees of superior varieties has greatly increased within the last few years. Experience has proven that it is better to plant nursery-grown trees for several reasons. If the nuts are planted in the field where the trees are expected to grow permanently they are exposed to many risks of destruction while small and tender. All Pecan trees should be grafted or budded to the best well-known varieties. The great uncertainty connected with their propagation in this way makes it really necessary that the budding and grafting should be done in the nursery, where the trees which fail to take the bud or graft may be left for further trials, while those which succeed can be removed to the orchard or to whatever place they are to occupy per-

manently. However large and excellent the nuts that are planted, by far the greatest proportion of the seedlings obtained from them will yield only nuts that in size, shape and quality will be found to have reverted to the inferior nuts of the wild seedling. The Pecan can no more be relied upon to reproduce itself true from seed than the apple, pear, plum or peach. Budded and grafted Pecans have always been scarce, as propagating them from buds and grafts is very uncertain, consequently the price of these is much higher than that of the seedling. It is hardly necessary to emphasize that it is more profitable in every respect to pay a high price for trees that are known to be prolific and sure to produce a nut of fine form, thin shell and good quality than to buy cheap seedlings, the fruit of which has such uncertain value.

Every orchardist should plant some grafted or budded Pecans. We have the finest thin-shell varieties. Some orchardists are planting them in combination with peach trees, every third tree each way a Pecan. We think this a very practical idea.

### BEST THIN SHELL VARIETIES..

**Taylor.** This is a variety of our introduction and so far has not been propagated by any one else. The Scoring Committee appointed by the National Nut Growers' Association which made its report at the meeting at Scranton, Miss., gave the Taylor Pecan the highest score of any nut so far passed upon. It originated near the Gulf Coast in Southern Mississippi. Has all good points desirable in a pecan; size about medium; handsome shape; well filled, thin shell, excellent quality, lack of corkiness, a prolific bearer and annual crops. The average annual value of the nuts from the original tree for the past three years at 60 cents per pound has been \$99.00. The tree is about 25 years old. The price of the Taylor is \$15.00 per ten. Orders will not be accepted for a less number than ten.

**Stuart.** One of the largest and choicest of the pecans; handsome shape; thin shell; kernel plump; about 40 to 50 to the pound.

**Russell.** Medium to large; very thin shell; ovoid form; quality good; prolific; 40 to 50 to the pound. The nuts sell at a high price.



**Pride of the Coast.** (Rome, Columbian, Mammoth, 20th Century.) This is the largest pecan propagated. Popular because of its large size and handsome form. Texture of kernel coarse lasting in character.

**Frotchers.** (Egg Shell.) One of the largest pecans, averaging from 45 to 50 to the pound; shell very thin, and like many other of the thin shell varieties, can be cracked by placing two nuts in the palm of the hand; meat very fine quality and can be removed from the shell entirely. Shape oblong, kernel plump and of good quality. Early to bear and very productive.

**Van Deman.** A large nut averaging 45 to 50 to the pound; oblong in form, shell quite thin. The shape and quality of its nut meet the commercial standard.

**Moneymaker.** Introduced by Mr. S. H. James, Mound, La. who has large trees of it in bearing. The good points he claims for the nuts of this variety are large size, thin shell, well filled and that the trees are very prolific.

**James.** Another variety from Mr. James. A medium sized, thin shelled nut of good shape and excellent quality.

**Pabst.** Large, shell of medium thickness, kernel plump, bright yellow color, quality very good; very productive.

**Georgia Giant.** Large; rounded ovate; shell brittle, medium in thickness; quality very good. Very prolific and one of the earliest to bear.

**Seedlings.** We can supply seedlings from large, thin shell varieties to those who are unable to get budded or grafted sorts, owing to their great scarcity, or to those who may, from choice, wish to plant a less expensive tree.

### DISTANCES FOR PLANTING.

Standard Apples.....	30	feet	apart	each	way
Standard Pears.....	20	"	"	"	"
Standard Cherries.....	20	"	"	"	"
Plums and Peaches.....	15 to 20	"	"	"	"
Dwarf Pears.....	12	"	"	"	"
Pecans.....	40 to 60	"	"	"	"

### Number of Trees or Plants on an Acre at Given Distances Apart.

Dis. apart each way.	No. of Plants	Dis. apart each way.	No. of Plants
12 feet.....	302	20 feet.....	108
14 ".....	222	25 ".....	69
15 ".....	193	30 ".....	48
16 ".....	170	35 ".....	35
18 ".....	134	40 ".....	27

## UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS.

GEORGIA, March 20, 1905—"Trees (5500 Elberta June Buds) received and nearly all inspected. They are by odds the best we have ever purchased, and we have out 32,000 trees from four nurseries."

ALABAMA, March, 28, 1906.—"I have just returned from my farm and find that the trees arrived Monday, the 26th, the day on which your letter was written. The superintendent of my farm reports that he is much pleased with your stock."

ARKANSAS, October 31, 1906.—"We must thank you for those fine peach trees. They are simply ideal. Best we ever saw come from any nursery."

TEXAS, November 20, 1906.—"Today we received shipment (freight) of trees. Let us thank you for proper packing. Trees arrived in fine condition and fine trees, too, especially the pecan trees. We never received such fine rooted pecan trees; also never such nice trees. We surely will remember this when in need of trees again."

TENNESSEE, December 14, 1906.—"I have examined the trees received in good shape yesterday and find them larger and finer than I expected and count all O. K."

GEORGIA, Jan. 1, 1906.—"The 5,000 Elbertas you shipped to Summerfield, Ga., on 5th December, finally came to hand on Christmas day or the day after, and were received in good shape and entirely satisfactory, the trees and the packing having been first-class."

TEXAS, July 7th, 1906.—"I am an Alabamian by birth and still like the old State and its people. Allow me to say that I think you have the best nursery in the South. You put out the nicest and best packed stock I have ever handled. I expect to enlarge my orchard next winter and will buy my stock from you."

MISSOURI, December 20, 1906.—"Two cars June buds unloaded. Fine growth. Best June buds have ever seen."

COLORADO, May 28, 1907.—"Find draft for amount due you. Those heavy June buds are the best we have ever handled. I walked over a 20 acre block of them today and only found four trees that were not growing. As soon as you know whether or not you will have any more such quote us price by car lot."