

[54] APPLE TREE — SCHNEICA
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Fed. Rep. of Germany
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[52] U.S. Cl. Plt./34
[58] Field of Search Plt. 34

[56] References Cited
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS
P.P. 5,937 10/1984 Coster Plt. 34
P.P. 6,148 4/1988 Ligonniere Plt. 34

OTHER PUBLICATIONS
Brooks, Reid M., et al., *Register of New Fruit and Nut*

Varieties, (2nd Ed), University of California Press, 1972,
pp. 48-49.

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[57] ABSTRACT
‘Schneica’ is a sport of ‘Jonagold’ having a deeper over-
color intensity and flatter fruit shape, as well as a deeper
eye than that of the fruit of the parent. Fruit is less long,
lighter and less extensive in coloration, and later to
color than that of ‘Jonagored’ which is a solid red,
earlier to color and more acid tasting apple.

6 Drawing Sheets

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BACKGROUND OF THE PLANT

This discovery relates to a new and distinct variety of
apple tree identified by the varietal name Schneica. The
new variety, which is a blossom bud to limb mutation of
a Jonagold, was discovered in the discoverer’s orchard
in Edingen-Neckarhausen, Federal Republic of Ger-
many, in the year 1980. The new variety appeared as a
branch having a distinctive fruit on a Jonagold tree
among a planting of young Jonagold trees. The new
fruit of the variety exhibits a deeper overcolor intensity
as compared with the Jonagold variety fruit, yet with a
red hue faded in comparison. Also, the fruit is flatter
and the eye end is deeper than the Jonagold fruit.

The tree having the new variety on its branch, and its
fruit, were carefully observed and protected. During
the course of the following year, the same overcolor
intensity, faded hue and distinctive shape were ob-
served on the apple fruit of the same branch. The rest of
the tree showed no variation.

The discoverer obtained several scions from this
branch and grafted them onto several other trees. All of
these graftings produced fruit with the same deep over-
color intensity, faded hue and distinctive shape. The
procedure was repeated and there are now sixth genera-
tion trees bearing fruit. All grafts remain stable and no
retrogression or degeneration has been observed.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying photographic drawings illustrate
the new variety, with color being as nearly true as is
possible with color illustrations of this type. The photo-
graphs of the apple tree were taken in the summer with
natural light whereas the individual apple photographs
were taken during the winter from stored apples using
flash light.

FIG. 1 is a photograph of the apple tree Schneica as
described herein.

FIG. 2 is a photograph of the mother tree showing
the more solid red apples of Schneica and the red/yel-
low apples of Jonagold;

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FIG. 3 is a photograph of a close-up of a clump of the
Schneica apples:

FIGS. 4-6 are photographs of the Schneica apple at
different perspectives.

FIG. 7 is a photograph showing two Schneica apple
halves taken on different planes;

FIG. 8 is a photograph of the flowers of the Schneica
tree;

FIG. 9 is a photograph of the trunk of the Schneica
tree;

FIGS. 10 and 11 are comparisons at different perspec-
tives and show the differences in color of Schneica
apple and the Jonagored apple, which is another sport
mutation of Jonagold and is described in U.S. Plant Pat.
No. 5,937.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

This new variety has all the known and favorable
qualities of the Jonagold variety, such as medium sweet-
ness and acidity, mid-season maturity, weak distinctness
of core in section, and good production and storage
characteristics. As an additional characteristic, how-
ever, this new variety shows as a major feature the
deeper overcolor intensity identified above, which im-
proves the optical impression and attractiveness of the
fruit and substantially enhances its commercial value.

The specimens described were grown at Edingen-
Neckarhausen, Federal Republic of Germany. The
color descriptions which follow refer to Pflanzenfar-
benatlas mit Farbtafel mit Farbzeichen nach DIN 6164
(German industry standard) mit der Genauigkeitsstufe ½
nach Prof. Dr. E. Biesalski. Corresponding *Royal Horti-
cultural Society (R.H.S.) Colour Chart* values accom-
pany the German Industry standard values.

Schneica and Jonagold bloom at the same time and
have the same floral characteristics. Each develop their
color in Edingen-Neckarhausen, Federal Republic of
Germany at the end of September and are ripe for pick-
ing in October. The fruit size is substantially the same
for both varieties. Other than the specific differences set
forth hereinabove, the two varieties are virtually identi-
cal. Schneica may also be compared with Jonagored.

