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Maillard et al.

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(54) **NECTARINE TREE NAMED ‘NECTABINGO’**
(50) Latin Name: *Prunus persica* var. *nucipersica* (L.)
Batsch.
Varietal Denomination: **NECTABINGO**
(71) Applicant: **AGRO SELECTIONS FRUITS**, Elne
(FR)
(72) Inventors: **Arsene Maillard**, Elne (FR); **Laurence**
Maillard, Elne (FR)
(73) Assignee: **AGRO SELECTIONS FRUITS**, Elne
(FR)
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Primary Examiner — June Hwu
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Westerman, Hattori,
Daniels & Adrian, LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**
A new and distinct variety of yellow nectarine tree denomi-
nated ‘NECTABINGO’ has fruits with high eating quality
and very long shelf life without alteration before and after
harvesting, with a semi-sweet orange yellow flesh, without
any pigmentation, and an attractive luminous and homog-
enous skin with a very high percentage of red blush on skin
surface.

4 Drawing Sheets

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Botanical classification: *Prunus persica* var. *nucipersica*
(L.) Batsch.
Variety denomination: ‘NECTABINGO’.
This application claims priority of Community plant vari-
ety right No. 2012/0740 filed on Apr. 2, 2012 (Apr. 2, 2012) 5
which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW VARIETY

The present invention relates to a new and distinct variety 10
of yellow nectarine tree, *Prunus persica* var. *nucipersica* (L.)
Batsch which has been given the variety denomination
‘NECTABINGO’. This new tree produces fruits with a long
shelf life without alteration both on the tree after growth
completion and after harvesting, very good eating quality,
clingstone orange yellow flesh fruits for fresh market in mid-
July in the Pyrénées-Orientales department (an administra-
tive district), France. Contrast is made to ‘Bigtop’ yellow
nectarine tree (non patented), and to its parents, ‘NECTAP-
RIMA’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 17,583) yellow nectarine tree and
‘NECTAGALA’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 17,581) yellow nectar-
ine tree, for reliable description. ‘NECTABINGO’ is a prom-
ising candidate for commercial success in that it has very
attractive fruits with very long shelf life without alteration
both before and after harvesting.

ORIGIN OF THE VARIETY

The ‘NECTABINGO’ yellow nectarine tree originated
from a cultivated area of the south of France, in the Pyrénées- 30
Orientales department, where it was tested.
This place is under a Mediterranean climate (a temperate
area), on the Mediterranean coastline. Winters are gentle and

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summers warm and dry. The amount of days with tempera-
tures below 7° Celsius can vary between 600 and 1200 hours
per year. The place is sunny, with 2400 to 2800 hours of sunny
days per year on average. The prevailing wind is called ‘Tra-
montane’: it dries the air, clears the sky from clouds, but its
intensity can be strong and affect the harvest, fruit quantity
and/or quality. Marine moisture does not affect the place.
Precipitations are irregular through the year and from one
year to another. The amount of rainy days does not exceed 80
days per year, and are mostly found in Spring and Autumn. In
May and October, very intense precipitations occasionally
happen. Summer is dry with a few thunderstorms.

The ‘NECTABINGO’ variety resulted from a pollinated
cross between the ‘NECTAGALA’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No.
17,581) yellow nectarine tree, which was used as the seed
parent, and the ‘NECTAPRIMA’ (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 17,583)
yellow nectarine tree which was used as the pollen parent.

‘NECTABINGO’ was provisionally designated, tested and
genetically identified by a genetic profile, under number
03.8W.31NJ and was registered at the Official Catalogue of
the Agriculture Ministry of the French Republic on Nov. 27,
2011 under number 4049386 The ‘NECTABINGO’ variety
was obtained by hybridizing and propagated by grafting on a
“INRA GF677” rootstock trees. It has been determined to
have unique tree and fruit characteristics making it worthy for
commercial fresh fruit production. There are no known
effects of the standard rootstock trees set forth above on the
scion cultivar. Asexually propagated plants remained true to
the original tree and all characteristics of the tree and the fruit
were transmitted. The plant was reproduced asexually by us
in Les Régelines, Route d’Alenya, La Prade de Mousseillous,

66200 ELNE, Pyrénées-Orientales, France. More particularly, the plant was reproduced by grafting.

SUMMARY OF THE VARIETY

The new and distinct variety 'NECTABINGO' yellow nectarine tree blooms at the end of February or during March near Elne in the Pyrénées-Orientales department, France. More particularly, it blooms between March 5th and March 14th generally together with 'Bigtop' yellow nectarine variety (non patented). The blooming period is considered semi-early to medium. However, it was observed that its early date of blooming seems to be highly dependant on climatic conditions.

