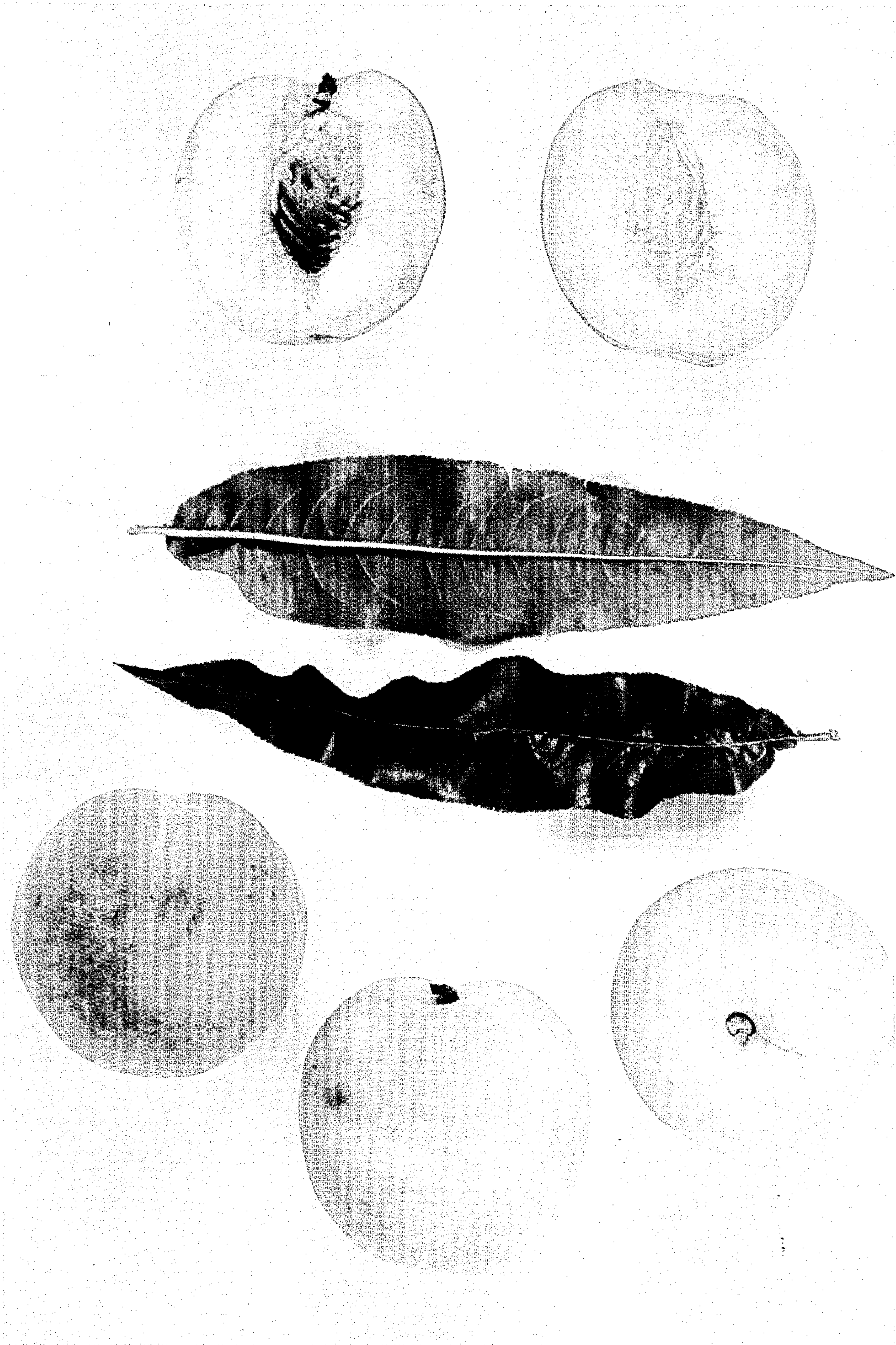


Oct. 26, 1976

A. C. McLEOD
PEACH TREE
Filed Aug. 4, 1975

Plant Pat. 3,965



1

3,965

PEACH TREE

Alexander C. McLeod, Rte. 1, McBee, S.C. 29101

Filed Aug. 4, 1975, Ser. No. 601,799

Int. Cl.² A01H 5/03

U.S. Cl. Plt.—43

1 Claim

This invention relates to a new and distinct variety of peach tree which bears medium to large fairly uniform peaches.

The fruit of the new and distinct variety of peach tree is characterized especially by its most attractive appearance and excellent marketable quality for dessert use, which are especially desirable at the ripening season of this peach variety when other varieties are scarce. This new variety ripens 7–10 days before the Loring peach (unpatented). The fruit is very attractive, having bright red cheeks and having a bright golden ground color diffused with red. It is symmetrical in shape and smooth, having a smooth suture line and having less tendency to flatten than the Rio Oso Gem (U.S. Pat. No. 84). Its flavor is that of a sweet mild peach with firm but melting flesh texture. The flesh of the peach is yellow and its stone is of the semi-cling to free type. Another characteristic of the fruit is a tendency of non-browning of the flesh.

