

season. Besides this he can keep up continuous shipments, which is often an important condition of success.

At Maplehurst we usually make up a carload of Astracan and Duchess in August for export in cold storage, and forward our Gravensteins about the middle of September, just as soon as they color, and just before beginning on our King apples.

Our Gravensteins have equalled any variety for profit, bringing the top price in the British market about the first of October.

The following is our description of this apple, as written for Fruits of Ontario :

**Origin.**—According to Hogg, the original tree grew in the garden of the Duke of Augustenburg, at the Castle of Grafenstein in Schleswic-Holstein in Germany, and was still standing about the year 1850. Leroy inclines to accept a statement by Hirschfelt, a German pomologist, who in 1788 wrote the first description of the apple, and stated that it was brought to Germany from Italy. The earliest trace of the apple we can find dates back to about 1760. It is now widely grown in Western Europe, and is a favorite everywhere.

**Tree.**—Much more vigorous in growth than ordinary varieties, and when in bloom remarkably beautiful with its extraordinary sized pure white blossoms ; hardy and productive.

**Fruit.**—Large to very large, the sample photographed was 3 inches long by  $3\frac{3}{4}$  broad ; form oblate conical, somewhat one-sided and more or less pentagonal ; skin, greenish yellow to orange, beautifully striped and splashed with two shades of red ; stem, stout  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in length, set in a deep narrow cavity ; calyx partially closed, wide long segments, set in a wide irregular, slightly russet basin.

**Flesh.**—White ; texture, crisp and very juicy ; flavor, rich, vinous and aromatic.

**Season.**—September to October.

**Quality.**—Dessert, very good ; cooking, first rate.

**Value.**—Home market, first-class ; foreign market, first-class.

**Adaption.**—General in the apple sections, especially on the borders of the great lakes.

In order to study this question of adaption more closely we have made enquiries of some of our leading fruit growers in various sections and have received the following replies :—

“For real quality there is nothing in all our list of fall apples that will surpass the Gravenstein. But it does not seem suited to all the varied conditions that we have even in this province. In its favorite conditions the tree is a strong, vigorous and upright grower and a good bearer of well developed and handsome fruit. But it does not find these conditions in our inland counties. It seems to require a somewhat humid atmosphere for its proper development, and while it does well along the shore of Lake Huron and on the Georgian Bay it produces too many gnarled and unshapely specimens to be considered a success in this or in any of our inland districts. I have watched it closely for eight years at the Western Fair, London, and the best specimens have invariably come from some of the districts bordering on our great lakes. It will never be a profitable apple for the inland farmer of Western Ontario, though I would not be without one tree of it.” T. H. Race, Mitchell, Perth County, Ont.

“Gravenstein is in my judgment the best apple we have for fall use. High in flavor, large, fine color, tree a strong grower and very good bearer. Only for its liability to spotting with fungus it is as near perfection for its season as any we can hope for. With attention in cultivation and manuring and regular spraying in proper times this apple can be produced profitably for home use and foreign markets.” Alex. McD. Allan, Goderich.

“Gravenstein is very little known in this locality, but I have seen very fine specimens at Collingwood, though it is not grown there only to a very limited extent. If there was a good market for it I have no doubt it would be grown and would succeed well in the Georgian Bay District.” G. C. Caston, Craighurst.

“I have three trees of Gravenstein apples that have borne heavy crops of very fine fruit each alternate year, and always bring the best price in the market. I consider it one of the best varieties of September