'Blackamber' Plum¹

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Additional index words. fruit breeding, Prunus sp.

'Blackamber' (Fig. 1) is a black, Japanese-type plum that resembles 'Friar' but ripens earlier and extends the season of 'Friar'-type plums.

Origin

'Blackamber', tested as K68-43, originated from a 1970 cross of 'Friar' by 'Queen Rosa', made at the U.S. Horticultural Field Station, Fresno, Calif. The seedling first fruited in 1973 and was selected by John H. Weinberger. It has

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'Remaily Seedless' Grape¹

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Since the late 19th century when grape breeding began at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, a major goal has been to combine certain fruit attributes of Vitis vinifera L. table grapes, such as seedlessness, crisp texture and adherent skin, with some of the vegetative characters of native American hybrid (V. labruscana, Bailey) grape cultivars such as disease resistance and winter cold hardiness. Crisp texture has been one of the more elusive goals. Of the 42 table grape cultivars released by the Experiment Station (2), only one seeded cultivar, 'Alden', combines an adherent skin and crisp texture. 'Remaily Seedless' combines seedlessness (stenospermocarpy), an adherent skin and crisp berry

been tested only in the San Joaquin Valley of California.

Description

'Blackamber' ripens about 2 weeks after Santa Rosa, 1 week before 'El Dorado' and 3 weeks before 'Friar.' The fruit is oblate and large, averaging 6.2 cm in diameter and 5.3 cm high. The pit is nearly free and small, accounting for only 1% of the fruit weight. The external fruit color is black at maturity. The flesh is light yellow and firm. The quality is high.

Trees of 'Blackamber' are of average vigor and are upright in growth habit and field spacing should be closer than for spreading trees. The flowers are selfincompatible and require a pollenizor. 'Blackamber' blooms with 'Friar' and both are cross-fertile. 'Blackamber' is

texture with adaptive traits favorable to

northeastern North American viticulture.

George Remaily, a retired member of the

Department of Pomology and Viticul-

ture. Mr. Remaily has been a private

grape breeder and student of viticulture

both before and subsequent to his tenure

at Geneva. Mr. Remaily introduced new

germplasm to the grape breeding pro-

gram at Geneva and 'Remaily Seedless'

represents the new directions that these

'Remaily Seedless' is named for Mr.

s about 2 weeks afk before 'El Dorae 'Friar.' The fruit veraging 6.2 cm in

recommended for planting in areas where Japanese-type plums are grown.

Availability

Limited amounts of budwood and scionwood may be obtained from David W. Ramming, U.S. Horticultural Field Station, P.O. Box 8143, Fresno, CA 93747. 'Blackamber' has been indexed by Foundation Plant Materials Service, University of California, Davis, and certified free of virus.

contributions make possible.

Origin

'Remaily Seedless' resulted from the cross 'Lady Patricia' x 'NY 33979' which was made in 1965 (Fig. 1). It was tested as N.Y. 65.085.1 and selected in 1974. It has been available for testing from the New York State Testing Cooperative Association, Inc. since 1976.

Description

Vines of 'Remaily Seedless' are vigorous. Own-rooted vines which have been flower cluster thinned to prevent overcropping and grown in phylloxera (*Phylloxera vastatrix*, Planchon) infested soils have maintained annual pruning weights in excess of 1.8 kg. There is, therefore, no need to graft 'Remaily Seedless' to a phylloxera-resistant rootstock. The vines are moderately winter cold hardy at Geneva, N.Y. In winters where the minimum temperature has not fallen below -27°C



Fig. 1. Pedigree of 'Remaily Seedless' grape, formerly N.Y. 65.085.1.

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