



The Wilder Pear

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The Wilder is a valuable pear for either home use or near market, ripening about the middle of August. It takes its name after the late venerable Marshall P. Wilder, the honored president of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. It was not originated by him, but was a chance seedling found growing on the north shore of Lake Erie, and was named in his honor. When ripe the coloring of this pear is a deep red on yellow ground, and shows up very attractively when placed on sale. Many of the early pears, notably the Summer Doyenne, ripening in July, the Manning's Elizabeth and the Dearborn's Seedling, ripening in August, are too small to bring much money, but the Wilder is of fairly good size, often measuring three inches in length by two and a half in breadth. The quality is excellent, the flesh tender and fine grained, and the flavor sweet, aromatic and very pleasant. I would advise growing this pear on the quince, judging by my own experience at Maplehurst, where the dwarf trees are doing well.

IMPORTANT BULLETINS

AN interesting bulletin has been issued recently by the New York Agricultural Experiment Station treating on the plant-food constituents used by bearing fruit trees. Investigations were made to ascertain the amounts of nitrogen, phosphoric acid, potash, lime and magnesia used in one growing season by growing fruit trees. One to three typical representatives of standard varieties of apple, peach, pear, plum and quince were selected. The fruit, leaves and new growth were carefully gathered and analysed.

It was found that peach trees used the most plant food per acre. Apple and quince trees were about the same and came second, while plums gave much the same results

and used less plant food than the other trees.

The proportions used by the different trees were approximately as follows: Nitrogen, 1 lb.; phosphoric acid, .27 lb.; potash, 1.14 lbs.; lime, 1.35 lbs.; magnesia, .45 lbs. In the fruit, quinces used the most nitrogen, with apples, peaches, plums and pears following in order. Potash was present in the fruit in larger quantities than any other food constituent. Nitrogen was found to be about half as much as potash.

Plant food was more abundant in the leaves of the peach than in those of the other trees, after which came the apple, quince, pear and plum trees in the order given. Lime was present in the leaves, and in the new wood in greater quantities than any