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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.

Rancho California, Almuñecar (Granada) Spain
20 May 1958

Dr George M Darrow
Plant Industry Field Station, Beltsville, Md.

Dear George:

Terrribly sorry I did not get a chance to have a long talk with you before we left Washington, but the weather was so bad we could not do much; so we hurried back to New York and flew to Madrid where we found it so cold - it actually got down a degree or two below freezing! - that everybody was unhappy including ourselves. I tell my friends, "You folks are hard to suit; you go to bed one night shivering with the cold, and you get up next morning complaining about the heat".

I want to tell you a few things about the work. I believe you know that I am here on my own and going to stay on my own. I am as independent as a hog on ice, I can help where I think I can be helpful and no politics involved. An appointment by the govt has been suggested and I say No, I will help the government all I can but I do not intend to lay myself open to criticism on the grounds that I am taking money from this government, which really hasnt any more than it needs for the bare necessities, and then have folks criticize me because they think I am not showing the results I ought to show in six months.

So here we are, established in a neat little apartment in this lovely valley of Almuñecar, less than half a mile from the sea. We plan to keep this as our base for the rest of this year, coming and going; for example we plan to leave on 10 June for Italy, Greece and Israel, then back here, and in late August for Madeira and the Canary Islands. This valley is one of the most favored spots on the whole Mediterranean coast of southern Europe, so far as minimum temperatures are concerned. And I think it probably the world's greatest center of chirimoya cultivation; there seem to be about 250 acres of grafted trees in the valley. It is therefore a grand place to get a lot of information regarding the culture of this fruit. No bearing avocados here as yet - in this valley - but we have seen 200 trees in other areas along the coast, between Motril and Marbella. And you will be interested to know that all three races are growing here, and successfully. At Motril there is one grafted tree in fruit, sent from Washington about 20 years ago; it seems to be my Benik from Antigua and the fruit is now ripe and very fine. There are 4 trees from Cuba, of the West Indian race, near Malaga. The rest of the trees we have seen are mainly Mexicans but there are a number which seem to be hybrids; I cant figure out where they came from.

Our job here at Rancho California (in reality a small, privately-owned experiment station) is to introduce and establish, first of all, a good collection of varieties. We have received material in the past two weeks from California, Texas, Florida and Chile, some 12 varieties in all. Hass and Fuerte are already here, material from Chile and what I sent two years ago from Honduras. Fruit from the Mexican seedlings on this coast sells right at the farm for \$1 a kilo, and in Madrid at twice that price - probably grabbed up by Latin American diplomats and students, for the Spaniards in general do not know aguacates and it may take some time for them to learn to want them.

There is one bearing mango tree on this coast, a seedling from Cuba 22 years old. I do not think much of its looks, and doubt that the mango has a commercial future here. Same applies to papayas, the fruit does not ripen well probably because of insufficient heat just as in California.

Loquats are an important crop in this valley, and Tanaka is established; there are trees of Gold Nugget from Armstrong at Rancho California but they are quite young; also two grafted white sapotes which are producing their first fruits. I believe this fruit has a future here because the Spaniards like sweet fruits. No citrus in this valley, mostly sugar cane and cherimoyas and loquats with some apricots and almonds and pomegranates and olives - you can't go far in southern Spain without running into olives and almonds and of course grapes. No peaches or plums in the valley - they are grown in cooler parts of Spain, but I see no reason why the peaches from Florida and the Japanese plums should not do well here. Japanese persimmons are grown around Granada, also strawberries on a small commercial scale, and I believe they will do well here. I will see if we can get some plants from the States later this year. We are expecting some lychee plants from Johnny Lynch in Florida in a month or two, and we have a nice shipment of macadamia seeds planted; they came from Dick Hamilton in Honolulu.

Two weeks ago Helen and I spent a few days in Cordoba, where I was invited to give a couple of lectures to students of the agricultural college in Madrid; they were in Córdoba for three months to get a look at subtropical crops. We saw a dozen avocado trees near there, one of them a West Indian seedling in production. I feel sure avocados can be grown in Andalucia as far north as Sevilla and Córdoba. We haven't had a chance as yet, this year, to see the Valencia region but will get over there eventually. It is somewhat colder than this area - you probably know the oranges were badly hit a couple of years ago by a freeze - but that is a great orange region of course, and I believe can grow avocados, especially the Guatemalan x Mexican hybrids.

