The Fruit Leaf

Santa Clara Valley Chapter
California Rare Fruit Growers, Inc.

January/February 2008

http:/www.crfg.org

Inside this issue

Membership

Please renew your membership at the nextmeeting or send a check to Sarah at the address below. Membership runs from Jan.-Dec. If you are unsure about your status or for information on chapter membership, notification of address and phone number changes, please contact:

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Next Meeting

February 9, 2008
Emma Prusch Park
Social and set-up 12:30
Meeting 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Speaker for February 9, Ed Laivo

Ed Laivo — Marketing Manager
Dave Wilson Nursery
Retail Nursery Specialist
and Field Representative for
Northern California and the
Northwest

Ed Laivo is a favorite speaker to many. He is the guru on summer pruning thus creating a high-density backyard orchard. This session will be on the impressive new varieties marketed by Dave Wilson's Nursery. Ed will talk about the developments of Zaiger Genetics new varieties such as the Aprium®, a hybrid of apricot and plum. Get a headstart on your questions by going to Dave Wilson's website and reading their catalog of trees offered to many nurseries within our area. http://www.davewilson.com/br40/sales_catalogFruit.html

SCVC 2008 Scion Exchange

Karl Gross

It's a Wrap! (Grafting rubbers or parafilm)
The pun worked so well last year I had to use it again!

My Scion Exchange reviews are all sounding the same, but that's because we have the system down now and most of the same people are participating in the same ways.

Once again most of you reading this seem to have come to and participated in the SCVC 2008 Scion Exchange, held for the fourth year in a row in the Multicultural Center and Meeting Hall at Prusch Park. So many of you've already seen how successful it was. However, for those that missed attending let me pass along the following and acknowledge those that deserve recognition.

Over the last few years we would collect the same variety of scion material from two and sometimes three sources. This made for a lot of extra cutting and most times we just passed along extra scion wood. As each chapter already has that variety from the Prep Day, this was wasted time and effort. So this year we made an effort not do this, saving us time on the Prep Day. We were out of scions by a little after two o'clock, as well as saving five or ten extra ziploc bags each time. This made the scion tables look leaner this year at the Exchange, but we had nearly the same number of varieties.

Ann, Jim, Scott, Sini, Andy, and I, worked a single herculean cutting day at Andy's Orchard (122 varieties total) – one long day. Andy later gathered another eight or ten more varieties.

We marked trees at Prusch to the tune of nearly 100 varieties. The Redwood Empire chapter brought down their scion material. Sacramento sent the Wolfskill order – already cut and bagged as Ray could not come down. Thank you Ray for coordinating that. We cut another 30+ from Filoli. Monterey chapter sent an unknown number.

Lastly, the annual Work/Prep party to collect those 100 varieties from Prusch, in the RAIN, and then cut and bag everything from all cuttings collected, for the five northern California chapters. Over 1,500 zip-lock bags were used, plus many newspaper bags saved throughout the year for fig cuttings. Each chapter got four large heavy bags of cut and labeled scions. That effort took about 45 people participating from 8 a.m. until just after 2 p.m.

As you can tell, a Scion Exchange of the size and complexity of our Chapter's does not happen on a whim or the spur of the moment. A core of dedicated volunteers was there every time I needed another person to help out on a task no matter the size. Additionally another group of folks pitched in

whenever they could and without them we'd still be working on the Prep. To all those folks that showed up on Saturday the 5th, a week before the Scion Exchange for the collecting, cutting, and bagging party, thanks much for all the work, the camaraderie, and the really interesting and delicious potluck lunch (three soups, a vegetable cobbler, rice and tofu, all great!).

As always I like to take this opportunity to thank those groups and individuals that provided so much assistance to put this Scion Exchange together. Without them, there would be no Scion Exchange. THANK YOU ALL Very Much!! Again this year the Prusch Park Staff worked with us at every opportunity. Ranger Wes, was there helping us out, letting us in, and locking up after us. Thanks to the entire Staff of Prusch Park for their assistance.

We didn't do a full count of varieties at the Scion Exchange, as we did not actually use that data last year. Data collected and not used is effort wasted. If in the future we develop a use for that sort of data, we can again collect it.

From our preliminary counts we were certainly in the 300 plus variety neighborhood. The cherries were hit hard this year, even though we cut more than usual and nectarines seemed extremely popular. The 60+ peach varieties were plenty as were Asian and European plums and even the pears were plentiful (Nashi and European). We were a bit short of figs scions. We still had grapes available at days-end even though we offered just two varieties.