The first fruit of 'NECTABINGO' ripens generally at the end of June or in July, approximately at the same time as the first fruit of 'Bigtop' yellow nectarine variety (non patented). More particularly, it usually ripens between June 25th and July 16th. However, it was observed that its early date of maturity seems to be highly dependant on climatic conditions.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In the accompanying drawing, which are as nearly true as it is reasonably possible to make in a color illustration of this type:

FIG. 1 is a color photograph showing a branch of a tree of the new variety in its third leaf, in orchard, bearing fruits.

FIG. 2 is a color photograph which shows four typical specimens of the fruit, one having been cut in half with the pit being left into the half for depicting fruit flesh and pit of the new variety.

FIG. 3 is a color photograph which depicts the flower buds at different development stages, and the reverse and side view of the flower and the reproductive organs with petals removed, of the new variety.

FIG. 4 is a color photograph that shows a close view of typical fruits of the new variety 'NECTABINGO' at ripening time.

Due to chemical development, processing and printing, the leaves and fruit depicted in these photographs may or may not be accurate when compared to the actual botanical specimen.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The tree, flowers, and fruit may vary in slight detail due to variations in soil type, cultural practices, and climatic condition. The potential for commercial production of fresh fruits by 'NECTABINGO' is high, due to fruit very long shelf life without alteration after harvesting.

Trees are medium vigorous and large stature half-standing in a semi-flared to semi-upright out aspect. The anthocyanic coloration of flowering shoot is present excluding brushwood side away from sun. The time of beginning of flowering is considered semi early to medium; flowering begins at the end of February or early in March. The type of flower is showy with medium to large petal size. Petals are pale pink. Leaf glands are present and reniform. The fruit flesh is yellow to orange generally without any pigmentation, although occasionally, as shown in FIG. 2, the color of the flesh may show a slight reddish pigmentation. The fruit skin is very thick, with a luminous and homogenous red purple blush on a red orange background. The stone is clingstone and his size is medium to large. Fruit taste is semi-sweet, very aromatic and with a high level of sugars.

Compared to 'Bigtop' (non patented) yellow nectarine tree, 'NECTABINGO' variety blooms approximately at the same time and ripens at the same time, as set forth above. However, the time to maturity of 'NECTABINGO' variety is shorter than the 'Bigtop' variety, and the maturity stage is reached more uniformly, within a span of 10 days for 'NECTABINGO' instead of three weeks usually for 'Bigtop' variety. 'NECTABINGO' fruits color is more complete and homogenous than 'Bigtop' fruits color. 'NECTABINGO' fruits are rounder, without lenticels and have a semi-sweet taste. Furthermore, the pistil cavity of the fruit of 'NECTABINGO' is not mucronate, that is to say it does not have a proeminence like a tip in the pistil cavity of the fruit. 'NECTABINGO' variety produces a higher quantity of both flowers and fruits than 'Bigtop' variety.

The new variety male parent, which is 'NECTAPRIMA' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 17,583), produces yellow nectarines. 'NECTAPRIMA' comparatively ripens early in June, approximately one month earlier than the new variety, which ripens at the end of June or in July.

The new variety female parent, which is the 'NECTAGALA' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 17,581) variety, produces yellow nectarines at the end of August, approximately 1 month and a half later than 'NECTABINGO' variety.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Referring more specifically to the pomological details of this new and distinct variety of yellow nectarine tree, the following was observed on trees in their fourth growing season (third year of production) under the ecological conditions prevailing at the orchards located near the town of Elne, Pyrénées-Orientales department, France. All observations have been done on rootstock cultivars. Used rootstocks were "INRA GF677" trees. All major color code designations are by reference to The R.H.S. Colour Chart 2001 (Fourth Edition) provided by The Royal Horticultural Society of Great Britain.