The fruit of Schneica is less oblong than that of Jonagored. Schneica is a lighter red than Jonagored which is all red and not blushed as in Schneica. Schneica develops its color 4 to 6 weeks after Jonagored. Schneica is less acidic to the taste than is Jonagored.

Tree: Medium size; medium vigor; relatively hardy and powerful with wide and low spreading; easy to trim; resistant to fungus and disease.

Trunk: Medium; smooth.

Branches: Medium thick; smooth; much branching.

Lenticels: average number, medium large.

Leaves: Length, 4 inches (10 cm); Width, approximately 3 inches (7 cm); strong, medium thick, pronounced ribs; dark green.

Flowers: Full bloom (in West Germany), medium late; Size, large; Color, at the beginning of blooming, pink; Color, at peak of blooming, white with a very light pink blush on the reverse side.

Fruit:

Shape.—Length of axis, 2.6 inches (65 mm) average height, 2.8 inches (70 mm); average breadth, 3.2 inches (80 mm); overall flat, nontapering shape; Cavity of the stem is broad and of medium depth.

Stem.—Medium long, fleshy.

Skin.—Smooth; medium dry. Ground color, Table No. 1, 5 Rock Madwort-yellow D 1,5:5, 5:1,5 corresponding to R.H.S. Yellow-green group

153D. Overcolor, table No. 7.5 Avens Red, Fireglobe k 7, 5:5:3 corresponding to R.H.S. Red Group 47A covering about 75% of fruit at picking time.

Core.—Small, with seeds well developed.

Flesh.—Yellowish; juicy. Texture: Medium firm, moderately easily bruised; medium cells. Flavor: Rich; aromatic; pleasant relation between sugar and acidity. Quality: Best.

Seeds:

Number perfect.—10.

Number in one cell.—2.

Length.—0.32 inches (8 mm).

Breadth.—0.14 inches (3.5 mm).

Color.—Dark brown.

Time of maturity.—Early October.

Maturity for consumption.—Right after harvest up to July of following year, depending on kind of storage.

Pollination.—Partially self-pollinating, but a donor standing nearby is preferable.

I claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of apple tree named Schneica as described and illustrated, and particularly characterized by its relatively deep overcolor intensity.

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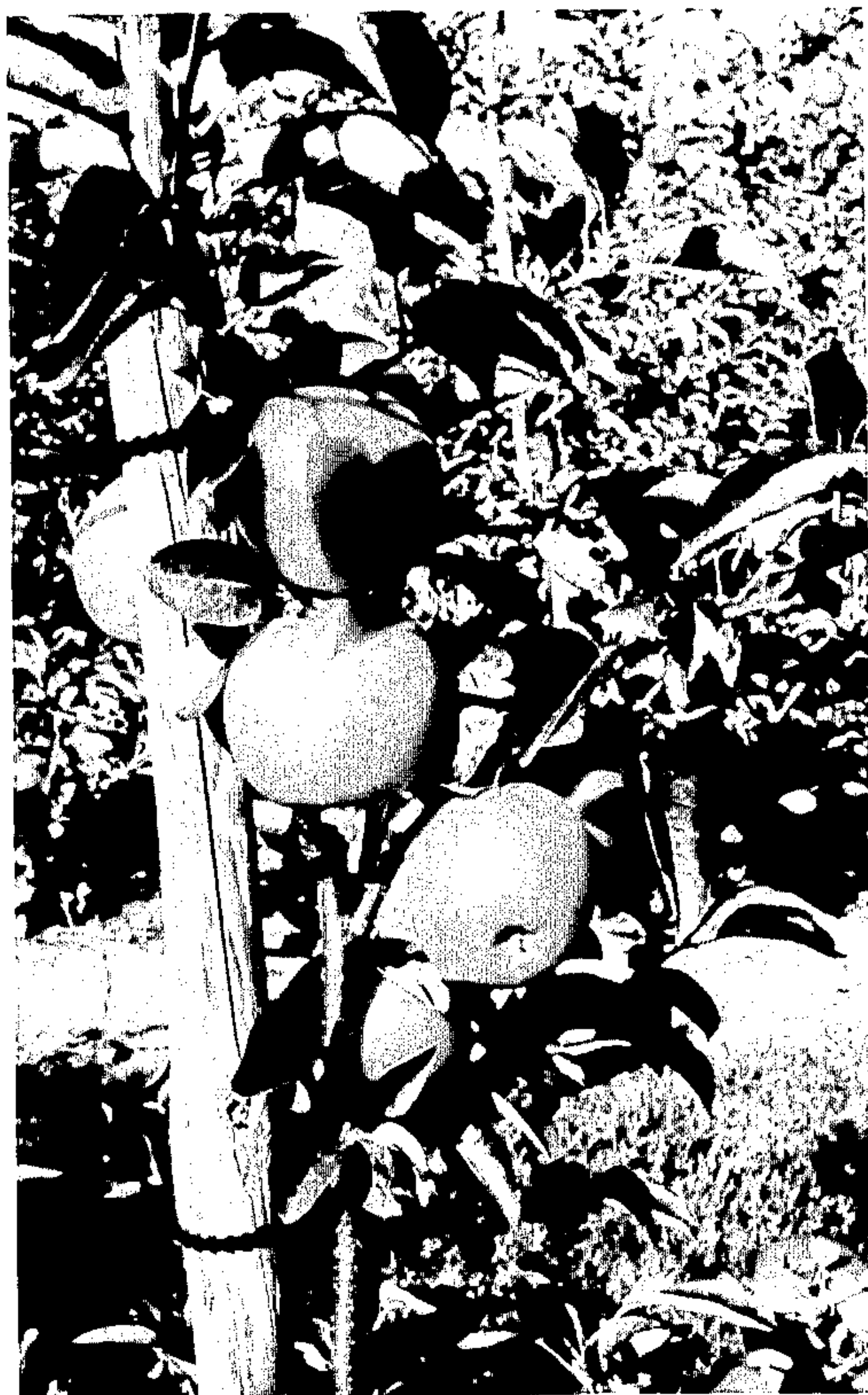