The new variety of peach tree was found by me as what is thought by me to be a chance budsport of Loring in my cultivated orchard two miles southeast of McBee, S.C. The budsport is a one limb mutation. This variety is a true sport. The budsport has been asexually reproduced by me by being top worked by budding on Norman trees (unpatented) at my cultivated Norman orchard near McBee, S.C. Such asexual reproduction at maturity and when in bearing, having been found to run true to the parent tree in all respects.

The accompanying drawing, in the form of a photograph, shows typical specimens of the leaves and fruit of my new variety of peach tree with the upper and lower surfaces of the leaves being illustrated, and with top, bottom, and side exterior views and sectional views of the fruit being shown all depicted in color as nearly true as it is reasonably possible to make the same in color illustration of this character.

The following is a detailed description of the characteristics of my new variety as based upon observations of specimens grown at my orchard referred to above, with color terminology in accordance with Munsell's Book of Color, Munsell Color Company, Baltimore, Md., 1929–1960, except where general color terms of ordinary dictionary significance are obvious.

Tree:

Size—Medium
Vigor—Average
Growth—Slightly more spreading than upright
Density—Medium
Form—Globular to conical
Hardiness—Average
Production—Average to Heavy
Bearing—Good and regular

Trunk:

Size—Medium
Texture—Medium

Branches:

Size—Medium
Texture—Medium
Color—Brownish to gray
Lenticels—Scarce to medium number, small to medium in size

2

Leaves:

Size—Medium average length $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Average width $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches
Form—Lanceolate, acutely pointed
Thickness—Medium
Texture—Smooth to slightly crinkled, along the midrib
Margin—Serrate
Petiole—Average length $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches, medium thickness
Glands—Reniform occurring mostly on base of petiole, sometimes one opposite, sometimes two opposite and occasionally one gland on the leaf blade
Stipules—Inconspicuous
Color (mature leaves)—Top side—hue 2.4GY 5/6, under side—5GY 6/8

Flower buds:

Hardness—Medium
Size—Medium large
Length—Medium
Form—Plump
Pubescence—Medium

Flowers:

Blooming period—Early, indicating short chilling requirements
Size—Large showy
Color—Pink

Fruit:

Maturity when described—Eating ripe
First picking—June 18, 1975
Last picking—June 25, 1975
Size—Medium to large fairly uniform. Average transversely in suture plane $2\frac{5}{8}$ to $2\frac{7}{8}$ inches. Average diameter axially $2\frac{5}{8}$ inches
Form—Uniform, symmetrical globose to slightly elongated
Suture—Distinct, shallow and extends slightly beyond the apex showing slight depression beyond pistil point
Ventral surface—Rounded
Cavity—Short, narrow and deep
Base—Oblique to rounded
Apex—Short
Pistil point—Depressed to slightly raised

Skin:

Thickness—Medium
Texture—Medium
Tendency to crack—None
Down—Light and short
Color—Check hue 5R 3/6. Ground hue 2YR 6/10

Flesh:

Juice—Medium
Texture—Firm but melting
Fibers—Slightly fibrous but tender
Ripens—Evenly
Flavor—Subacid with slight indication of soluble tannin tending to lend full bodied flavor
Aroma—Normal peach aroma
Eating quality—Excellent
Color—Hue 10YR 8/8
Surface of pit cavity—Red with yellowish red fibers

Stone:

Type—Semi-cling to free
Size—Medium. Average length $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches to $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Average breadth 1 inch to $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches. Average thickness $\frac{3}{4}$ inches to 1 inch
Form—Elliptical rhomboid with slight central bulge
Base—Straight
Sides—Equal

Surface—European—Elberta

Ridges—Usually rounded toward base on either side but sometimes slight-jagged

Pits—Elongated

Tendency to split—None

Color—7.5R 6/8

Use: Market, dessert

Keeping quality: Excellent

Shipping quality: Excellent

The tree and its fruit herein described may vary in slight detail due to climatic and soil conditions under which the variety may be grown.

What is claimed:

1. A new and distinct variety of peach tree substantially as shown and described characterized particularly as to

novelty by fruit having the combination of an early ripening season 7-10 days before the Loring peach, a most attractive form being slightly elongated from apex to cavity, having a bright red cheek and bright golden ground color diffused with red, a smooth suture line and having less tendency to flatten than the Rio Oso Gem peach, a most delicious flavor sub-acid with slight indication of soluble tannin tending to lend full bodied flavor, and tendency to non-browning of the flesh.

No references cited.

ROBERT E. BAGWILL, Primary Examiner