Tree:

Size.—Generally. — Considered large. The tree size the first year was approximately 250 cm. The tree was pruned during each following dormant season to a height of approximately 250 cm. Current season shoots growth could reach 60 to 80 cm. The tree size from the second year (second and next years) reached a final height of 310 to 330 cm including current season shoots length. The tree size is consistently reduces to 250 cm the next years.

Spread.—Approximately 100 cm with a cylindrical shape. The whole orchard was oriented to a central leader organization, with tree lines spaced of 4.0 meters and trees spaced of 1.0 meter in a same tree line. As a result, tree spread was about 100 cm and the orchard contained 2500 trees by hectare.

Vigor.—Considered medium vigorous.

Productivity.—Very Productive and regular, every year. Fruit set is spaced by thinning to develop the remaining fruit into the desired market sized fruit. The number of the fruit set varies with the prevailing climatic conditions and cultural practices employed during the bloom period, and is therefore not distinctive of the present variety.

Bearer.—Very regular. The fruit distribution is considered homogenous on mixed branches and spurs having more than 1 year. Thinning of 1 fruit out of 3 was

necessary for the tree valorisation. Thinning was necessary every year during the years of observation.

Form.—The ‘NECTABINGO’ variety has naturally a semi-flared to semi-upright shape.

Density.—Considered dense.

Hardiness.—The present tree was grown and evaluated in France. The variety appears to be hardy under the central Pyrénées-Orientales department typical climatic conditions. Experimentations on different sites with winter chilling requirement comprised between 350 hours and 1200 hours showed a good behaviour of the tree in all cases. No damages were caused by ascertained temperatures as low as –12 degrees Celsius in winter. The tree was also very resistant to frosty springtime weather.

Trunk:

Diameter.—Approximately 9.0 centimeters in diameter when measured at a distance of approximately 30 centimeters above the soil level.

Bark texture.—Considered smooth to rough, with lenticels.

Lenticels.—Numerous lenticels are present. The number of lenticels reaches 4 or 5 lenticels per cm². The lenticels range in size from approximately 4.0 millimeters to 6.0 millimeters in width, and from 2.0 to 2.5 millimeters in height.

Lenticel color.—The outside of lenticels has a silver-grey color (RHS Grey 201 C), whereas the inside is considered brown (RHS Greyed Orange 164 A or RHS Greyed Orange 165 B).

Bark coloration.—The bark has a silver-grey color (RHS Grey 201 C) similar to the outside of lenticels color.

Branches:

Size.—Mature branches and current season shoots are considered medium for the variety.

Diameter.—Average as compared to other nectarine varieties. The current season shoots have a diameter from 4.0 to 5.0 millimeters, and mature branches have a diameter from 30.0 to 40.0 millimeters.

Surface texture.—Average, wood which is several years old has no furrowed appearance.

Crotch angles.—Primary branches are considered variable, but the crotch angles are generally between 70 degrees and 85 degrees from the horizontal axis. Sometimes the crotch angles reach 110 degrees from the horizontal axis. This particular characteristic is not considered distinctive of the variety, however.

Current season shoots:

Internode length.—Generally between 18.0 and 28.0 millimeters.

Color of mature branches.—Medium brown (RHS Grey Brown N199 A or RHS Grey Brown 199 A).

Current seasons shoots.—Color. — The color of new shoot tips is considered a pale yellow-green (RHS Yellow Green 144 A to B) on lower part of new shoot tips, whereas the upper part is darker and colored in brown-purple to red purple (RHS Greyed Orange 174 A to B).

Leaves:

Size.—Considered medium for the species. The ratio leaf length/leaf width is 3.36.

Leaf length.—Approximately 132.0 to 162.0 millimeters with leaf petiole. The medium length is 145.0 millimeters.

Leaf width.—Approximately 38.0 to 50.0 millimeters.

The medium width is 43.0 millimeters.

Leaf base shape.—Cuneate.

Leaf form.—Lanceolate.

Leaf tip form.—Short, pointed and acuminate.

Leaf color.—Upper leaf surface. — Dark Green (RHS Green 137 A). Lower surface. — A lighter green (RHS Green 137 C or RHS Yellow Green 146A) than the upper leaf surface color.

Leaf texture.—Smooth and glabrous, this leaf texture refers to the upper and lower surfaces of the leaf.

Leaf venation.—Pinnately veined.

Mid-vein.—Color. — Light green, almost yellow (RHS Yellow Green 150 C). The color may evolve with maturity.