FIG. 1



FIG. 2



FIG. 3



FIG. 4



FIG. 5



FIG. 6

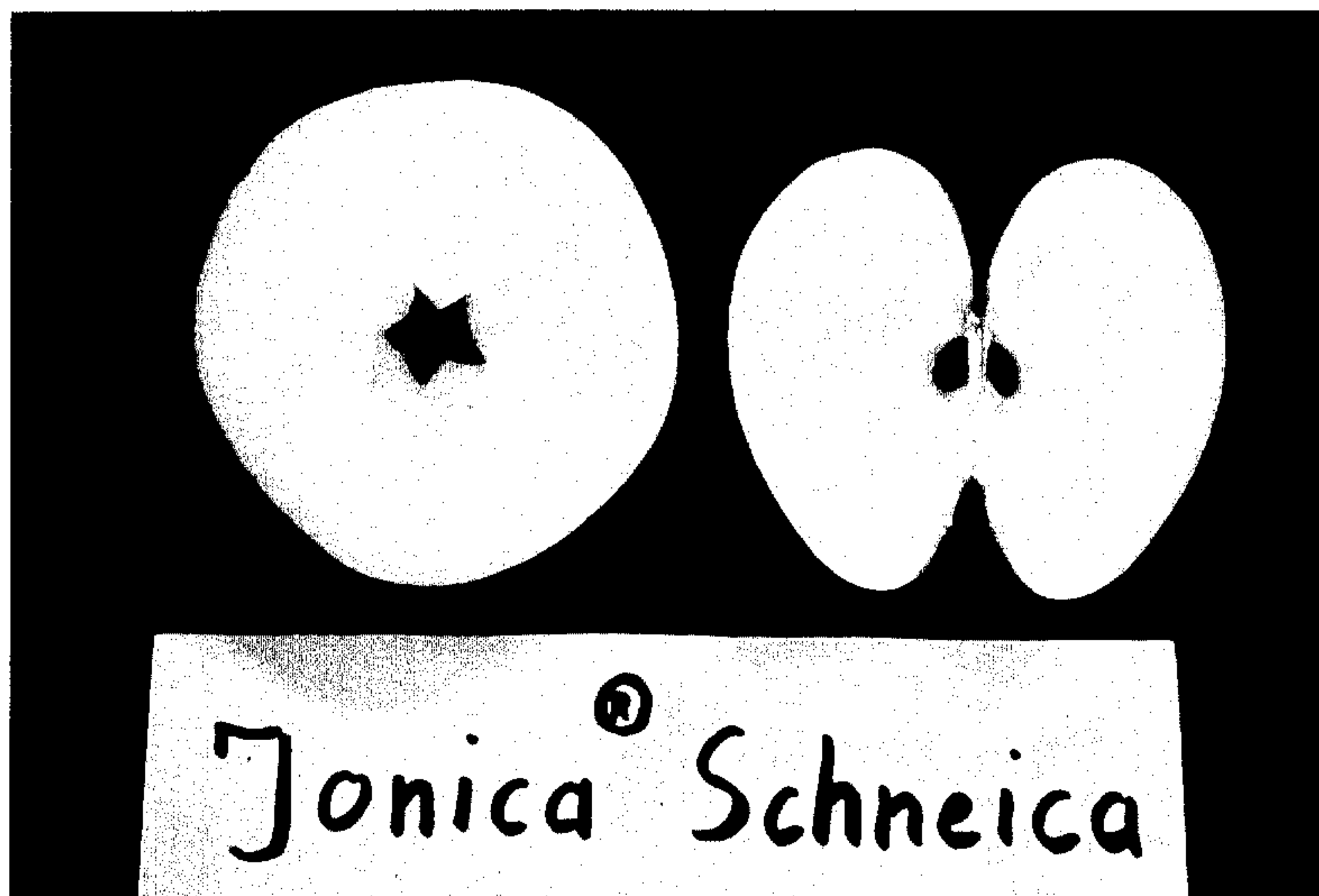


FIG. 7

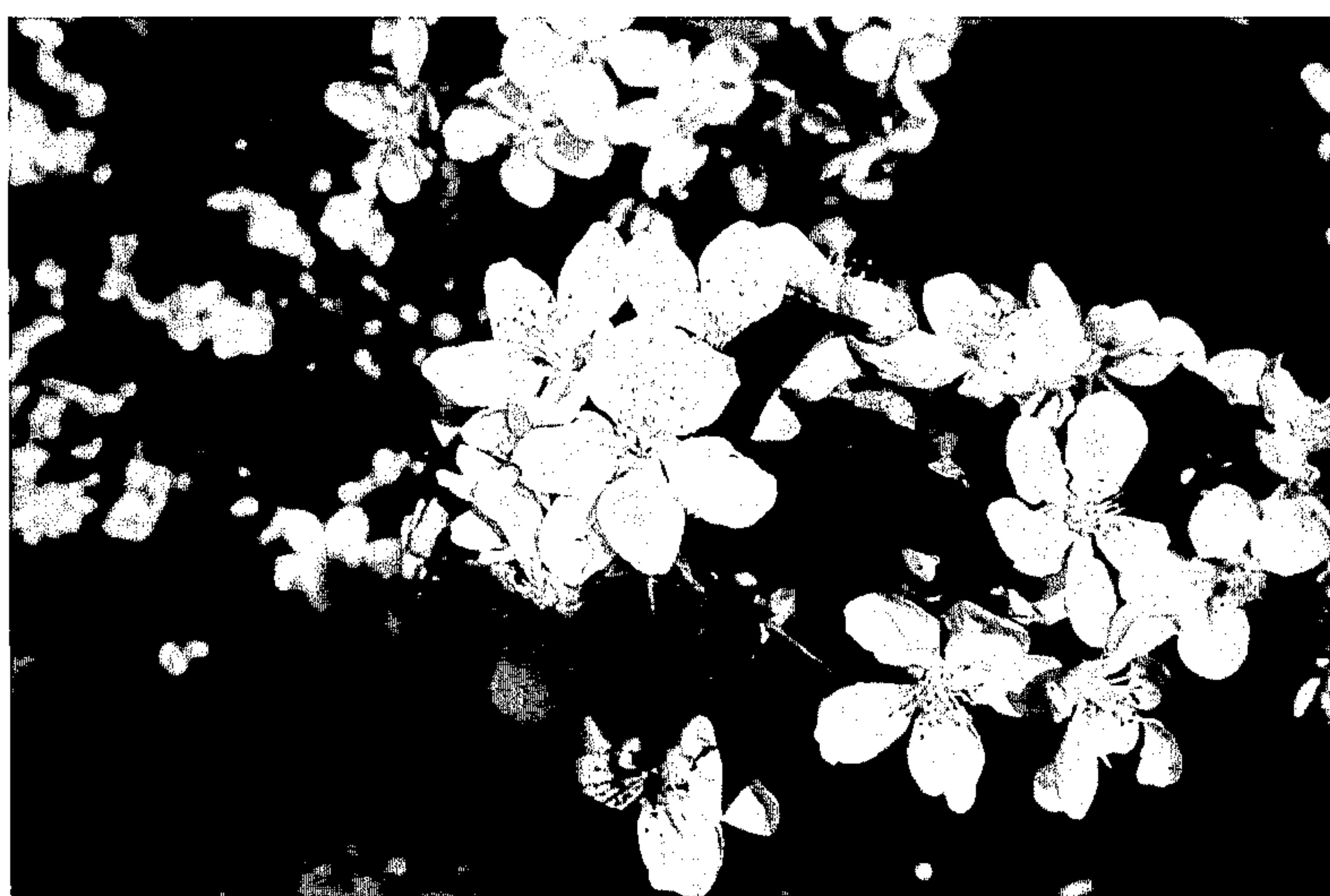


