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*About the Institute*

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

Register of New Fruit and Nut Varieties  
University of California  
Davis, California

Name of variety.....  
Synonyms.....  
Originator.....  
Firm or Institution.....  
Address.....  
Patent No..... Assigned to.....  
Trademarked (name)..... Date Introduced Commercially.....  
Place of Origin.....  
Date Discovered or Selected.....  
Parentage..... ♀ × ..... ♂  
Bud Mutation of.....  
Open-pollinated Seedling of..... Unknown.....  
Fruit Most Nearly Resembles.....  
Most Valuable Characteristics of New Variety.....  
.....  
.....

Information Contributed by:

Date:

species (apple, peach, etc.)

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO



SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION  
DEPARTMENT OF POMOLOGY

DAVIS, CALIFORNIA 95616

AIR MAIL

March 11, 1965

Mr. Wilson Popenoe  
Calle de la Nobleza Num. 2  
Antigua, Guatemala, CENTRAL AMERICA

Dear Mr. Popenoe:

It has come to my attention that you just recently have named and released commercially an avocado called 'Nena.' I would like to make a record of it in an annual List of the REGISTER OF NEW FRUIT AND NUT VARIETIES.

May I ask you to fill in the enclosed card and return it to me shortly? Kindly include the year you released 'Nena' in Guatemala, and also the year it was introduced into the United States--if such is the case.

Thank you very much for assisting us in this matter. Perhaps there are other avocados or varieties of other fruits which should be placed in the REGISTER. If so, I would be pleased to receive data on them.

I saw Knowles Ryerson for a few minutes a month ago when he dropped into my office. He is on this campus fairly often since he is so greatly interested in the Arboretum here.

Best regards to you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Reid M. Brooks".

Reid M. Brooks  
Professor of Pomology  
REGISTER OF NEW FRUIT & NUT VARIETIES

RMB:sjg  
Enc.



REGISTER OF NEW FRUIT AND NUT VARIETIES

University of California, Davis

by

Reid M. Brooks  
Department of Pomology

H. P. Olmo  
Department of Viticulture

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This REGISTER is being maintained by the College of Agriculture for the purpose of listing and describing all new fruit and nut varieties as they are introduced commercially in the United States, Canada and now of other foreign countries. It answers an urgent need of fruit growers, nurserymen, breeders and processors for up-to-date and authentic information on new variety (cultivar) names, their origin, patent number (if any) and especially their outstanding characteristics.

Since 1944, the REGISTER, with the voluntary assistance of some 87 cooperators, has published annual Lists in the Proceedings of the American Society for Horticultural Science. Over ~~2,700~~<sup>3,360</sup> varieties have been described.

Reprints of some of the more recent lists of varieties are available upon request.

When returning the REGISTER card which asks for certain information would you please give the name of the variety (e. g., Elberta) and the kind of fruit (e. g., peach) as this is our only reference for the information you are returning.

Also, please give the year or approximate year that this variety was first sold to the trade, that is, its date of commercial introduction.

May we ask your cooperation in keeping the REGISTER up to date.

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DAVIS, CALIFORNIA 95616

July 2, 1965

Mr. Wilson Popenoe  
Calle de la Nobleza Nu. 2  
Antigua, Guatemala, CENTRAL AMERICA

Dear Mr. Popenoe:

Thank you so very much for returning our REGISTER card filled in by you on your avocado variety by the name of 'Nena'. We always wish to include the year of introduction of a new variety and since you did not give any year date, I am taking it for granted that it was released in 1964. Unless I hear to the contrary very shortly, I will assume that this date of introduction is the correct one.

Thank you so very much for your kind help in keeping the REGISTER up-to-date. If perchance you know of any other varieties of fruits or nuts that should be included in the REGISTER, we would be only too glad to hear from you about them. I am enclosing a few of our cards for your future use.

My very best wishes to you.

Sincerely yours,

Reid M. Brooks  
Professor of Pomology  
REGISTER OF NEW FRUIT & NUT VARIETIES

RMB:sjg

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DAVIS, CALIFORNIA 95616

August 20, 1965

Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
Calle de la Nobleza Nu. 2  
Antigua, Guatemala  
CENTRAL AMERICA

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Thank you so very much for your letter of July 15 in which you gave the year 1964 as that of the releasal of your 'Nena' avocado. This has been taken care of and is to appear in the current List of the REGISTER OF NEW FRUIT AND NUT VARIETIES to bear a dateline of December, 1965 (I hope).

Any time you release any new fruit variety, or know of any being released by others, I would be pleased to receive data on them for inclusion in the REGISTER so that a record might be made of them.

I know you have been interested in systematic pomology for many years--I just wish there were more men like you interested in this discipline in the field of pomology. Information is sadly needed for many thousands of fruit varieties.