Leaf margins.—Slightly undulating.

Form of leaf margins.—Considered slightly dentate.

Uniformity.—Leaves are isolated or grouped by 2 or 3. In this last case, one leaf of normal size is found with one or two smaller leaves (at least 50% smaller).

Leaf petioles.—Size. — Considered medium. Length. — About 9.0 to about 12.0 millimeters. Diameter. — About 1.5 to 2.0 millimeters.

Petioles color.—Upper petiole surface. — Light green (RHS Yellow Green 144 A). Lower surface. — Light green (RHS Yellow Green 145 A).

Leaf glands.—Size. — Considered medium. Their length is about 1.5 to 2.0 millimeters and their width is about 1.0 millimeter. Number. — Generally 2 glands per leaf. Type. — Reniform. Color. — On young leaves, leaf glands color is considered a light green (RHS Yellow Green 144 B to A). On older leaves, leaf glands color turns to a dark brown (RHS Grey Brown 199 A to 199 B). Margins. — Smooth and regular.

Leaf stipules.—Generally. — No leaf stipules were observed. But as seen in the characteristic relative to the leaves uniformity, it is possible to find leaves by groups of 2 or 3, with a normal-size leaf and smaller ones.

Leaf bud burst.—Medium.

Flowers:

Flower buds.—Generally. — At pre-floral stage of development, the floral buds are conic in form with a round tip. Their form is evolving until blooming, with variables dimensions. Just before blooming, floral buds are approximately between 10.0 and 11.0 millimeters wide and approximately 13.0 to 14.0 millimeters long. Color. — This characteristic is dependent upon the proximity to bloom. At pre-floral stage of development, the bottom of the flowers buds, formed by the sepals, is of purple-brown color (RHS Greyed Purple 183 A). The corolla, formed by the petals, is generally of medium pink color (RHS Red Purple 65 A to B to C). Petals color shows an evolution until the end of flowering.

Hardiness.—The buds are considered hardy under typical central Pyrénées-Orientales department climatic conditions. No winter injury was noted during the last several years of evaluation in the central Pyrénées-Orientales department, with winter temperatures as low as –10 degrees Celsius in January. The current variety has not been intentionally subjected to drought or heat stress, but the variety showed a very good resistance in orchard to temperatures up to 42

degrees Celsius with an average temperature between 28 and 30 degrees Celsius during 3 weeks in summer.

Date of bloom.—The blooming time generally begins at the end of February or early in March. The first bloom was observed on Mar. 5, 2009. 5

Blooming time.—Considered medium-season in relative comparison to other commercial nectarine cultivars grown in the Pyrénées-Orientales department, France. The date of full bloom is observed on March 10th, at the middle of the blooming period. The date of bloom varies slightly with climatic conditions and cultural practices. Thus the first full bloom was observed on Mar. 5 until Mar. 14, 2009, Mar. 20 until Mar. 26, 2010, Feb. 24 until Mar. 6, 2011. The next observed blooming time was from Mar. 14 until Mar. 23, 2012. 10 15

Duration of bloom.—Approximately 10 days. This characteristic varies slightly with the prevailing climatic conditions. 20

Flower type.—The variety is considered to have a showy type flower.

Flower size.—Considered large. Flower diameter at full bloom is approximately 31.0 to 33.0 millimeters.

Bloom quantity.—Considered abundant, approximately between 45 and 50 flowers per meter, with a good distribution and a high rate of fruit set. 25

Flower bud frequency.—Generally 2 flower buds appear per node, occasionally 1.

Petal size.—Generally. — Considered medium to large. 30

Length.—Generally 18.12 millimeters (between 17.0 to 19.0 millimeters).

Width.—Generally 17.37 millimeters (between 16.0 to 19.0 millimeters).

Petal form.—Round-shaped. 35

Petal count.—Generally 5.

Petal texture.—Smooth, soft and glabrous.

Petal color.—Both surfaces of the petal are colored with a pale Pink (RHS Red Purple 69 B to C) when young, becoming slightly darker until the end of blooming. 40

Fragrance.—Sweet.

Petal claw.—Form. — The claw is considered to have a conic form, with a slightly curved tip. Length. — Approximately 6.0 millimeters. Width. — Approximately 4.0 millimeters. 45

Petal margins.—Generally considered wrinkled and very wavy, sinuate.

