

[54] APPLE TREE-GOLDENSHEEN #2  
CULTIVAR

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[21] Appl. No.: 115,546

[22] Filed: Jan. 25, 1980

[51] Int. Cl.<sup>3</sup> ..... A01H 5/00

[52] U.S. Cl. .... Plt./34

[58] Field of Search ..... Plt./34

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[57]

ABSTRACT

The new variety is a whole tree mutation of the Golden-  
sheen apple tree (French Brevet D'Invention 70.47735)  
which was discovered at Louisiana, Mo. The new vari-  
ety produces attractive solid yellow apples as does the  
parent Goldensheen variety which are unusually free  
and resistant to the russetting commonly observed on  
apples of the Golden Delicious type. Unlike the Gol-  
densheen parent the new variety is a larger standard  
bearing tree having a vigorous and spreading growth  
habit instead of possessing a compact spur fruit-bearing  
habit.

2 Drawing Figures

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct  
variety of apple tree which was discovered by me as a  
whole tree mutation of the Goldensheen cultivar (French Brevet D'Invention No. 70.47735) growing in  
the Test Orchard of Stark Brothers Nurseries and Or-  
chards Company at Louisiana, Pike County, Mo.

My attention was first directed to what is now con-  
sidered to be the new variety while I was engaged in  
making a routine orchard inspection of Goldensheen  
cultivar research plantings and comparing the growth  
habit exhibited with that of the Golden Delicious —  
Mullins cultivar (not patented) which has been mar-  
keted by the Stark Brothers Orchards and Nurseries  
Company for a number of years. The Goldensheen  
cultivar specimens undergoing observation had been  
obtained for test purposes from the Pepinieres et Rose-  
raies Georges Delbard of France.

As described in the French Brevet D'Invention, the  
Goldensheen cultivar is a compact spur-type tree which  
is a semi-dwarf of no more than approximately 75 per-  
cent the size of a standard non-spur apple variety, such  
as the Golden Delicious-Mullins cultivar (not patented),  
growing on a similar rootstock. Additionally, the Gol-  
densheen cultivar unlike the Golden Delicious-Mullins  
cultivar has been recognized to form fruit which is  
unusually free and resistant to russetting. The term "rus-  
setting" is used herein to designate defects appearing on  
the fruit skin such as bronzing, roughness, and corky  
spots. Such defects can be present as small dots or as a  
larger network which covers a part or all of the fruit  
surface. The russetting commonly is believed to be a  
defensive reaction of the epidermic and the cuticle tis-  
sue to external and internal causes unfavorable to the  
normal development of the skin such as cold or wet  
weather during the post-blossom season, or abrasive  
chemicals used for insect or disease control.

Further observations of the new variety which ex-  
tended over a number of years confirmed its new and  
distinctive characteristics. More specifically, the same  
attractive fruit characteristics of the Goldensheen culti-  
var wherein the fruit was unusually free and resistant to  
russetting were exhibited by the new variety. However,  
the tree exhibited a very vigorous and spreading grow-  
ing form similar to that of the Golden Delicious —

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Mullins cultivar, and was a standard sized tree rather  
than a compact spur-type tree as the Goldensheen culti-  
var. The fruit of the new variety was borne on the  
terminal portion of two and three year old shoots rather  
than on spurs as was characteristic of the Goldensheen  
cultivar. Also, the new variety was found to mature  
later and to form smaller flowers than the Golden Deli-  
cious — Mullins cultivar.

This new variety of apple tree was found to possess  
the following combination of characteristics:

(a) upon maturity is a medium-large vigorous tree  
with an open and spreading growth habit,

(b) forms medium-large parsley green leaves,

(c) forms small white flowers which are late bloom-  
ing in comparison to other varieties,

(d) forms attractive large, typey and round conic fruit  
with a deep Dresden yellow skin color which is substan-  
tially free of russetting, and

(e) possesses a bearing habit whereby fruit buds are  
borne on the terminal portions of two and three year old  
shoots annually and regularly.

Asexual propagation over a number of years has  
demonstrated that the unique characteristics of this new  
variety come true-to-form and are established and trans-  
mitted through succeeding propagations. The new vari-  
ety has been named the Goldensheen #2 cultivar.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

FIG. 1 shows in color as true as is reasonably possible  
a typical tree of the previously known Goldensheen  
cultivar of approximately 10 years of age growing at  
Louisiana, Mo. The compact spur fruit-bearing habit is  
apparent.