The International Commission for Horticultural Nomenclature and of the International Society for Horticultural Science is attempting to get institutions interested in maintaining National Registration Centers for such fruits, but it is difficult to do so. It has been proposed that each nation prepare a description of each fruit variety which was originated since 1850. These would then constitute a National Register. Upon such a completion by each nation, then all such lists would be compiled by an International Registration Authority and then published so that we would have a complete descriptive listing of all varieties for each of our fruits.

Admittedly this is a herculean task, but once established and done for the past century, then it would be a relatively easy task to keep each National and International Registration List up to date by five-year increments.

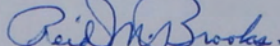
If you would be interested in being the National Registration Authority for avocado or for avocado and other fruits in your country, then I would



August 20, 1965

suggest that you get in touch with the Chairman of the Commission on Horticultural and Nomenclature and Registration of I. S. H. S., J. S. L. Gilmour, University Botanic Garden, Cambridge, England. He would certainly be vastly interested in discussing this problem with you.

Sincerely yours,



Reid M. Brooks  
Professor of Pomology  
REGISTER OF NEW FRUIT AND  
NUT VARIETIES

RMB:mgh



Antigua, Guatemala, 9 Sept 1965

Professor Reid M Brooks  
College of Agriculture  
Davis California.

Dear Doctor Brooks:

Your letter of 20 August is very interesting indeed and gets my mind back on a subject which has always been dear to my heart, systematic pomology. But before getting onto that general topic, I will say that I would be glad to be the National Registration Authority in this and other Central American countries, not only for avocados but for other fruits, if it would do any good. But it wouldn't. The situation is wholly unorganized. When a variety is given a name, the usually is not published; a satisfactory description is not available; and in not a few instances, when I try to check up on a variety, I find it is not a new variety but an old variety with a new name. As far as I know, there is not another soul in Central America with sufficient interest in our subject to prepare, or provide material for the preparation of, a description of a new variety.

All my life I have been interested in systematic pomology. In the Proceedings of the American Pomological Society for 1913 (quite a while ago!) I published "A Basis for the Future Classification of the Mango" and in the Proceedings for 1915, "The Mangos of Cuba", in which I attempted a natural classification of races, and published some descriptions of varieties. In my Manual of tropical and Subtropical Fruits, 1920, I published pomological descriptions of mango and avocado varieties, also dates, loquats and kakis. In my brother's book, "Date Growing in the Old and New Worlds", 1913, I did the date varieties of Mesopotamia, as far as we had collected them.

My interest in this subject was first aroused though reading the descriptions of avocados and mangos which William A. Taylor published in the Yearbooks of the U.S.D.A. in the early 1900's. Then I got hold of Frank Waugh's excellent little twxt, "Systematic Pomology", published in 1913.

I don't know why I have to go into so much personal detail. What I am trying to do is to build up to a review of what I would almost be tempted to call The Rise and Fall of Systematic Pomology. I have here most of the early works: Coxe and Thomas and Downing, and then the great contribution of Hedrick and his colleagues. How much do we have since that time? It seems to me interest has almost died in the subject. Several of the younger generation with whom I have talked seem to think there is no longer any need for systematic description of varieties. I have come back with the following argument: For three years now, I have been working on temperate zone fruits in the tropical American Highlands, trying to find out what we have. The work has involved, mainly, apples, pears, plums and peaches, tho most of the latter are local seedlings. But for the apples, plums and pears Beach and Hedrick have been life savers. I could have done very little without them.

I will have to confess that I can hardly imagine a fellow working in the States, needing these descriptions, today, as I have needed them. Maybe the boys have something; maybe we dont need pomological description in the States, nowadays, the way they needed it back in the days of the Downings. But new varieties are still appearing, lots of them, and it does seem to me that they could well be backed with pomological descriptions.

But not many people seem to be interested. In my own field, tropical horticulture, modern publications in Florida do not often contain descriptions such as William A. Taylor got out. There is no uniformity of treatment, no attempt to follow standard practice (or which used to be standard practice - the sequence of characters. And more than half the time there is no differentiation between flavor and quality.

I am enclosing a couple of papers which I hope may interest you. On page 13 of "Temperate Zone Fruits in the Central American Highlands" you will find a suggestion which is strictly unorthodox, but born out of desperation. I made the suggestion because it is a shame, when a man is told that a certain apple tree, for example, is Jonathan, and he spends good money ordering a hundred Jonathan trees from George Roeding, only to find that he didnt get what he thought he was getting; the guy who showed him the Jonathan tree was intentionally deceiving him, but much more often, just didnt know. The only way I can see out of this situation is this: let the owner call the tree Juarez or Gravenstein or anything he wishes, but take scions from that particular tree and graft them locally, if we sure we want that particular variety. I wish you could go thru the highlands with me, here in Guatemala, and see what we are up against, so far as concerns the apples and pears.

Sincerely yours,

Wilson Popenoe