We had plenty of prunus rootstock, and yet sold out of the M-111 apple in short order. Todd and Patrick provided those this year.

Jim Kern and Badar Kudsi, for the third year in a row, ran the days Grafting Demonstrations to enthusiastic crowds and most everyone coming out hurried back over to the scions to round out their selections with the advice so expertly presented. Thanks ever so much for your effort and skills. New grafters (to be) always have a sparkle in their eye!

Where to begin thanking people? I saw Sini and Scott at every turn of work and prep. Days when most people don't even realize that we were doing some prep work, they were on hand providing that hand. These were the same two warriors that provide the mainstay of support for the last two plus years. Seems to be a trend.

Leah, Sini, and Mike, did a great job at the sales table. Sarah, Milovan, and others took care of the Membership Table. There are many, more people that showed up to help and did what needed to be done without question. So, Corrie, Erik, Piyush, Jeffrey, Ralph, Mike, and a dozen or more others whose names I can't remember at the moment, thanks much.

Thank you Corrie Grove, Scott Papenfus, and Karl Gross, for providing much appreciated photos of all the effort put forth for the 2008 Scion Exchange.

Thank You One and THANK YOU ALL!

It's becoming usual for us to have a very successful Scion Exchange thanks to the hard work of so many. I heard many a new face mention that they had just signed up as members, with big smiles on their faces, and saw a few faces return and get back into the Chapter. Hopefully everyone is joining CRFG Inc. as well as our Chapter – worth every penny and it is the rule.

Best of skill, craft and luck with your grafting. Remember to let your trees tell you when it is time to start grafting (watch for those buds starting to swell).

Biopesticide and Organic Database for Integrated Pest Management

Rutgers University of New Jersey

Why Use Biopesticides?

Resistance management
Biopesticides have broad modes of action on pests. This avoids resistance problems that exist with conventional pesticides. Biopesticides often work best in rotation with conventional products so that optimal pest management can be obtained while avoiding resistance problems.

Restricted entry interval
These requirements limit the time that you can return to pesticide treated fields and can hamper pruning, weeding irrigation or other cultural practices. Many biopesticides have no restriction so you can have greater flexibility in completing cultural practices. Homeowners as well may have difficulty keeping children and pets off treated areas, using biopesticides can alleviate these concerns.

Reduced time to harvest
You have late season pests close to harvest or you have a crop with multiple harvests, they predict rain towards the end of the week so you need to harvest earlier. With conventional products you may have to wait several days until you can harvest. Many biopesticides don't have harvest restrictions so you maintain total flexibility.

Residue Management
Buyers and consumers are becoming increasingly selective in their purchasing habits. Illegal residues can result in loss of markets, fines, and consumer avoidance. Biopesticides often contain natural products that are normally consumed and do not have residue concerns.

Sole Option
There are still many pest problems that do not have any conventional products registered for pest management. Biopesticides are generally broadly labeled so if you grow a very minor crop or have a rather obscure pest problem there may be a biopesticide available while there is no conventional product available. Biopesticides can help fill the missing piece in your pest control puzzle.

How to use this Database

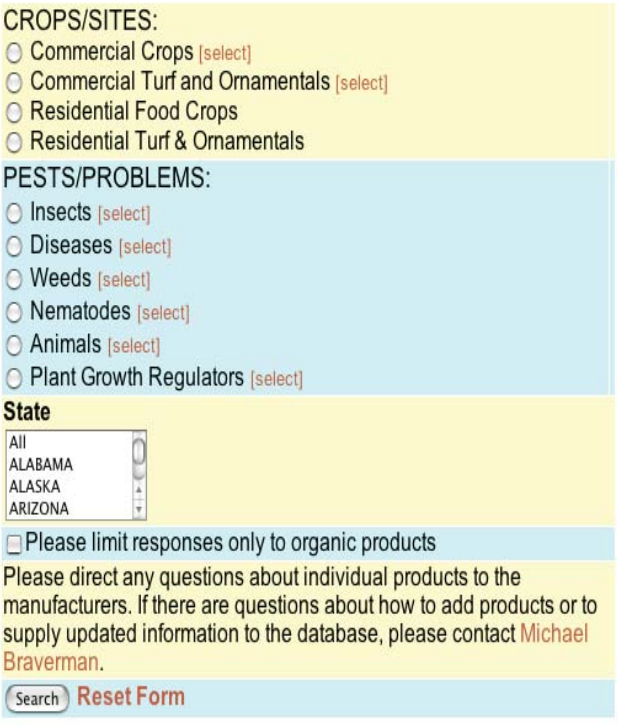
- Choose the crop or location related to the pest control need.
- Choose the pest .
- Choose the state in which you are located, or the place that the application will occur.

