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# THERE IS MONEY IN NUTS



Profitable crops of filberts and walnuts are being harvested in the Northwest. An opportunity is present to become a wealthy orchardist with spare time and financial ability to spend the winter in Florida chasing golf balls over the green. How much or how little you are able to make as a nut grower depends mostly on you but if you are willing to follow the rules as here set down it is likely that you can make quite a little in a vocation that is but little known at the present time.

When considering entering a new business it is well to look toward the final and most important phase, the market, first. In taking up the markets and prices first I do so with the understanding that we must build up an industry with this as its basis. It is a well known fact that during the last twenty years we have gone into the filbert importing business starting with no listed imports under this head and increasing very rapidly until in 1923 our imports of filberts had reached a total of 28,000,000 pounds annually and still gaining. The acreage in bearing and nonbearing filberts is less than 3,000 acres most of which is nonbearing. We need 20,000 acres and by the time we have that many acres planted consumption will have increased enough to care for more thousands of acres to be planted.

What prices we may expect in future years is not known. Presumably filberts have reached their peak prices at 30c per pound and eventually 15c per pound will be accepted as the basic price. This allows of considerable profit were the production no greater than 500 pounds per acre instead of several thousand pounds.

Considering that filberts have a market already established for the product of many times the existing acreage, that the prices are high and likely to be satisfactory for an indefinite time, you cannot afford to overlook an opportunity to make several thousand dollars an acre from a commercial planting of filberts. True, it takes considerable strength of purpose to expend the amount necessary to bring the orchard to the point of profitable production, but regardless of what kind of business you enter you must first put time and money in it if you are to expect real returns. Because it takes a bit of money and more than one or two years to begin getting it back is the reason

for so few entering the nut business. However, too much competition is poor for any business.

### **Nut Growing is a Science and Not Guesswork**

No one person knows all there is to know in regard to any one subject but some people have made a study of their subject to a point where they



**Du Chilly grafted on own root.**

may be said to be authorities. How much better it is to know what you are doing than it is to be merely guessing. How many mistakes would you make were you to suddenly plant an orchard without first giving it thoughtful consideration? When you have found out as much as you think necessary before going ahead you will have neglected to learn much that may have a bearing on your particular case. When an agent comes before you and gives you a very interesting talk you are often persuaded to try his wares but how often is the agent qualified to advise and help you in the selec-

tion of your needs? He has his line of stock that he must sell and his experience is often limited to a few months connection with his organization.

To tell you that vigor is a true way of telling whether the tree is free from disease is merely explaining a truth. To show you a filbert tree with the blight is a warning. To tell you how to control blight is a help. But when half the nurserymen are ignorant of having the blight on their premises how are they going to avoid spreading it? When some growers have remained in ignorance of the correct varietal name of a variety in their orchard for fifteen years what is the nurseryman that bought such stock under its wrong name going to do about it? No one can go into a nursery and tell whether that stock is true to name or not without having the experience of long association with filbert varieties.

Some people are keen enough to realize that the better grades of trees are the best grades to plant out and are the cheaper in the long run. To tell you to avoid layers and to buy one year transplants in filberts only when better grades cannot be obtained is to make you realize that there are many different grades and that in most cases you will get just what you pay for. The nurseryman that does not quote layers in his price list but prefers to plant them out in the nursery row for one or more years before sale is striving for improvement in the grade of filbert trees being offered to the public.

Experience has taught many growers the wisdom of thorough cultivation even if it be necessary to avoid planting an intercrop the first season, that the trees may be cross cultivated that all moisture shall go toward giving the young trees a flying start. Avoid strawberries or early potatoes in the young orchard in favor of late potatoes or corn if some crop must be grown between the trees.

To those that can afford it the practice of planting legumes and grains during the forepart of August for the purpose of green manure cannot be too strongly recommended. In the walnut orchard this planting of the cover crop answers another purpose; a check is desirable to cause the walnut tree to become dormant in advance of cold weather thus greatly reducing the likelihood of winterkill. This covercrop is plowed under as soon as the ground can be worked in the spring.

