

less subject to sunscald than fruit of 'Comanche'. The fresh fruit of 'Cheyenne' is rated as having slightly better flavor than 'Comanche' but is not as highly flavored as 'Cherokee'. Seeds of 'Cheyenne' are notably smaller than 'Comanche' seeds (Table 1).

Processed fruit quality evaluations show that 'Cheyenne' has slightly better color than 'Cherokee' and 'Comanche', but is rated slightly lower in flavor than 'Cherokee'. All 3 cultivars produce commercially acceptable processed products.

Plants of 'Cheyenne' ripen their fruit slightly earlier than 'Cherokee' and 'Raven', but later than 'Comanche' and 'Humble'. The harvest period averages 25 days, beginning about June 1 in

south Arkansas and June 15 in north Arkansas.

'Cheyenne' is moderately resistant to anthracnose [*Elsinoe veneta* (Burkh.) Jenkins], and is classified as resistant to orange rust [*Kunkelia nitens* (Scw.) Arth.]. No plants have become infected with orange rust after being grown for 10 years in areas of high inoculum. However, 'Cheyenne' is susceptible to rosette [*Cercospora rubi* (Wint.) Plakidas].

'Cheyenne' has performed well in tests in southern, central, and northern Arkansas and at Overton and Monte Alto, Texas. It appears to have a wide range of adaptation but the northern and southern limits of adaptation have yet to be defined.

Availability

Plants and root cuttings of 'Cheyenne' are available for distribution to growers and nurserymen in Spring, 1977. Plants for test plantings will be made available to interested experiment stations. Correspondence concerning availability should be sent to Dr. J. N. Moore, Dept. of Horticulture & Forestry, Univ. of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701.

Literature Cited

1. Moore, J. N., Elvin Brown, and W. A. Sistrunk. 1974. 'Cherokee' blackberry. *HortScience* 9:246.
2. _____, _____, and _____. 1974. 'Comanche' blackberry. *HortScience* 9:245-246.

HortScience 12(1):78-79. 1977.

'Aristocrat' Pear¹

Daniel C. Milbocker

Virginia Truck and Ornamentals Research Station, Norfolk, VA 23501

William T. Straw

Carlisle Nursery, Independence, KY 41051

Additional index words. *Pyrus calleryana*, ornamental tree, shade tree

The wild Chinese pear, *Pyrus calleryana* Decaisne was introduced into the U.S. as a possible source of fire blight resistance for pear improvement but was not used as an ornamental plant because of its low branching habit and thorniness. In 1918 Frank Meyer collected seed of *P. calleryana* in China which were subsequently planted at the USDA Plant Introduction Station at Glenn Dale, Maryland. A thornless individual was discovered among the resulting seedlings which was named 'Bradford' in honor of F. C. Bradford, a former director of the Station. 'Bradford' is one of the few ornamental trees without serious disease and insect problems. It is valued for its profuse white flowers, glossy, dense summer foliage and burgundy red fall color — a combination of characteristics found in very few trees. It was introduced to nurserymen in 1960 as "the tree for all seasons," a medium sized shade tree for the southern and eastern United States including zone 5 (1). It has since been found to be adaptable to a larger area and is increasing in popularity with its full potential still being developed.

'Aristocrat' is another thornless selection of *P. calleryana* which is distinctively different from other seedlings and 'Bradford'. It is faster growing than 'Bradford' but has the same profuse flowering. The summer foliage is glossy and deep green turning to burgundy red and finally scarlet red before leaf drop. The central leader and wide angled limb structure, combined with a rapid growth rate, allow this tree to be classified as one of the more desirable fast growing shade trees. It has been planted at more than thirty universities, arboreta, and research stations throughout the U.S. as far north as Anchorage, Alaska. It is as hardy or hardier than 'Bradford' and is resistant to all the common diseases of pears including

fireblight caused by *Erwinia amylovora* (Burr.) Winslow et al. It was introduced to the nursery trade in 1974 (1) as "a five star tree" in recognition of its rapid growth, profuse flowering, hardiness, disease and insect resistance, attractive summer foliage and fall color (Fig 1, 2).