This database is intended to be a guide to biopesticide products and does not constitute a recommendation. Please use the contact information provided with a particular product to find out where a product is available and the appropriateness of a particular use. The pesticide label on the product container is the official source for proper use.

Acknowledgements:
The funding for this database was made possible through a grant from EPA Region 2. Technical assistance was provided by EPA headquarters and many of the manufacturers. We would also like to thank all the individual companies that contributed their information to help create this database.

Website found at:
http://www.ir4.rutgers.edu/Biopesticides/LabelDatabase/index.cfm?CropType=&Crop=&PestType=&Pest=&Organic=&CFID=17817&CFTOKEN=57117478

Or contact:
Braverman, Michael
Biopesticide Manager
732.932.9575 x 4610



Rootstocks

Dave Wilson's Nursery Website

Table of Advantages/Disadvantages

Note:
Almost all fruit trees, whether on standard or dwarfing rootstocks, are too big for a typical backyard orchard. The easiest, most effective way to keep fruit trees at manageable size (about eight feet high) is by summer pruning.

Atlas*
Advantages: extremely vigorous, nematode resistance similar to Nemaguard, productive, increases fruit size.
Disadvantages: may be intolerant of wet soil conditions, delays fruit maturity in some varieties.

Viking*
Advantages: vigorous, precocious tree, nematode resistance similar to Nemaguard, productive, increases fruit size, shows tolerance of wet soil conditions. (Zaiger)

BUD-9
Dwarfing to 1/3 of Standard. Approximate height to 10', width to 6'. Resistant to Phytopthera. Excellent precocity & cold hardiness. Good for container growing.

Domestic Apple
Most rugged rootstock for apples. Vigorous, deep-rooted, cold-hardy. Tolerates wet soil, dry soil, poor soil. Unpruned tree height of standard varieties 18' to 30 feet. Trees on apple seedling may be held to any desired height by summer pruning.

M-111
Excellent all-around rootstock for apples. Induces early and heavy bearing. Tolerates wet soil, dry soil, poor soil. Resists woolly apple aphids and collar rot. Trees dwarfed to 85 % of standard.

M-27
Extremely dwarfing rootstock for apples. Trees dwarfed to 6-8 ft, ideal for high density planting, small spaces in garden, tub growing. Induces early and heavy bearing. Small root system, young trees may need staking. Good for container growing.

M-7 & M-7A
Dwarfs to 65% of standard. Induces early and heavy bearing. Resistant to fireblight, powdery mildew, moderately resistant to collar rot. Good anchorage. Very winter hardy, widely adapted. ..Add to disadvantages -- prone to suckering

M-9
Advantages: dwarfs trees to 40 to 45% of seedling size, increases fruit size, may slightly advance maturity. Disadvantages: susceptible to fireblight and wooly apple aphid, trees must be supported, shallow root system may be drought sensitive

Mark
Trees dwarfed to half of standard size. Resists fireblight and phytophthora root rot. Well anchored, no staking required. Few or no suckers. Trees bear so heavy that thinning is essential to control stress on tree. Requires fertile soil, constant moisture.

Mahaleb
The most winter hardy of the commonly used cherry rootstocks. Sweet cherries slightly dwarfed, no dwarfing effect on sour types. Induces early, heavy bearing. Resists crown gall, bacterial canker, some nematodes. Not tolerant of wet soils.

Colt
For sweet cherries. In heavy soils, trees are dwarfed to 70-80% of standard. Lesser dwarfing effect in other soils. Apparently resistant to bacterial canker. Relatively tolerant of wet soils (but good drainage still required). Trees begin bearing at young age

Mazzard
Standard rootstock for sweet cherries. Vigorous, more tolerant of wet soils than Mahaleb (but good drainage still required). Resistant to root-knot nematodes and oak-root fungus.

GM61/1
Standard cherry varieties dwarfed to half-size, or about 15-20 ft. if not pruned. Relatively tolerant of wet soil. Trees begin bearing at young age. Trees on GM61/1 may be held to any desired height by summer pruning.
Winter Nelis / Domestic Pear Seedling
For European and hybrid pears. Vigorous, relatively tolerant of wet soils. Resistant to oak-root fungus. Long-lived trees reach 20-25 ft.