Petal apex.—Generally. — The petal apices are generally wide dome-shaped and slightly dentate.

Flower pedicel.—Length. — Considered medium to large and having an average length of approximately 3.0 to 4.0 millimeters. Diameter. — Considered average, approximately 2.0 millimeters. Color. — Green (RHS Yellow Green 145 B). 50

Calyx.—Internal surface texture. — Smooth and glabrous. Color. — The inner surface of the calyx is matt and considered golden-orange (RHS Greyed Red 178 C to B). The outer surface of the calyx is considered of purple-brown (RHS Greyed Purple 183 A) color. 55

Sepals.—Number. — Generally five sepals. Surface texture. — The outer surface has a short, fine pubescent texture. Size. — Average. Length. — Approximately 5.0 to 6.0 millimeters. Width. — Approximately 4.0 to 5.0 millimeters. Color. — Both sides of sepals are colored with a matt Red (RHS Greyed Purple 183 A or B or C or D or RHS Grey Brown 199A). 60 65

Average number of stamens per flower.—Approximately 40 stamens per flower.

Anthers.—Generally. — Medium in length. Color. — Orange yellow color (RHS Yellow Orange 16 A to B) or red to red orange color (RHS Greyed Purple Group 178 A). The color may evolve with maturity to turn in a yellow color.

Pollen production.—Pollen is abundant, and has a yellow color (Approximately RHS Yellow Orange 17 B to C) which may evolve with maturity. The present variety is considered auto-fertile (self-pollinating).

Filaments.—Size. — Medium length, between 9.0 and 18.0 millimeters in length. Filaments length is generally higher to the pistil's length.

Color.—Considered light pink (approximately RHS Red Purple 62 C to D or RHS Red Purple 73 A to B). The color becomes darker during the blooming.

Pistil.—Number. — Usually 1. Generally. — Average in size. Length. — Approximately 16.0 millimeters including the ovary. Generally equal to stamen length, if not slightly smaller. Color. — Considered a very pale green (RHS Yellow Green 150 D or RHS Yellow Green Group 151 D). The color evolves during the blooming. Surface texture. — Glabrous.

Fruit:

Maturity when described.—Very firm in ripe conditions (shipping ripe).

Date of first picking.—Jul. 5, 2009.

Date of last picking.—The date of harvest varies slightly with the prevailing climatic conditions. The 'NECT-ABINGO' variety has a medium date of picking, and a grouped maturity. The maturity is grouped within 9 to 14 days and the harvest is generally performed in two runs. Last known picking times carry on Jul. 5 to Jul. 15, 2009, Jul. 15 to Jul. 24, 2010, then Jun. 25 to Jul. 8, 2011 and Jul. 16 to Jul. 26, 2012.

Size.—Generally. — Homogeneous in size.

Average cheek diameter.—Approximately 67.0 to 71.0 millimeters.

Average axial diameter.—Approximately 68.0 to 71.0 millimeters.

Typical weight.—Generally about 175.0 to 200.0 grams. This characteristic is high dependent upon the prevailing cultural practices, and therefore is not particularly distinctive of the variety.

Fruit form.—Generally. — Round. The fruit is generally uniform in symmetry, viewed from the suture's plane.

Fruit suture.—Wide-mouthed and slightly marked, extending from the base to the apex. No apparent callousing or stitching exists along the suture line. Not pointed.

Suture.—Color. — The suture has generally a similar color to the whole fruit color, a luminous purple red (RHS Greyed Purple 187 A).

Ventral surface.—Form. — Smooth.

Apex.—Non-prominent, generally slightly depressed.

Base.—Semi-flared, shallow.

Stem cavity.—Average depth of the stem cavity is about 8.0 to 10.0 millimeters. Average width is about 12.0 to 16.0 millimeters.

Fruit skin.—Thickness. — Considered very thick and strong, and the adherence of skin to flesh is strong to medium, depending on the fruit maturity. Texture. — Glabrous. Taste. — Semi-sweet, aromatic, with a high level of sugars. Tendency to crack. — None observed.

Color.—Blush color. — This blush color is a luminous and homogenous purple red (RHS Greyed Purple 187 A). The red blush covers 90% to 95% of the fruit skin surface on an orange red background (RHS Orange Red N34 A). The percentage of the blush on the fruit skin surface can vary, and is generally dependant upon the prevailing conditions under which the fruit was grown. Ground color. — The ground color covers approximately 5% of the fruit skin surface, and is considered orange red (RHS Orange Red N 34 A).

