

V A R I E T I E S

Walnut Breeding 1972 - H. Forde

Two hundred seedling progeny (1970 numbers) were grafted into test orchards. Five 1966 numbers were grafted into selection block. Eight new crosses were made from which we harvested 233 seeds.

Field notes were taken on the trees in the test orchards at Davis. Nut samples were also gathered from these trees.

Nut samples were also gathered from the variety and selection blocks at Davis and from test plots in various counties. These samples were graded by Diamond Walnut Growers. Results are published in the February 1973 Diamond Walnut News.

Hector Brothers (Stanislaus County) Variety Trial - L. C. Hendricks

Individual tree yield data for these fifth leaf trees showed Chico, Gustine and Amigo to rank the highest in production. The average per tree yield for Chico would amount to about one-half ton per acre.

Westside Field Station Variety Trial - L. C. Brown

Seventeen varieties of walnuts were grafted on black walnut rootstocks in 1965. In their seventh year of production in 1972, the Payne variety produced the largest crop -- it averaged 77 pounds per tree. Marchetti was next with 50 pounds and Tehama averaged 40 pounds per tree. The Serr variety averaged 30 pounds per tree. Some of the varieties were surprisingly low yielders. Gustine averaged 14 pounds per tree; Hartleys, 3 pounds per tree, and Franquette did not produce a crop at all.

There was more variation in growth, in looking at the orchard generally, in the variety trial than there was in the adjacent rootstock trial.

Walnut Varieties - W. Schreader, H. Forde, W. Moller

A single sample was submitted for crackout evaluation this year. It is a bud sport of Hartley that originated in the Lloyd Barton Orchard in Ripon. It is an early, fruitful, high-kernel-yielding variety. Application for patent has been applied for by the grower. A test for phloem bark canker was initiated in the fall of 1972. No results are available yet.