You should be told to plant filbert trees deeper than has been the general rule regarding nursery

stock and you should be made to understand that grafted walnut trees should be planted with the graft above ground. The walnut tree is attacked by the oak root fungus at the ground level and the California black walnut is immune to this disease that is so deadly to the English walnut. If you follow directions and do not plant grafted trees deeper than they should be and plant no seedling walnuts you will have no trouble with this disease.

Record yields from young trees are obtained in only one way and that is by adequate pollination. To plant a young orchard beside an older bearing orchard will result in heavy crops being borne by the young trees. Plant this young orchard on the wrong side of the older orchard or in a location remote from it and there will be little or no bearing until the pollinators are seven or eight years old. Therefore particular stress must be laid upon pollination for the young grove. To secure this pollination plant four or five year old pollinators. These can be had at only slight advance over the cost of the usual sizes.

The application of quantities of fertilizer about the walnut or filbert tree will result in larger nuts and in succeeding years will be showing in greatly increased production. Unless very familiar with the use of fertilizer avoid using it when planting the tree for it is too strong to come in contact with the roots. Instead spread the fertilizer on the ground a little distance from the tree. Fertilizer under the bearing walnut tree will lessen the blighting of the nuts.

Blasting the holes for walnut trees will be found to be an economy in all but the most loose soils. The careful filling of the hole with topsoil will give the young tree the richest food to grow on. When planting the tree tamp thoroughly the ground about the roots and if planting is delayed until spring use water to pack the soil against the roots.

The choice of trees without a pronounced tap-root may be worth considerable to the planter for a branching root will have more contact with the soil following transplanting than will a taprooted tree minus all its roots but a carrot shaped stump. Upland grown trees are usually more inclined toward branching root systems.

Walnut trees should not be cultivated too late in the season while in the nursery. Such trees are subject to winterkilling either in the nursery or after they have been shipped to some colder climate. While it may mean sacrificing over a foot or more in growth to discontinue cultivation in July such neglect will mean trees that will ship well



and may mean preventing the loss of many trees. The same may be said of irrigation water. Do not apply water after July unless you have some cover-crop present to remove any excess moisture before cold weather, otherwise damage to the tree may result.

Filbert trees may be planted wherever fruit



**Du Chilly grafted on Corylus Columna root.**

trees thrive in northern states but with walnuts care should be taken to select only elevations for walnut orchards unless you feel capable of handling the orchard in such a way as to minimize damage from severe cold weather. The later blooming French varieties of grafted walnut trees will bear crops with frosts lasting up into May. The Du Chilly filbert will stand colder weather without loss of crop than will the Barcelona filbert, due to the early blooming of the latter variety.

Everyone that has had experience in buying filbert trees realizes the wide gap in size between fil-

bert trees and fruit trees as they come from the nursery. Advice to all is to quit buying small sized stock in favor of stock that has the roots, caliper, and top to compare with a six to eight foot walnut tree and see how much sooner their orchards will reach commercial production.

Regardless of frequent mention of DuChilly filberts as pollinators of the Barcelona variety by responsible nursery firms you will do well to place small dependence upon the DuChilly variety as a pollinator. If already you have Du Chilly trees planted as pollinators you may well afford to plant additional pollinators of other varieties or to graft in pollinators directly to occasional Barcelonas. The White Aveline, Red Aveline, and the Daviana are very good Barcelona pollinators.

Ten percent pollinators in the young filbert orchard is about right for the 20 foot spacing. A smaller percentage will do well enough if the trees are spaced less than this distance apart. Grafted walnut trees of the Vrooman Franquette variety do not require cross pollination but will bear in from one to four years from planting. The bearing of young walnut trees will be light until the young trees have attained considerable size unless pollinated by older trees.

Walnut trees are planted in 40 foot squares and filbert trees in 20 foot squares as a general rule. Some growers prefer either closer or more distant spacing. A good many filbert orchards are being planted with the trees but ten feet apart thus making a very small crop of nuts per tree extremely profitable.

