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ANNUAL REPORT

**DICKINSON EXPERIMENT STATION
DICKINSON, NORTH DAKOTA**

SECTION IV

HORTICULTURE

By

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HORTICULTURE

Fruit tree plantings-1950

The practical work with fruit trees, which has been carried on at the Dickinson Experiment Station for the past 30 years, has satisfactorily demonstrated to farmers of the west river area that adapted varieties of fruit trees can be raised very successfully under dryland conditions. This work has been directly responsible for an increased interesting fruit plantings in this area.

The purpose of the fruit trials at the Dickinson Experiment Station is to determine which fruits and which varieties of the more productive sorts are best adapted for growing under dryland conditions.

Fruits which produce best in the Station orchard are plums, sandcherry hybrids and crabapples, a few varieties of apples also being fairly dependable. Over fifty varieties of plums, twenty varieties of apples, a large number of crabapples and several varieties of small fruits have been tried. The Station orchard at the present time contains eight varieties of apples, nineteen varieties of crabapples and thirty varieties of plums and sandcherry hybrids in plantings made in 1909, 1921, 1923, 1925, 1927, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1936, 1941, 1944 and 1949.

Ornamental plantings-1950

Ornamental plantings of both evergreen and deciduous trees made a satisfactory growth in 1950 largely because of above average early spring precipitation which soaked into the soil to a considerable depth and provided a reserve supply of moisture.

Future plans regarding ornamental plantings include the removal of a Russian olive hedge, which borders the entrance road to the Station, and which hides from view a splendid planting of *Juniperus communis* and Western Red Cedar, (*Juniperus scopulorum*), and the extension of an evergreen planting which borders the south edge of the garden. A block of deciduous trees, mainly Green Ash, will be removed to make room for this evergreen planting.

Cooperative vegetable trials-1950

Five varieties of tomatoes and ten potato varieties were included in the cooperative trials at the Station in 1950.

Tomatoes:

Early Chatham was high yielding tomato variety with an average production of 13.3# per plant, followed closely by Monarch and Bounty both producing approximately 11.5# per plant. Morden #2 and N. Dak. # 49 averaged 10.3 and 9.5# per plant respectively.

PotatoesL

High yielding potato variety was Pontiac, followed by Cobbler, Kennebec, White Cloud and Red Pontiac. Triumph was low yielding variety for the third consecutive year in trials here.