FIG. 8



FIG. 9

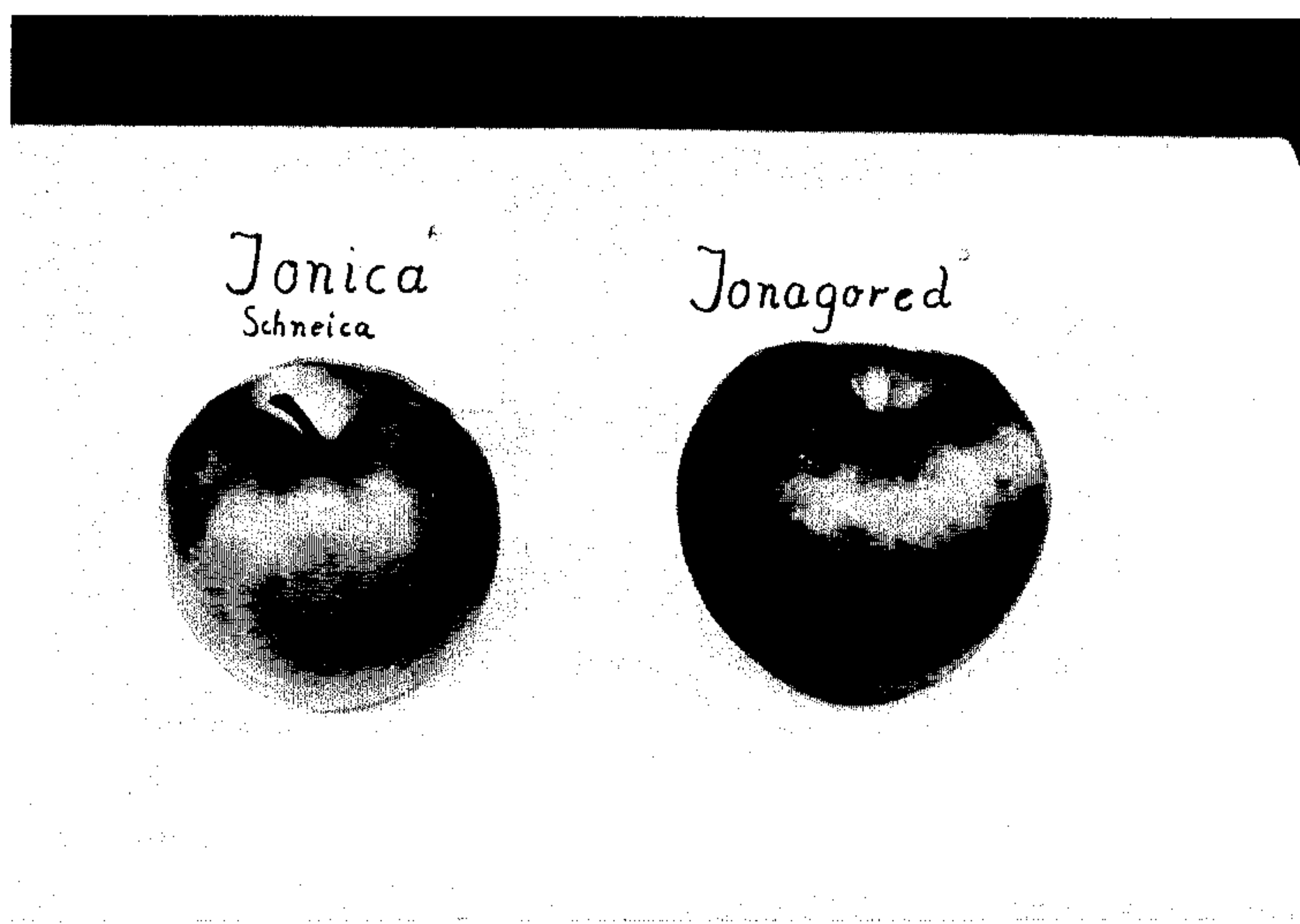