FIG. 2 shows in color as true as is reasonably possible  
a typical tree of the presently claimed Goldensheen #2  
cultivar of approximately 10 years of age growing at  
Louisiana, Mo. The larger spreading growth habit of  
the new variety is apparent.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The following is a detailed description of my new  
variety where color terminology is to be accorded its  
ordinary dictionary significance except where other-



wise indicated. The specimens described were grown at Louisiana, Mo.

Dates first and last picking — Oct. 20 and Oct. 29, 1979.

Tree: Medium large; vigorous; spreading; tall; open; rapid growing; hardy; very productive; regular bearing.

*Trunk*.—Stocky; smooth.

*Branches*.—Thick; smooth; color — Light Tropical Olive — Plate XLVI Color #21 tone "B" of Ridgeway Color Standards.

*Leaves*.—Length — approximately 4 inches; width — approximately  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches; medium large; medium wide; medium long; oval; abruptly pointed; medium thick; color — Parsley green color #009621 — Pg. 193 — Vol. II of Horticultural Color Guide.

*Margin*.—Coarsely serrate.

*Petiole*.—Medium short; medium thick.

Flowers: Date of first bloom — Apr. 20, 1979; date of full bloom — Apr. 25, 1979; late; small; white with pink tinge.

Fruit: Maturity when eating ripe — Oct. 20, 1979.

*Size*.—Uniform; axial diameter — approximately  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 inches; transverse diameter — approximately 3 to 4 inches; truncate at base; very typey; conical.

*Cavity*.—Symmetrical; rounded at base; apex — acute; undulate; crowned; depth — approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch; breadth — approximately  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch.

*Basin*.—Symmetrical; abrupt at base; wide base; undulate; crowned; glabrous; depth — approximately  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch; breadth — approximately  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch; markings — none.

*Stem*.—Medium slender; pubescent; length — approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch; breadth — approximately  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch; markings — none.

*Calyx*.—Open. Segments — Persistent; acute; length — approximately  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch; separated; reflexed from base at apex; outer surface — pubescent; inner surface — pubescent.

*Eye*.—Large; open.

*Skin*.—Thin; tender; smooth; waxed. Dots — Conspicuous; many; small; raised; circular. Color of Dots — Brown. Distribution of Dots — Over entire surface. Ground Color — Yellow, Dresden Yellow 6/2 pg. 64, vol. I of Horticultural

Color Guide. Color markings — Blushed with full sun exposure — Munsell strong pink 2, 5R 718, to deep pink 2, 5R/6/11. Bloom — Wanting. General color effect — Golden yellow as parent Goldensheen cultivar.

*Flesh*.—Juicy. Color of flesh — White with yellowish tint. Texture — Firm; fine. Flavor — Subacid; mild; rich. Aroma — Distinct. Quality — Best.

*Core*.—Median. Bundle area (longitudinal section) — Medium small; cordate; symmetrical; acute at base. Halves of area — Equal. Bundles — Yellowish; inconspicuous; in two whorls. Alternate Bundle — Core lines — meeting; carpellary area distinct; small. Calyx-tube — Glabrous toward base; cone shaped; entire depth — approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch. Styles — Present; united toward base. Stamens — In one whorl; median. Auxillary cavity — Wanting.

*Seeds*.—Number perfect — 10; imperfect — 0. Number in one cell — 2. Length — Approximately  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch. Breadth — Approximately  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch. Form — Acute. Color — Brown — Mars Brown Plate XII — Color #13' Tone 111 of Ridgeway Color Standards.

Use: Local Market; dessert; culinary; commercial market.

Keeping quality: Good — better than Golden Delicious — Mullins cultivar.

*Number of days in ordinary storage*.—Approximately 120 to 140+.

Resistance to:

*Insects*.—Medium.

*Diseases*.—Medium.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of apple tree of the Golden Delicious type which is a whole tree mutation of the Goldensheen apple tree substantially as shown and described, characterized by (a) the ability to form fruit with a deep Dresden yellow skin which is unusually free and resistant to russeting substantially identical to that of the Goldensheen cultivar, (b) a vigorous and spreading growth habit which yields a standard sized tree unlike the Goldensheen cultivar, and (c) smaller flowers which appear later than those of the Golden Delicious — Mullins cultivar.

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Fig. 1





Fig. 2