Our permanent address in this part of the world is care of Martha Sussmann at the American Embassy in Madrid; she is an old friend from the Embassy in Tegucigalpa and will forward our mail wherever we go. I am looking forward to Israel for it seems those lads have done a lot of work with avocados and mangos. Both are being produced commercially on a small scale, I hear.

Living is unbelievably cheap in Spain; good hotels \$2 per day with meals, if you stay away from the swank tourist joints. Of course this is because dollar exchange is so greatly in our favor.

Best regards in which Helen joins me - she is right now lining up a lunch of filet mignon, creamed potatoes and Swiss chard.

Ever yours,

Antigua, Guatemala, 20 July 1959

Dr George M Darrow,
Glenn Dale, Maryland.

Dear George:

I hope this letter reaches you. I assume you are living at your old home. After a year around the Mediterranean and in the Canary Islands I am trying to settle down and write a Manual of Tropical and Subtropical Fruit Culture in Spanish, mainly for Latin America. I wouldnt dare write another Manual in English; those lads up in Florida and California are way ahead of me and I had better stay in the background. On going over my material and looking back a few years -and because I am right now reading your excellent paper in CEIBA - I am in the mind to write you about a few developments here and elsewhere.

First of all, about Israel: Where else can one ride down the road and see on one side (50 ft away) a fine plantation of Cavendish bananas and on the other side, equally 50 ft away, a commercial planting of Golden Delicious apples? That got me whipped. Those boys have so many apples growing that I dont know what they are going to do with them unless they drink a lot of hard cider. They need more bananas, a lot. That country can never feed itself, I am afraid. They sure cant do it with apples, though I like apples.

Now getting down to your paper in CEIBA. I have just come from two weeks in Mexico, At Irapuato they are doing a big business in strawberries, for shipment (frozen) to the U.S. They tell me they get the same price as you guys do for American grown strawberries; they claim theirs are more popular in the States because the berries are firm tho small, and of fine aroma; they are used for jams and ice creams. They are making money because they are paying \$1 per day for labor while you gringos pay nearer \$1 per hour. Good proposition. But the interesting thing to you and me is that they are growing almost exclusively Klondike. They have some Florida 90, which they say is fine locally for fresh eating, but they are not shipping it. They say it bears more heavily than Klondike and is of finer flavor.

No progress down this way with Rubus. As for grapes, I think we are getting ahead, but mainly with Isabella. Last week I saw a beautiful vine in Guatemala City, in the garden of an Italian (those birds know how to grow grapes) and in Venezuela where I worked for a short time, a couple of months ago, I found that the Italians had brought in Isabella about 40 years ago and it is doing well at about 4000 feet but has not gotten into the commercial field. The Venezuelans are still struggling with viniferas and getting nowhere fast. I am trying to get them to eat American grapes. It isnt easy. I am thinking of Golden Muscat; the name will help. If you called V. tiliaefolia Muscatel the Latins would eat it. They dont seem to know any other name for a grape, or want one. So I think we will introduce Niagara and call it Muscatel.

The Santa Rosa plum is gaining ground; they send fruit from here over to Salvador where they have no plums. I have found in an orchard near Antigua what they say is Kelsey. It is much finer in quality

han Santa Rosa. I am not sure it really is Kelsey but it seems to answer up to the description in Hedrick. And as for that Reina Claudia of Ecuador, which we now have at Zamorano, I am convinced it is a Japanese plum, ergo, nothing to do with European plums. I saw what I believe is the same thing in Mexico two weeks ago, but they dont call it Reina Claudia. We are going to go places, down here, with those Japanese plums. Good fruits. And we dont worry about cross pollination, either. Just like the avocados. Stout told us many years ago we must plant the A type with the B type to get cross pollination. We havent done it and we are still getting lots of avocados - though we are getting less in Mexico and Venezuela and some other countries (not Guatemala as yet) because the trees are dying - Phytophthora foot rot, I guess.

Apples are coming along. Winter Banana in the lead but Golden Delicious gaining ground; its the leading one in some parts of Mexico now. Folks are not too happy about the quality of Winter Banana but it seems to have the lowest chilling requirement and it sure does produce apples. I cant see that Gravenstein is gaining ground.

