

stated *Prunus americana*, by reason of its natural distribution, extending all over the northern parts of the continent to Manitoba and part of the North-west Territories, contains in its variations the hardiest forms of the native plum known to cultivators. These are suitable for culture in the coldest parts of the province; and where nothing in the way of fruits except the chokecherry (*P. serotina*) and pin cherry (*P. dimissa*) obtain, it is safe to plant improved forms of this species. On account of this wide distribution, touching as it does Manitoba on the north and Texas on the south, there is much variation in the hardness of the individuals making up the species, and this, as already pointed out, is an important point for the consideration of intending planters.

The following cultivated varieties belong to *Prunus americana*, and have been on trial at the Central Experimental Farm for the past three years:

CHENEY.—Fruit large, roundish, oblong; skin thick, a dull yellow mottled with red; flesh fairly firm and sweet; quality good; stone medium size, adhering to the flesh. Tree a very vigorous grower, needing annual shortening. Remarkably prolific. Ripe at Ottawa the first week of September. The variety originated as a wilding near La Crosse, Wis.



Cheney.

DESOTO.—Fruit medium to large; round, oblong, sometimes pointed; dark red with a beautiful purplish bloom; skin thick; flesh juicy, entirely free from astringency; stone medium size. This undoubtedly is one of the best red plums. It ripens about September 15th. Found wild at DeSoto, Wis. Although it was introduced by Elisha Hale of Lansing, Iowa, nearly thirty years ago, it has not received the attention which a plum of its excellent qualities merits.

FOREST GARDEN.—Fruit medium size, round or slightly egg-shaped; skin thick, yellow, overlaid with darker mottlings, and a light lilac bloom; flesh yellow, with some astringency, fairly good; stone separates readily from the flesh. This tree is a difficult one to manage in orchards, being a rampant grower, throwing out long horizontal branches which are apt to break when heavily laden with fruit, or during wind storms.

HAWKEYE.—Fruit large, almost round; dark red with lilac-colored bloom; suture indistinctly marked; flesh deep yellow, firm and juicy; stone large, flat, parts readily from the flesh. Equal to DeSoto. Ripe Sept. 20th. A valuable late variety which originated under cultivation, and was introduced by Mr. H. A. Terry, Crescent City, Iowa.

IDA.—Medium size, oval, with slight suture; skin thick, dark red in color; flesh yellow and unusually firm for a red plum, with little juice; stone medium size, almost free; fair quality; hangs well to the tree and becomes quite sweet and sugary ripe; ripens soon after the middle of September. Tree hardy and vigorous. Originated in Illinois.

ROLLINGSTONE.—Fruit large, reported very large in some sections; round, flattened at both ends; skin deep yellow almost covered with red and purple mottlings; flesh yellow, firm, good quality; stone medium to small, cling; ripens about the middle of September. Found by O. M. Lord on the bank of Rollingstone Creek, Minnesota, and by him introduced into cultivation. Valuable on account of its earliness.

VAN BUREN.—Designated by Prof. Bailey as variety *mollis* of *P. americana*. The tree is true to the type, but the fruit seems quite distinct, and is unique among red plums, in that it is a perfect free stone. Fruit medium, roundish, oval; skin thick, yellow with a pink blush; flesh yellow, sugary sweet and melting; picked this year September 25th. Shows a tendency to crack. Not as hardy as many of the preceding. Originated in the State of Iowa.

WEAVER.—Three trees of this variety planted in 1888 have borne good crops the past three seasons, the last two very heavily indeed. Fruit large, oblong, flattened; color dark red, overlaid with a purplish bloom; suture well marked; stone long, narrow

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