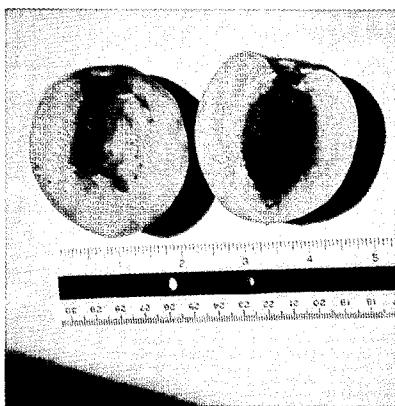
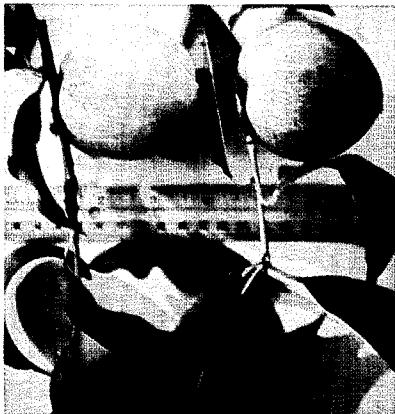


Oct. 26, 1976

H. G. WONG
NECTARINE TREE
Filed Nov. 4, 1975

Plant Pat. 3,964



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3,964

NECTARINE TREE

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Oakland, Calif. 94607
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U.S. Cl. Plt.—41

1 Claim

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A nectarine tree, of medium to large size, which needs little sunlight, and which is a productive bearer of medium size, nearly globose, late ripening clingstone fruit having flesh yellow throughout, with yellow skin partly overspread with red.

BACKGROUND OF THE VARIETY

For several years I have engaged in a breeding and propagation program in three home orchards under my ownership and control in Oakland, Alameda County, Calif. One purpose of such program has been to provide improved varieties of fruit trees, and the present variety is one result of my endeavors.

ORIGIN OF THE VARIETY

The present variety of nectarine tree was discovered by me as a seedling in my home orchard at my residence. It was first noted in my records in 1972 and designated therein as Peach S-1. It is of unknown genetic parentage. There were no trees on the property in April 1970, so the seedling probably sprouted in 1971 or 1972. This seedling bore its initial crop (around 22 fruits) in 1975. The fruits were of superior flavor compared to most other nectarines then on the market. The flavor was also significantly fuller than that of plum and peach fruits from adjacent trees of Friar plum (unpatented) and Babcock peach (unpatented), all three trees being within ten feet of the northeast side of a four story building.

ASEXUAL REPRODUCTION OF THE VARIETY

On or about January 28, 1973 I grafted a scion of this instant variety onto a mature peach tree in one of my other home orchards in Oakland, Calif., and such reproduction has run true to the original tree. Both the original tree and the graft reproduction produced first crops in 1975.

SUMMARY OF THE VARIETY

The present variety of nectarine tree, which is of medium to large size, spreading, upright form, is a productive bearer of medium, relatively uniform, clingstone fruit of yellow flesh, and yellow skin partially overspread with red. Compared to other late season clingstones, this variety is particularly characterized by the flesh being yellow throughout (including the pit), and by the ability of the tree to produce fruit of pleasing flavor and aroma with less than full sunlight.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The drawing is an illustration, by photographic reproduction in color, of twigs with leaves and fruit remaining attached; other fruits being detached and cut in half, with the stone removed from one half and remaining in the other.

DESCRIPTION OF THE VARIETY

The botanical details of this new and distinct variety of nectarine tree are as follows: Color identifications are referenced to *ISCC-NBS Color Name Charts Illustrated with Centroid Colors* issued as a supplement to *National Bureau of Standards Circular 553, ISCC-NBS Method of*

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Designating Color and a Dictionary of Color Names, except where reference is to *RHS Colour Chart* published in 1966 by the Royal Horticultural Society of London (hereafter abbreviated as RHS) or where common color terms are used.

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Tree:

Size—Medium
Vigor—Vigorous
Form—Spreading, upright
Density—Open to medium
Production—Productive
Bearing—Unknown
Hardiness—Unknown
Fruit drop—Almost none

15 Trunk:

Size—Medium
Texture—Medium
Color—Brown

Branches:

Size—Medium
Texture—Medium
Color—Green and red when young; brown when older
Lenticels—Medium in number and size

25 Leaves:

Size—Average length 4"; average width 1 1/8".
Color—Top side, RHS 146A yellow-green (closer to NBS 125 moderate olive green than NBS 127 grayish olive green); bottom side—RHS 146B lighter yellow green (approx. NBS 120 moderate yellow green); heavy midrib on lower surface, RHS 145C light yellow green, (NBS closer to 119 light yellow green than 121 pale yellow green).

Form—Lanceolate

Thickness—Equal to or thicker than average peach

Texture—Smooth

Margin—More serrate than crenate

Glands—Reinforce and alternate; total varies from one to five (average 3) positioned usually two (varies from none to three) on petiole next to blade and in many instances 1 or 2 on the blade margin near petiole

Petiole—Medium thickness, average length 1/2 inch
Stipules—None.