Origin

'Aristocrat' originated as one of 100 *P. calleryana* seedlings planted in 1964 at Carlisle Nursery owned by William Straw of Independence, Kentucky and is propagated by grafting to seedlings of *P. calleryana*.

Description

'Aristocrat' develops into a medium-sized tree, based on observations of the original tree, and tends to be pyramidal in shape because of its strong central leader. Unlike 'Bradford' which tends to develop multiple leaders and is densely branched, 'Aristocrat' develops wide-angled and strongly buttressed limbs forming a full but not compact tree. New growth is pubescent but becomes glabrous with maturity. The bark of young twigs is red-brown, turning gray-brown with age. The buds are less

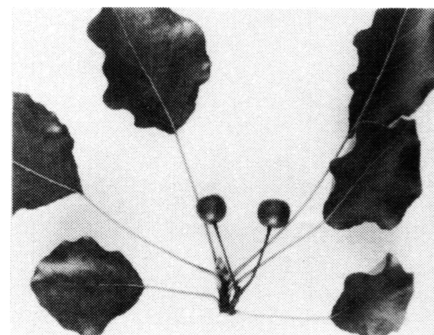
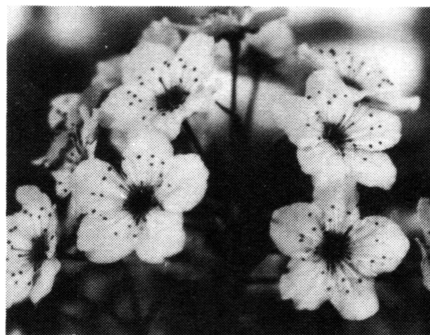


Fig. 1. 'Aristocrat' pear flowers and mature fruits.

¹Received for publication April 21, 1976. Contribution from the Plant Physiology Department, Virginia Truck and Ornamentals Research Station. Paper No. 164, Journal Series. Approved for publication April 5, 1976.