Du Chilly filberts are large and long bringing a maximum price or an advance of 5c to 10c per pound over the Barcelona variety most commonly grown. The Du Chilly is not a self husker like the Barcelona and therefore may cost an extra cent per pound to harvest. The Barcelona tree grows faster than the Du Chilly but the latter withstands more hardship and bears more in proportion to its size.

Filbert trees are the hardiest trees being grown for their fruit in the Northwest. They will succeed and we have records to prove that filbert trees have been a success in British Columbia and Ontario, Canada, as well as in various Eastern States. The trees bloom according to variety from late November until late the following Spring. A temperature of 15 degrees below freezing may not



harm the crop even though the trees are in full bloom at the time. Unless the trees are in bloom at the time the temperature may drop to far below zero without injuring the crop. To avoid as much danger as possible from frost damage plant the March and April blooming Du Chilly as a main crop variety instead of the earlier blooming varieties.

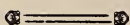
Filberts are allowed to ripen on the tree and fall to the ground before picking as are walnuts and prunes. Walnuts must be picked up within a relatively short time after they have fallen and placed where dry air will have free access to them but filberts may be allowed to lay on the ground for weeks in the snow or rain without damage. This is a very different situation than that confronting my neighboring prune growers who are losing from 25 per cent to 50 per cent of their crop through brown rot and unfavorable weather.

Pruning filberts consists of removal of the shoots springing up from about the base of the tree. These sprouts as they are called should be removed about three times during the growing season. Should you let these grow they will take the food away from the main tree and will make a phenomenal growth while the parent tree will make little or no growth. While these shoots are useful in growing nursery stock the money received from the sales of such growth amounts to but little in comparison to the setback given the tree by allowing such sprouts to mature.

As soon as sufficient interest is aroused in the growing of sproutless filbert trees to create a demand for such stock there will be sproutless filbert trees available for planting. At present keen interest is shown in the grafting of common filberts on the tree hazels from the Orient. Such stocks are mentioned in the pricelist on the last page under their correct names, *Corylus Chinensis* and *Corylus Colurna*. Grafting and budding on these tree hazels has proven very successful and a multitude of advantages are obtained thereby.

# PRICE LIST

## of Nut Tree Stock



All stock quoted is grown in my own nurseries or on contract with other growers in Oregon and Washington. The greatest care is taken to assure stock free from disease and true to name. Trees are carefully graded and no stock is shipped unless in first class condition. Invitation is extended to visit the nurseries at any time that you may see the stock that you may desire to purchase.

### Grafted Vrooman Franquette English Walnut

4 to 6 foot trees, each .....	\$1.00
6 to 8 foot trees, each .....	1.25
8 to 10 foot trees, each .....	1.60
10 to 12 foot trees .....	2.00

For branched stock of the same height but larger caliper add 25c per tree to the prices given above.

### Two Year Filbert Trees

Du Chilly, each .....	\$ .50
Barcelona and pollinators, each .....	.35

### Three Year Filbert Trees

Du Chilly, each .....	\$ .70
Barcelona and pollinators, each .....	.50

### Four and Five Year Filbert Trees

Barcelona, Daviana, White Aveline, Red Aveline, English Henneman, and other varieties, each .....	\$ .75
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### Large Grafted Filbert Trees

Barcelona, each .....	\$ .75
Gasaway, each .....	2.00

### Corylus Colurna and Corylus Chinensis

Corylus Colurna nuts for planting, per lb. ....	\$1.00
Corylus Chinensis nuts for planting, per lb.....	2.00
Corylus Colurna seedlings, two year, per tree	.75

Terms are cash with order unless special arrangements are made otherwise. Large orders are delivered free of charge to points within 100 miles. To secure the benefit of the lowest possible price on large orders contract in advance for your needs.

Yours very truly,

RICHARD H. TURK,  
"The NUT man"

Route 5, Vancouver, Wash.

Located on Jaggy Road one mile south of Manor and ten miles northeast of Vancouver. Telephone connections.