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THE HOWELL PEAR.



IF the pears grown for market at Maplehurst, one of the most satisfactory of its season is the Howell. Its size, freedom from scab, worm holes and other blemishes, and clear, yellow skin at maturity, combine to make it a very attractive pear for market. It ripens about the end of September, just when the Bartlett season is over. We do not know of any other variety more desirable at this season, unless we except the Duchess which is often very inferior in appearance owing to curculio knots. The Sheldon, of course, surpasses them all for dessert purposes, but the tree is not nearly so productive and the fruit is not more attractive in appearance. In the estimation of fruit growers generally, the Howell is one of the best of the varieties of American pears.

The tree is an upright, vigorous grower and very productive.

The pear is thus described by Downing: Fruit rather large, roundish, pyriform; light, waxy color, often with a finely shaded cheek, thickly sprinkled with minute russet dots and some russet patches; stalk medium length, inserted without cavity, sometimes by a ring or lip, sometimes in a small cavity; calyx open; segments recurved; basin rather large and uneven; flesh whitish, juicy, melting, brisk, vinous. Quality very good; season, September, October.

It originated with Thomas Howell, of New Haven, Conn.