

Highlights: Source information for FPMS *P. betulaeifolia* seed trees; new registered grape selections added to the program; Dr. Pierre Galet's tour of UCD vineyard; new white wine varieties to be released by Dr. Olmo.

REMEMBER: GRAPE ORDERS MUST REACH FPMS BY NOV. 15, 1985 TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS SEASON'S ALLOCATION

October 1985

Number 5

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS
FOUNDATION PLANT MATERIALS SERVICE
NEWSLETTER

FPMS ANNUAL INDUSTRY ADVISORY MEETING

The 1985 Annual Industry Advisory Meeting will be held on December 5, 1985 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. At the meeting, FPMS programs for the 1984-85 fiscal year will be reviewed and recommendations made for the future. Anyone interested in attending should call the FPMS office at (916) 752-3590 for details so a place can be reserved. An annual report prepared for the meeting is available upon request.

FPMS FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 1984-1985 FISCAL YEAR

In 1984-85 85,408 grape cuttings, graftsticks and budsticks and 6,708 mist propagated grape plants were sold. Also 67,535 buds and 2,646 cuttings of fruit and nut tree material, as well as 104,210 certified peach seeds, 38.5 lbs. certified plum seed, 352 lbs. certified cherry seed and 706 lbs. *P. betulaeifolia* pear fruit were sold. Of rose material FPMS sold 24,010 rootstock cuttings and 900 scion buds.

Total income in 1984-85 was \$162,020.63. Total expenditures were \$160,293.78, leaving a net income of \$1,726.85. This is the first time in three years that FPMS has had a net income. Increased prices and decreased operating expenses helped bring the budget into closer balance this year.

Prices will not be increased for the 1985-86 season. Efforts are being made this season to increase income through sales of mist propagated grape plants and new grape rootstock varieties.

REGISTRATION & CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

We were all surprised and saddened by the untimely death of Roy Matsumoto this last spring, 1985. Roy coordinated all the nursery certification programs for grapes, fruit and nut trees, pome fruits, citrus trees, strawberries, avocados, caneberries, potatoes and garlic from the California State Department of Food and Agriculture's (CSDFA) level. He was also in charge of Nursery Regulatory, which consists of enforcing CSDFA regulations governing marketing, pest cleanliness, labeling of nursery stock sold in California and nursery licensing. Roy's hard work, wide-ranging knowledge and ability to organize will be missed by all.

Two people will be hired by CSDFA to replace Roy. Donald Dillely has been appointed to take care of nursery regulatory functions. He can be reached at (916) 445-2388. A replacement to do the nursery certification program work has yet to be named. Bill Callison has been promoted to Branch Chief for Pest Exclusion which includes all of Nursery Certification, Nursery Regulatory, Interior Exclusion (checks for plant pests coming into the state by mail) and Exterior Exclusion (bug stations at California borders).

With all this turnover at the State, we are all going to need to pitch in to keep things running smoothly. Bill Callison has asked that participants in the grape and tree programs in particular should be careful to notify Nursery Services by phone or mail whenever they purchase foundation material that is to be planted in a registered increase block.

FRUIT TREE PROGRAM REPORT

As the popularity of Asian pears in California grows, so does the demand for *P. betulaeifolia* rootstock and interest in its source. The *P. betulaeifolia* seed trees at UCD came from Dr. F.C. Reimer. Dr. Reimer imported *P. betulaeifolia* seed from China in about 1917 and selected for fire blight resistant seedlings in Talent, Oregon. Budwood from four resistant selections at Talent was collected about 20 years ago and used to propagate seed trees at UCD. The four different selections act as pollenizers for each other and are grouped together in the FPMS collection for this purpose. According to Mel Westwood who currently studies *P. betulaeifolia* at Oregon State University, if outcrossing occurs, resistance to fireblight and pear decline can be reduced. Seed samples from various UCD trees were sent to Dr. Westwood this fall, 1985 to grow out and check for outcrossing. In addition, a new isolated *P. betulaeifolia* seed orchard was recently planted at FPMS that should reliably produce true to type seed for the fire blight resistant strains.

This year FPMS harvested the first crop (approximately 2,000 seeds) of Nemared. This is a new variety developed by USDA that has the nematode resistant characteristics of Nemaguard and red new leaves. It may prove much easier to work within the nursery row because of the ease in distinguishing between the rootstock and scion variety when suckering. We still have very small quantities of Nemared available if you are interested in looking at it.

Orders for Nemared and other peach, plum and cherry seed, as well as *P. betulaeifolia* fruit, should be sent to FPMS by July 15, 1986 for the '86 crop. Still available from the 1985 crop are limited quantities of Lovell & Nemaguard peach and Myrobalan plum seed.

For the first time in a couple years no strikes of peach yellow leaf roll were found in the foundation orchard. Because of an ongoing problem with peach yellow leaf roll in the orchard, the CSDFA in 1984 decided to allow FPMS to issue foundation tags for registered peach and nectarine budwood one year after the wood is cut and distributed. This allows for an inspection in the following season before tags are issued. If you purchased peach or nectarine budwood from FPMS last year and need foundation tags, they will be supplied upon written request for material that qualifies.