Fruit stem.—Medium in length, approximately 8.0 millimeters.

Diameter.—Approximately 4.0 millimeters.

Color.—Pale green (RHS Yellow Green 145A to 145 B).

Flesh.—Ripens. — Very homogenously, slowly. The flesh has a long shelf life. Texture. — Very firm, very dense, crunchy, melting, juicy at harvest maturity stage. Fibers. — Not fibrous. Aroma. — Pronounced. Eating quality. — Considered very good and aromatic. Flavor. — Considered semi-sweet and very aromatic. The Brix is generally superior to 10 and acidity comprised between 6 and 9 meq/100 ml. Juice. — Very juicy at complete maturity. Brix. — Generally 10.0 to 11.0 degrees. This characteristic varies slightly with the number of fruit per tree; prevailing cultural practices; and the surrounding climatic conditions. Flesh color. — Orange yellow flesh (RHS Yellow Orange 16 B to C) usually without any pigmentation. Sometimes, as shown in FIG. 2, the color of the flesh may show a slight reddish pigmentation.

Stone:

Type.—Clingstone, more or less adherent depending on the fruit maturity.

Size.—Considered medium to large for the variety. The stone size varies significantly depending upon the tree vigor, crop load and prevailing growing conditions.

Length.—Approximately 31.0 to 33 millimeters.

Width.—Approximately 22.0 to 24.0 millimeters.

Diameter.—Approximately 16.0 to 18.0 millimeters.

Form.—Elliptic.

Base.—Round to slightly oblique.

Apex.—Shape. — The stone apex is short, pointed.

Stone cavity.—Considered medium to large size, with an ovate-form and dimensions corresponding to the stone's dimensions.

Stone surface.—Surface texture. — The pit is transversely furrowed on its entire surface. Furrows are more pronounced toward the apex. The stone is pitted toward the base. Relief is prominent generally and present basally. Ridges. — The surface texture is generally characterized by more prominent ridges along the ventral edges and is more prominent at the apical tip.

Ventral edge.—Width. — Considered small to medium, and having a dimension of approximately 1.5 to 2.0 millimeters at mid-suture.

Dorsal edge.—Shape. — Grooved.

Stone color.—The color of the dry stone is generally considered light orange brown (RHS Greyed Orange 164 B or RHS Greyed Orange 165 B).

Tendency to split.—Splitting is very low or absent, depending on climatic conditions between blooming period and stone hardening.

Kernel.—Size. — The kernel is considered medium. Length. — Approximately 18.0 millimeters. Width. — Approximately 11.0 millimeters. Thickness. — Approximately 4.0 millimeters. Form. — Considered oblate and elliptic. Pellicle. — The pellicle of the kernel has a short pubescence. Color. — The kernel skin is a orange-brown (RHS Greyed Orange 164 A or RHS Greyed Orange N167 B). The almond, which is the seed of the kernel, is white (RHS White 155 D) and has a bitter tasting. The kernel and its embryo are mature at the time of fruit maturity.

Use.—The subject variety 'NECTABINGO' is considered to be a nectarine tree of the medium season of maturity, and which produces fruits that are considered firm, attractively colored with a very luminous purple red. Fruits have a semi-sweet taste and are excellent for uncooked consumption, crunchy or melting when at full maturity. Fruits have excellent gustative qualities. Due to their flesh quality, firmness and density, they can also be commercialized as 4th range product (packed fruit or fruit in bags for example). And they are also useful for both local and very long distance shipping.

Keeping quality.—Remarkable. Fruit have a slow maturation and a long shelf life both on the tree after growth completion and after harvesting without alteration. After growth completion, fruits are preserved more than one week. After harvest, fruits are well preserved more than 4 weeks at 2.0 degree Celsius.

Shipping quality.—Considered very good. The fruit of the new yellow nectarine variety showed minimal bruising of the flesh or skin damage after being subjected to normal harvesting and packing procedures. Its resistance to handling during harvest and packing and its long shelf life without alteration after harvest easily permit 3 to 4 weeks-shipping at 2 degrees Celsius.