OHxF97
For European, Asian and flowering pears. Vigorous, widely adapted, disease-resistant. Winter hardy, tolerant of wet soils.

OHxF333
European and Asian pears on OHxF333 are dwarfed to about 2/3 the size of standard, or about 12-15 ft. Widely adapted, disease-resistant.

Betulaefolia
For Asian pears. Very vigorous, tolerates wet soil, dry soil, alkaline soil. Resists pear decline. More vigorous than Calleryana, and more winter hardy.

Calleryana
For flowering pears and Asian pears. Preferred rootstock for warm winter/hot summer climates and for sandy soils. Also adapted to wet soils. Asian pear varieties slightly dwarfed, bear heavily at young age.

Nemaguard
Vigorous, resists root-knot nematode. Excellent for well-drained soils. In poorly-drained soil, plant on a hill. For nectarines, apricots, plums, prunes, almonds.

Lovell
More tolerant of wet soils than Nemaguard. Also more cold hardy. Susceptible to nematodes in sandy soils. For plums, peaches, nectarines, apricots, prunes, almonds.

Marianna 26-24
Shallow root system, much more tolerant of wet soils than Lovell or Nemaguard. Resistant to oak-root fungus, root-knot nematodes. Mature trees comparatively small. For apricots, plums, most almonds.

Myrobalan 29C
Shallow but vigorous root system. Tolerates wet soils. Immune to root-knot nematodes, some resistance to oak-root fungus. Trees reach larger size compared to Marianna 26-24. For apricots, plums, most almonds.

Citation
Peaches and nectarines dwarfed to 8 to 14 feet. Apricots and plums dwarfed to 3/4 of standard. Very tolerant of wet soil, induces early dormancy in dry soil. Very winter hardy. Resists root-knot nematodes. Trees bear at young age. Pat. No. 5112. (Zaiger)

St. Julian "A"
Semi-dwarf rootstock for cold areas with fluctuating spring temperatures due to inconsistant spring weather conditions. Preferred over Citation in north coastal mountains and Oregon.

Note:
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Visit Dave Wilson's Nursery site for information on backyard orchard culture. http://www.davewilson.com/homegrown/homeindex.html

Longan

Morton, J.1987. Longan.p. 259-262. In Fruits of Warm Climates. Julia F. Morton, Miami, Fl.

Longan: *Dimocarpus longan Lour, Euphoria longan Steud, Euphoria longana Lam, Nephelium longana Cambess.*

Description
The longan tree is handsome, erect, to 30 or 40 ft (9-12 m) in height and to 45 ft (14 m) in width, with rough-barked trunk to 2 1/2 ft (76.2 cm) thick and long, spreading, slightly drooping, heavily foliaged branches. The evergreen, alternate, paripinnate leaves have 4 to 10 opposite leaflets, elliptic, ovate-oblong or lanceolate, blunt-tipped; 4 to 8 in (10-20 cm) long and 1 3/8 to 2 in (3.5-5 cm) wide; leathery, wavy, glossy-green on the upper surface, minutely hairy and grayish-green beneath. New growth is wine-colored and showy. The pale-yellow, 5- to 6-petalled, hairy-stalked flowers, larger than those of the lychee, are borne in upright terminal panicles, male and female mingled. The fruits, in drooping clusters, are globose, 1/2 to 1 in (1.25-2.5 cm) in diameter, with thin, brittle, yellow-brown to light reddish-brown rind, more or less rough (pebbled), the protuberances much less prominent than those of the lychee. The flesh (aril) is mucilaginous, whitish, translucent, somewhat musky, sweet, but not as sweet as that of the lychee and with less "bouquet". The seed is round, jet-black, shining, with a circular white spot at the base, giving it the aspect of an eye.

Varieties
Groff stated that the leading variety of Fukien was the round-fruited 'Shih hsía', the "Stone Gorge Lungan" from P'ing Chou. There were 2 types, one, 'Hei ho shih hsia', black-seeded, and 'Chin ch'i ho shih hsia', brown-seeded. This variety did not excel in size but the flesh was crisp, sweeter than in other varieties, the seed small and the dried flesh, after soaking in water, was restored almost to fresh condition.