As for the peaches, not much change. Those hard clingstone seedlings are still on top. Jewel and Angel from Florida are much finer but folks down here havent learned it. And as for pears, I dont feel too hopeful. No progress. And as I told them in Venezuela if you will take a well-baked but rather soft brick and boil it in suagr you will have the Pineapple pear. I am going to do some more looking into this pear business. We've got to do better. There are some good pears in Guatemala but there are a lot more bad ones, and we dont quite know what varieties.

I am enjoying this "retirement" business and as long as God grants me grace (as Archie Shamel used to say) I am going to plug along; since "retirement" I have worked in Salvador and Spain and Israel and Venezuela; not a bad start. Do let me have a word from you just to know you are still with us in spirit, and if you have any suggestions regarding this book on which I am working, for goodness sake send them along. I want to make it worth while; I want it to be the standard work of reference for the next 25 years.

Always yours cordially,

Wilson Popenoe

THE DARROWS
OLALLIE FARM
BOWIE, MD.

Aug 2-'59

Dear Wilson:

Perhaps you were a bit surprised at seeing bananas and Golden Delicious apples side by side and I would be. But I was just as struck back in 1952 to see pineapples interplanted with strawberries at Turri Alba. I have a good Kodachrome to show. And to let you down further I have about 150 trees of orange in my back yard set out last year.

I have corresponded with the Drapuzato men at various times. They have

plenty of problems but the area could be a great berry sections. They have the climate and irrigation.

Have you seen any Pierce, the tetraploid of Isabella that is grown in California, I think to the exclusion of Isabella? You probably have heard that "fan leaf" cotton is spread by nematodes. California has published a lot recently on virus diseases and measures are being taken to clean up several major viruses.

I know little of the plum situation. You should keep in touch with Prof. Sharpe of Florida. He is doing an extensive and excellent job of breeding. He is trying for size, quality and firmness of northern yellow

THE DARROWS

GLALLIE FARM

BOWIE, MD.

peaches for central and southern Florida. He is a very fine plant breeder. Okinawa seedlings seem to be giving him the best results in crosses.

Pears may be fine some time but I think it will come slowly. Here we expect to have the finest quality in blight-resistant varieties from Dr. Magness' work.

Good luck on the book and I'll be glad to help in any way. I am sorry I cannot read the Spanish.

I'll enclose a card to indicate part of the retirement interests. I

joined the boys and we have about
20 acres to fruit next year. We use
Earlidanon, Midland, Dixieland, Pocahontas,
Armour and Tennessee Beauty. George J.
(Mack) is manager.

I also have about 230 varieties of day
lilies - hemerocallis and 1500 seedlings to
flower next year. And some azaleas
and rhododendron in a shade house
and am a bamboo nurseryman (P. nudum)

I have an article on "Strawberry
Varieties - past, present & future" for the
Fruit Variety Magazine of the Am.
Pomological Society - but it is all
for U.S. it should be out this summer.

I still go to the office about once a
week and last week took a blueberry
trip to New England. Lets hear from
you again and tell us more of
your life - Sincerely
George Mack

Darrow Bros

♦

Glenn Dale, Md.
(P. O. Bowie, Md.)

♦

CEdar 6-3431

STRAWBERRIES

"PICK YOUR OWN"

for 1959

4 Fields

²³
May 30th - June ¹⁰20th

On Glenn Dale Road

Between Penn. R. R. and U. S. Rt. 50

FOLLOW SIGNS

Antigua, Guatemala, 20 Sept 1959

Dr George M Darrow,
Bowie, Maryland.

Dear George:

Many thanks for your letter of 2 August. I am glad that both of us are hanging onto our horticulturists and activities. I never learned to play golf or bridge. Too late now.

You mention that Irapuato has the climate and irrigation. Yes, but I don't think too much of their strawberry soils, so far as I saw them do you? I assume the reason they only grow Klondike for export is because their market is used to Klondike; but maybe it holds its shape a little better, for ice cream and preserves. My Kenney thought so. Too bad they don't have some lighter soils, it seems to me.

We have not yet fruited Pierce here though Francisco de Sola got it after you told us about it and I got some cuttings from him. I now have two plants in my patio - young ones. I saw a beautiful arbor covered with Isabella in the City the other day; owned by an Italian who knows how to prune. Tremendous crop. Niagara is still our best bet for quality - if what we have is really Niagara. I think the only other possibility is that it might be Diamond, but I have never introduced Diamond and I have introduced Niagara.