This year trees in the foundation orchard were pruned less severely than usual so fruiting characteristics under more normal conditions could be checked. Throughout the summer, various experts on campus inspected the trees. Jim Beutel verified 80 peach, nectarine and plum selections as true to type; Warren Micke verified 11 apple selections; and Dale Kester 33 almond selections. We plan to continue with this project next season.

Black Amber plum, a new USDA release, was just identified as true to type and registered in the Deciduous Fruit & Nut Tree Program. The fruit ripens about one week before El Dorado and three weeks before Friar--it is similar to Friar in shape. The flesh is light yellow and firm and the skin is black at full maturity. Fruit quality is better than that of Friar. The variety is recommended only for Japanese-type growing areas. Foundation budwood is currently available from FPMS.

As in past years, pruning of the foundation orchard will start December 1, 1985. Any budwood orders for tree material should be sent to FPMS before that date. Upon request, pruning of a selection will be delayed and scion wood harvested later in the season. Use the attached form to place budwood orders. Please specify the diameter of budwood or graftwood needed when ordering.

GRAPEVINE PROGRAM REPORT

1984-85 has been an eventful year for industry participation in the FPMS grapevine program. At the industry committee's request, a meeting was held December 14, 1984 of University and industry people concerned with the FPMS grapevine program and related topics. A wide range of industry concerns were addressed at the meeting, including correct naming of grape varieties, grape rootstock research, grape clonal evaluation work, maintenance of clonal collections at Davis, and future research needs (minutes of the December 14th meeting are available from FPMS upon request). As a result of this meeting, Dean Charles Hess appointed a Grapevine Germplasm Task Force to look into the issues and needs raised. The task force is currently preparing a comprehensive report for Dean Hess.

The FPMS Grapevine Industry Advisory Committee has been very active this last year, meeting six times since January, 1985. Three new members were added to the Committee: Fred Jensen, Keith Bowers and Dr. Carol Meredith. The group developed the following objectives to better define their function.

The Grapevine Industry Advisory Committee will:

1. suggest ways that FPMS can serve the industry's grape material needs *Need more information*
2. make recommendations to help FPMS remain self-supporting financially by meeting more needs of industry *Need more industry, long-term financial agreement, marketing efforts*
3. provide recommendations and feedback from industry's point of view in areas where FPMS has specific concerns, questions or problems *helped resolve problem of ...*
4. recommend new directions in the area of development, increase, maintenance or propagation of grape stock *need more selections*
5. work to improve information flow between FPMS and California grape producing industry *improve communication with ...*

Phil Freese was elected Chairperson of the Industry Committee. He is also serving as the industry representative on the Dean's Grape Germplasm Task Force. If you have concerns you would like the Committee to address, please contact him at Robert Mondavi Winery.

In January of 1985 the following grape selections were removed from registration because they were found to be carrying mild leaf roll using the indicator Cabernet franc:

Blackrose-1	Muscat of Alexandria-1
Helena-1	Petite Sirah-5
Italia-2	Ribier-2A
Muller Thurgau-1	

In addition, Alicante Provincial-1 and Red Chanez-1 were removed from registration because recent inspections in the fall of 1984 and 1985 showed they were not true to type.

Several varieties have been added to the registered grape list this year:

New patented rootstocks 039-16 and 043-43
Millardet & De Grasset 420A
Millardet & De Grasset 101-14
Riparia Gloire
Lanbrusco de Salamino

Dr. Olmo is planning to release three new white wine varieties in the near future. They are currently identified as 1307L, 1343L, and 1365L. FPMS is now propagating these varieties for release as soon as variety descriptions and plant patents are complete.

Dr. Pierra Galet, author of the French arpelography Cepages et Vignobles de France, visited UCD and several California vineyards this August, 1985. While at Davis, he toured the vineyards on campus with Dr. Carole Meredith. She made careful notes of Galet's opinions on the identity of varieties where several questions currently exist. Kober 588 and Oppenheim 4 (S04) were among the vines checked. Dr. Galet said the rootstocks appeared true to type in our vineyards, but noted that elsewhere in California he had found 588 and S04 mixed.

Crown gall has become a major concern for grape growers in Washington state, Oregon, New York and Canada because it is thought that systemic crown gall infections in grapevines reduce cold hardiness. Dr. Thomas J. Burr at the New York State Ag. Experiment Station at Geneva, New York is currently studying this problem. He will be testing dormant wood samples from 3 cultivars in the foundation vineyard for Agrobacterium this winter. We hope to learn more about the health status of foundation vines by working with Dr. Burr.

Attached is an order form and updated list of available registered grape varieties. Please send grape orders for the 1985-86 season to FPMS by November 15, 1985. Available material will be allocated between all who order by November 15th according to an established priority system. Orders received after November 15th will be treated on a first come, first served basis.

Susan Nelson-Kluk

Susan Nelson-Kluk
Manager, FPMS

SNK/cch
10/31/85