In 1954, William Whitman of Miami introduced a superior variety of longan, the 'Kohala', from Hawaii. It began to bear in 1958. The fruit is large for the species, the seed is small, and the

flesh is aromatic, sweet and spicy. The tree produces fairly good crops in midsummer. One hundred or more air-layers have been brought by air from Hawaii and planted at various locations in southern Florida and in the Bahamas. A seedling planting and selection program was started in 1962 at the USDA Subtropical Horticulture Research Unit, Miami. The plants were all open-pollinated seedlings of the canning variety, 'Wu Yuan', brought in from Canton in 1930 as P.I. #89409. Some set fruit in 1966 and 1967 but more of them in 1968. Evaluation of these and other acquisitions continues. Included in the study are M-17886, 'Chom Poo Nuch', and M-17887, 'E-Haw'.

Climate

Professor Groff wrote that "the lungan is found growing at higher latitudes and higher altitudes than the lychee." Also: "On the higher elevations of the mountainous regions which are subject to frost the lychee is seldom grown. The longan appears in these regions more often but it, too, cannot stand heavy frosts." The longan's range in Florida extends north to Tampa on the west coast and to Merritt Island on the east coast. Still, small trees suffer leaf-and twig-damage if the temperature falls to 31° or 30° F (-0.56°--l.11° C) and are killed at just a few degrees lower. Larger trees show leaf injury at 27° to 28° F (-2.78°--2.22° C), small branch injury at 25° to 26° F (-3-89°--3.33° C), large branch and trunk symptoms at 24° F (-4.44° C) and sometimes fail to recover.

On the other hand, after a long period of cool weather over the 3 winter months, with no frost, longan trees bloom well. Blooming is poor after a warm winter.

Soil

The longan thrives best on a rich sandy loam and nearly as well on moderately acid, somewhat organic, sand. It also grows to a large size and bears heavily in oolitic limestone. In organic muck soils, blooming and fruiting are deficient.Culture

In China, if the longan is raised on the lowlands it is always put on the edges of raised beds. On high ground, the trees are placed in pre-enriched holes on the surface. The trees are fertilized after the fruit harvest and during the blooming season, at which time the proportion of nitrogen is reduced. Fresh, rich soil is added around the base of the trees year after year. The longan needs an adequate supply of water and can even stand brief flooding, but not prolonged drought. Irrigation is necessary in dry periods.

An important operation is the pruning of many flower-bearing twigs–3/4 of the flower spikes in the cluster being removed. Later, the fruit clusters are also thinned, in order to increase the size and quality of the fruits.

A serious problem with the longan is its irregular bearing–often one good year followed by 1 or 2 poor years. Another handicap is the ripening season–early to mid-August in China, which is the time of typhoons; August and September in Florida which is during the hurricane season. Rain is a major nuisance in harvesting and in conveying the fruit to market or to drying sheds or processing plants.

Keeping Quality

At room temperature, longans remain in good condition for several days. Because of the firmer rind, the fruit is less perishable than the lychee. Preliminary tests in Florida indicate that the fruit can be frozen and will not break down as quickly as the lychee when thawed.

Pests and Diseases

The longan is relatively free of pests and diseases. At times, there may be signs of mineral deficiency which can be readily corrected by supplying minor elements in the fertilization program.

Uses

Longans are much eaten fresh, out-of-hand, but some have maintained that the fruit is improved by cooking. In China, the majority are canned in sirup or dried. The canned fruits were regularly shipped from Shanghai to the United States in the past. Today, they are exported from Hong Kong and Taiwan. For drying, the fruits are first heated to shrink the flesh and facilitate peeling of the rind. Then the seeds are removed and the flesh dried over a slow fire. The dried product is black, leathery and smoky in flavor and is mainly used to prepare an infusion drunk for refreshment. A liqueur is made by macerating the longan flesh in alcohol. Seeds and rind: The seeds, because of their saponin content, are used like soapberries (Sapindus saponaria L.) for shampooing the hair. The seeds and the rind are burned for fuel and are part of the payment of the Chinese women who attend to the drying operation.

Medicinal Uses: The flesh of the fruit is administered as a stomachic, febrifuge and vermifuge, and is regarded as an antidote for poison. A decoction of the dried flesh is taken as a tonic and treatment for insomnia and neurasthenic neurosis. In both North and South Vietnam, the "eye" of the longan seed is pressed against a snakebite in the belief that it will absorb the venom. Leaves and flowers are sold in Chinese herb markets but are not a part of ancient traditional medicine. The leaves contain quercetin and quercitrin. Burkill says that the dried flowers are exported to Malaysia for medicinal purposes. The seeds are administered to counteract heavy sweating and the pulverized kernel, which contains saponin, tannin and fat, serves as a styptic.

Taken from:
http://www.hort.purdue.edu/newcrop/morton/longan.html

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