Resistance to disease.—No particular susceptibilities were noted. The present variety is not very sensitive to powdery mildew and *Monilia*, or conservation diseases and decay due to its thick and strong skin. Although the new variety of nectarine tree possesses the described characteristics when grown under the ecological conditions prevailing near Elne, Pyrénées-Orientales department, France, it should be understood that variations of the usual magnitude and characteristics incident to changes in growing conditions, fertilization, pruning, pest control and horticultural management are to be expected.

We claim:

1. A new and distinct variety of yellow nectarine tree as illustrated and described, characterized by fruits with high eating quality and very long shelf life without alteration before and after harvesting, with a semi-sweet orange yellow flesh, without any pigmentation, and an attractive luminous and homogenous skin with a very high percentage of red blush on skin surface.

* * * * *

FIG. 1



FIG. 2

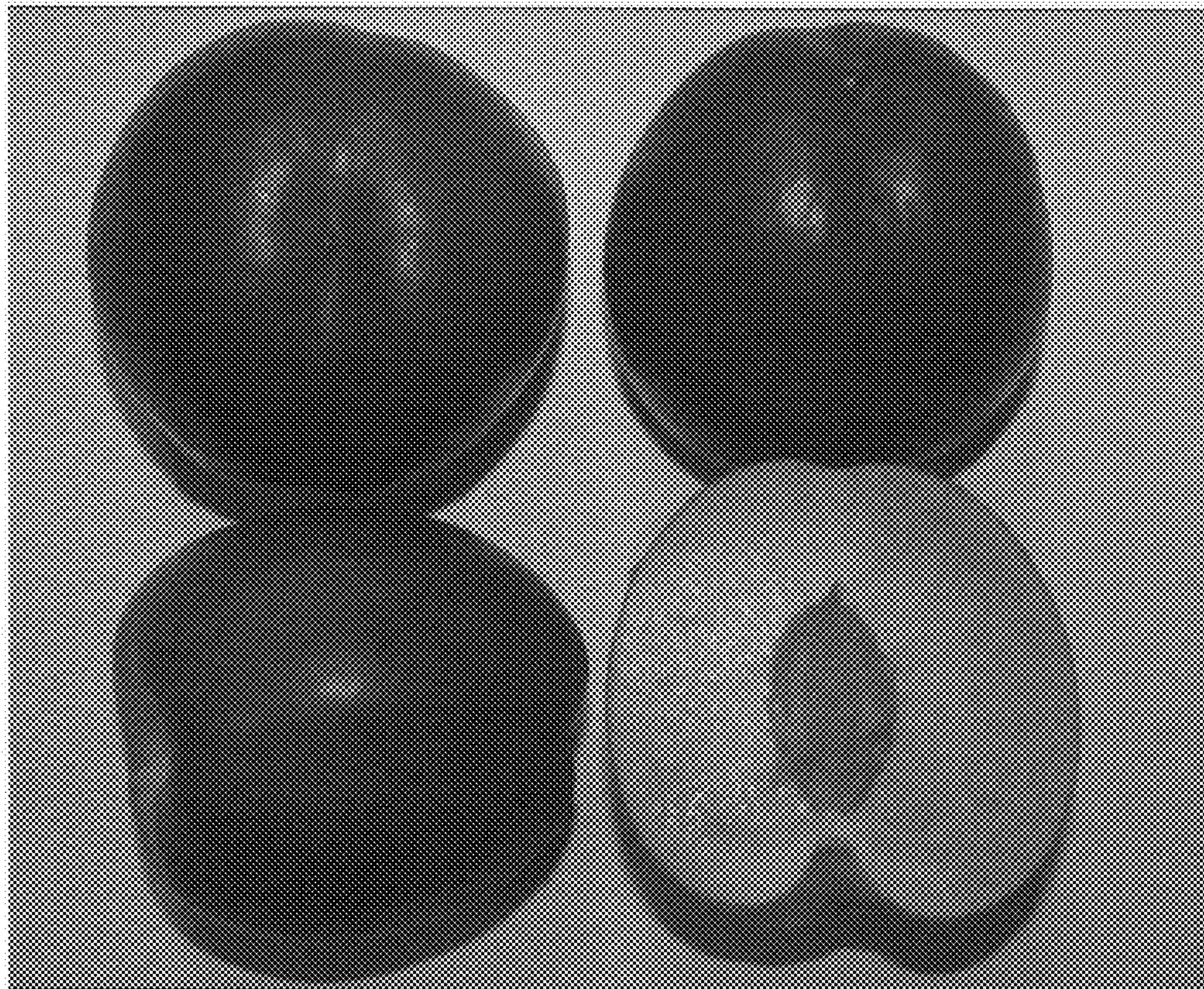


FIG. 3

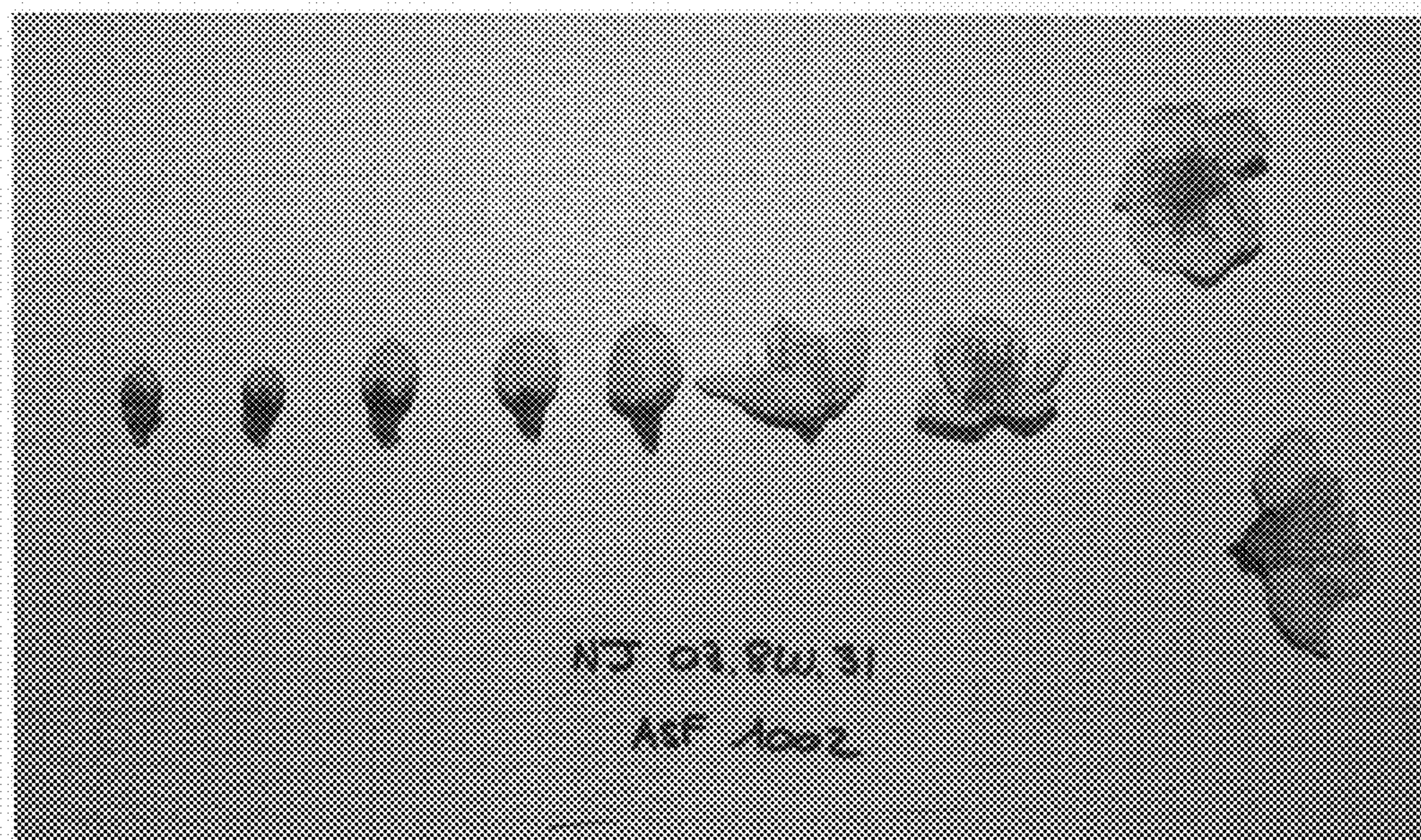


FIG. 4