FIG. 10

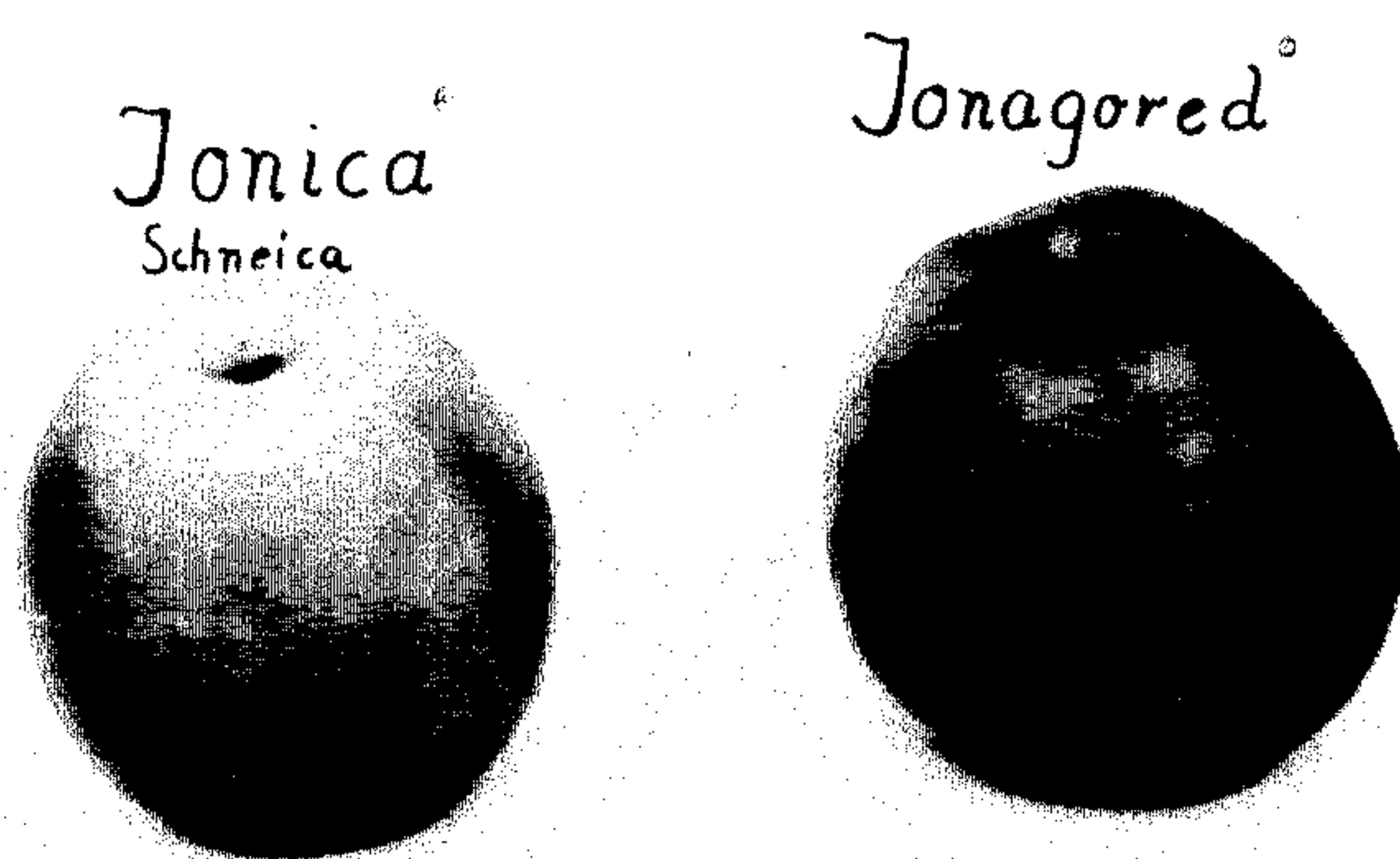


FIG. 11