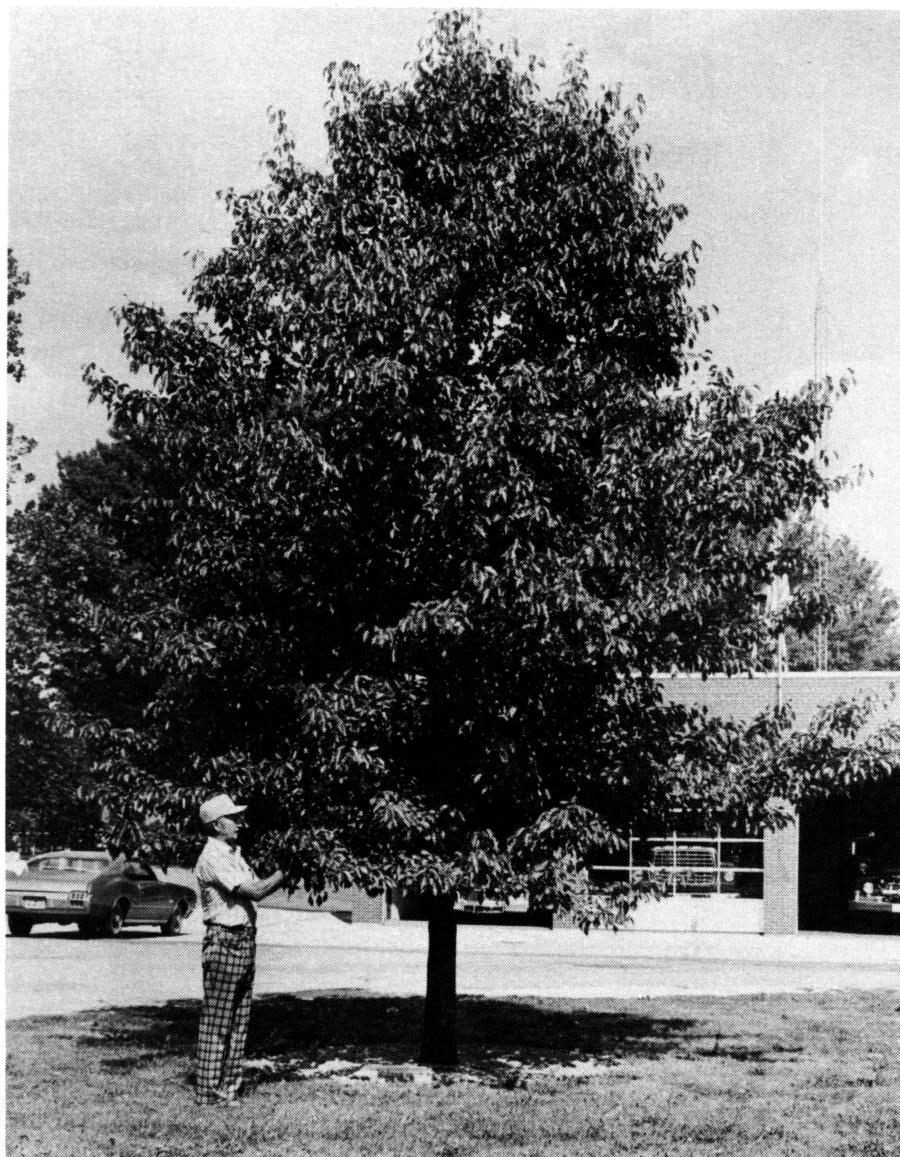


Fig. 2. 'Aristocrat' pear tree.

pubescent than 'Bradford' but are equally large. The largest buds develop terminally and on spurs from which approximately a dozen five-petaled white flowers emerge. Flowering and leaf emergence of the 'Aristocrat' is about 1 week later than 'Bradford' and is therefore less vulnerable to early spring frosts.

'Aristocrat' leaves are ovate and involute with wavy crenate margins. They are less orbicular than the leaves of 'Bradford' and are suspended on gracefully pendulous petioles. The glossy leaf surfaces and the red coloration of sun exposed petioles add to the esthetic appeal of 'Aristocrat'. The fruit is small and sparsely set. They are typical of *P. calleryana* (1.0 to 1.5 cm in diam)—spherical and olive green. The fall leaf coloration develops after trees of most species have defoliated and is a deep burgundy red turning to scarlet red before leaf drop. The 'Aristocrat' is easily distinguished from 'Bradford' during the dormant season by its greater horizontal limbing, less pubescent buds, longer internodes and greater red-brown coloration of the bark.

Availability

The 'Aristocrat' pear is patented and available from William Straw's Carlisle Nursery of Independence, Kentucky (2, 3, 4) and from several other nurseries.

Literature Cited

1. Anon. 1971. Growing the Bradford ornamental pear. *USDA Home and Garden Bul.* 154.
2. Carlisle Nursery. 1974. [Advertisement] *Amer. Nurs.* 140(1):178.
3. . 1975. [Advertisement] *Amer. Nurs.* 142(1):156.
4. . 1976. [Advertisement] *Amer. Nurs.* 144(1):190.

SCHEDULE OF FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR HORTICULTURAL SCIENCE

Name & Date of Meeting	Location	Comments
74th Annual ASHS Meeting October 9–15, 1977	Salt Lake City, Utah Hotel Utah	Horticultural tours will be scheduled October 10–11; Program Sessions October 12–14.
75th Anniversary Meeting July 16–20, 1978	Boston, Massachusetts Sheraton–Boston Hotel	Program will feature 75th anniversary observance and tours; hosted by the ASHS Northeast Region.
76th Annual ASHS Meeting Summer 1979	Ohio State University Columbus Campus	Program will feature joint sessions with the American Society of Plant Physiologists.