45 Flower buds:

Size—Length 3/4 inches, diameter 1/2 inch, stem length 1/8 inch

Form—Obtuse and plumb

Flowers:

Blooming period—First bloom Mar. 10, 1975. Full bloom Mar. 19, 1975, about 10 days after Babcock peach (unpatented)

Positioning—Singly rather than in clusters, but two or three flowers may be within one inch of branch length

Size—Spread across petal 1 1/2—2 inches

Color—Pale pink (NBS 7)

Petals—Mostly 5 in number, some 6, obtuse shape
Pedicel—1/2 inch length

Stamens—Color strong reddish purple (NBS 237)
26-31 in number, length 1/2-5/8 inch

Styles—1/4 inch longer than stamens; color yellow

Sepals—Mostly 5, some 6, moderate yellowish green (NBS 136) with overlay on back side of dark grayish red (NBS 20)

Fruit:

Maturity when described—Eating ripe, Aug. 31, 1975 after a mild winter, about one month after adjacent Babcock peach (unpatented) and about three weeks after adjacent Friar plum (unpatented)

Date of first picking—Aug. 26, 1975
 Date of last picking—Sept. 9, 1975
 Size—Uniform, medium, average diameter axially
 $2\frac{1}{4}$ ", average transversely in suture plane $1\frac{1}{8}$ "
 Form—Uniform, nearly globose, almost symmetrical
 Suture—Shallow, extends from base to beyond apex
 Cavity—Rounded to slightly elongated in suture
 plane
 Base—Slightly oval
 Apex—Short
 Skin:
 Thickness—Medium
 Texture—Smooth
 Tendency to crack—almost none
 Down—None
 Color—Ground color is RHS 15D (less vivid than
 NBS 67 brilliant yellow orange) overspread one
 fourth to three fourths with deep reddish orange
 (RHS 34A), shading to deep red (NBS 13)
 (RHS 46A)

Flesh:
 Fibers—None
 Texture—Firm, meaty
 Juice—Juicy
 Ripens—Evenly
 Flavor—Pleasing, mildly subacid, delicate
 Aroma—Pleasing
 Eating quality—Good to best
 Color—Yellow orange (RHS 16C) throughout, less
 vivid than NBS 67 brilliant yellow orange. No red
 next to stone

Stone:
 Type—Cling
 Size—Medium, length $1\frac{1}{8}$ " to $1\frac{1}{4}$ ", breadth $\frac{3}{4}$ " to
 $\frac{7}{8}$ ", thickness $\frac{5}{8}$ " to $1\frac{1}{16}$ "
 Form—Obovate, tip acuminate
 Base—Oblique
 Apex—Acuminate
 Sides—Almost equal, one slightly more curved than
 the other
 Surface—Furrowed near apex toward ventral edge;
 pitted from base toward center and dorsal edge
 Dorsal edge—Thin, with groove running from base
 along half of edge
 Ventral edge—Thick, with deep furrows and wing 45
 toward base and with multiple ridges toward apex
 Tendency to split—None

Color—Greyed orange (RHS 168D) mostly covered
 by deep red purple (RHS 61B)
 Use: Market—Dessert
 Resistance to insects and diseases: No unusual suscepti-
 bilities noted

The nectarine tree and its fruit herein described may
 vary in slight detail due to differences in climate, soil,
 pruning, fertilization or other growing conditions. The
 present description is of the variety as grown within ten
 feet of the northeast side of a four story building in
 Oakland, Calif.
 For example, with particular reference to growth habit
 of the tree, the aforementioned Babcock peach tree
 adjacent to the instant variety tree was of medium size,
 medium vigor and more upright than spreading. In
 comparison, Babcock peach when grown in full sunlight
 is usually of "medium to large size, vigorous and inclined
 to be spreading rather than upright in habit of growth,"
 as introduced in University of California Agriculture
 Experiment Station circular 328 (January 1933). Also
 at that same location with minimal sunlight, the afore-
 mentioned adjacent Friar plum tree was of small size and
 low to medium vigor. In comparison, Friar plum when
 grown in full sunlight is generally very vigorous, as re-
 ported in the release notice on Friar plum issued Mar. 19,
 1968 by USDA Agricultural Research Service, Crops
 Research Division. Based on these comparisons, the in-
 stant variety may therefore be expected to develop, when
 grown under full sunlight, a tree habit of larger size, more
 vigor, and more spreading and less upright form than
 when grown under minimal sunlight.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of nectarine tree, sub-
 stantially as illustrated and described, identified by the
 35 characteristics enumerated above, and characterized
 particularly as to novelty in comparison to other cling-
 stone nectarines by the season of ripening, by the bearing
 of fruit having yellow skin partly overspread with red,
 flesh of pleasant flavor and aroma, with yellow color
 throughout including the pit, a stone with characteristics
 as hereinabove described, and by the ability of the tree to
 produce such fruit with limited sunlight.

No references cited.

ROBERT E. BAGWILL, Primary Examiner