

NEW ROSE MAKES THE SCENE

Martin Frobisher shrub-roses, developed by Dr. Felicitas Svejda, a plant-breeder on the staff of the Canada Agriculture Research Station at Ottawa, will be available to home gardeners for the first time this spring. (1)

The Martin Frobisher is one of the very few winter hardy shrub-roses now available in Canada, and the first of several Dr. Svejda hopes to develop.

The new rose has been tested across Canada and at Milwaukee, Wisconsin and Palmer, Alaska. Nurseries have been increasing their supply to the point where several now have enough shrubs for sale to gardeners who wish to plant them this May, while several other nurseries expect to have them available within the next two years.

Reports from Northern Ontario to Alaska indicate that Martin Frobisher roses are doing better than Dr. Svejda dared to hope. The plants are so hardy that they are surviving without cover in areas where winter cold has hitherto killed most shrub-roses.

In addition, people who have tested the roses say the plants are vigorous, healthy and the flowers extremely fragrant.

The plant blooms from June until the first frost, putting out soft, pink double blooms about two inches in diameter. The flowers are two-toned with darker shades near the base of the petals.

The Washburn Farm and Nursery of Palmer, Alaska reports that Martin Frobisher is "...one of the most outstanding roses we have grown and has brought more comment and question than any other we have had...".

The Beaverlodge Research Station, specializing



The hardy Martin Frobisher shrub-rose

in northern agricultural research, will be planting some Martin Frobisher roses as far north as Fort Vermillion, in the Northwest Territories.

Plants have already been established at the Royal Botanical Garden at Hamilton, Ontario, and in the city square at Mount Royal, Quebec.

(1) See also CWB, Vol. 23, No. 49, dated Dec. 4, 1968, P. 3.

LAKE ERIE FISH O.K. FOR SALE

Reports that commercial fishing has been banned in Canadian waters of Lake Erie because of mercury are without foundation, according to the federal Fisheries and Forestry Minister, Mr. Jack Davis. Neither has there been any ban imposed on the export of Canadian fish caught in the lake.

Mr. Davis stressed that all catches from Lake Erie were being checked by the Department of Fisheries and Forestry to ensure that federal food and drug standards were being met. No fish samples from Lake Erie tested by his Department had exceeded the safe level of mercury, the Minister stated, and as a result substantial quantities of Lake Erie fish had been released for sale.

However, both commercial and sport fishing were banned in Lake St. Clair and the Detroit and St. Clair Rivers on April 6 by Ontario authorities because the level of mercury in fish samples exceeded federal food and drug limits. Earlier, Mr. Davis had ordered all catches held for testing.

TB DRUG UNDER STUDY

A new drug that appears to be one of the best available in the treatment of tuberculosis, has come under study in Canada at the National Reference Centre for Tuberculosis in Ottawa.

Rifampicin, or Rifampin as it is called in North America, was reported on in a paper given by Professor Vito Nitti at the twentieth International Tuberculosis Conference held in New York last autumn. The drug was developed by a pharmaceutical firm in Milan, Italy.

The purpose of the Canadian study is to investigate the efficacy and safety of Rifampin in the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis. It is being administered in combination with ethambutol to patients resistant to primary antituberculous drugs.

Patients will be studied at centers across Canada. Each patient's treatment lasts eight months, at the end of which the results will be analyzed and submitted to the Department of National Health and Welfare as part of the evidence used in determining