As for plums, I am right now recommend that the folks in Venezuela plant Santa Rosa, Kelsey, Satsuma and that so-called Reina Claudia from Ecuador which I am sure is a yellow-fruited plum of Japanese blood, nothing to do with the Reine Claudes of Europe. Don't you agree? I have seen all the plums here in Guatemala this past month. All of the Jap varieties from California, of which I like Kelsey best for quality, seems to be way ahead of Sta Rosa. Mariposa also good, and Duarte and Elephant Heart. But give me Kelsey for the home garden and it will grow and fruit well here at 5500 feet. Almost no interest here in grafted peaches; they seem satisfied with those Spanish seedlings. I think the climate here in the fruit country is too cool to ripen peaches well. The Florida varieties been quite uniformly proved better than the local things but we can't seem to arouse any interest. As for apples, in a survey I made last month, Winter Banana constitutes more than 75% of the production. Very few Golden Delicious; I don't know what some of the others are. Winter banana sure produces.

And speaking of apples, Jorge Benitez who produced 50,000 grafted citrus, avocados and mangos for the Point Four boys last year (they are now out of business; the govt has terminated the arrangement) wants to go in for apples and wants rootstocks resistant to woolly aphid. He got some East Malling rootstocks from France but they failed to grow - too long on the road. What do you recommend and where can he get cuttings or rooted cuttings in quantity - several thousand at least. Please drop me a line and tell me what we can do.

Best regards to all of you.

Ever yours,

THE DARROWS
OLALLIE FARM
BOWIE, MD.

Oct. 10 - 59

Dear Wilson:-

I remember most the lack of fertilizers in the strawberry fields of Trappato - and the excellent papaya I had at the little hotel there. Koudike has always been a favorite for ice cream manufacturers.

Sharpe of the Florida station is doing a great job of breeding peaches and as he produces new ones they should be tried in central America. Recently I had some of one of Dr. Harris' discarded seedlings that were about as fine as one could wish. If such a peach could be grown from seed who would ever want a budded one!

Malling rootstocks can be purchased
from Chick-adee Nursery, R#2, Sherwood,
Oregon as follows:-

#104 - \$2.75 per M

106 - 2.75 " "

109 - 2.25 " "

111 - 2.25 " "

Malling ~~XXX~~ - 1.85 per M.

The C. E. O. nursery at Wenatchee, Wash.
can probably supply them also. All
are supposed to be more or less
resistant to the woolly aphis.

Where is Jorge Benitez located?

Hot weather has continued till
now but its supposed to be much
cooler to night. We have just
had $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches of rain so can do

THE DARROWS

OLALLIE FARM

BOWIE, MD.

transplanting etc. I have wanted to put rhododendrons, azaleas etc at the end of our drive way, and had nearly a bushel of new narcissus to plant. and yesterday I started to put the plastic cover back on the small greenhouse for winter use.

at our garden club meeting wed. night a lady brought in some nice passion fruit (she said I should eat one) - did you

ever hear of their being raised
in a temperate climate? She
starts them in a pot inside as I
understood. I'll try to find out more
about how she does it. The one
I tried was good.

I have 150 or so seedlings of Citrus
trifoliata but wonder if they would
flower & fruit as a potted plant if
they were budded or grafted to get
around the juvenile stage. Have
you ever known about this?

Do you have any fruit garden? I
remember visiting a planting at the
home of a Grace line man at
Antigua.

Sincerely
George

Antigua, Guatemala, 19 Oct 1959

Dr George M Darrow,
Ollie Farm, Bowie, Md.

Dear George:

Many thanks for your letter of the 10th, particularly concerned with those Malling rootstocks. As I told you in my last, the Point Four work is terminated and we are presently in a sort of interregnum until we see what can be done. Jorge Benitez is being carried on under the new regime - the Ministerio de Agricultura - but how much money he will have for nursery work is a problem. In any event, I think we will find some way to carry on the apple work. Which reminds me to say that last week I went up to San Rafael, on the old road between here and Guatemala City; 6850 feet. A German Swiss who has lived here for some 30 years planted a lot of fruit trees and a few other things - Red Raspberries for example which have done very well there. Looks like Cuthbert but might be something European. He had harvested and was holding the apple crop and I got good specimens of five varieties: Winter Banana, Golden Delicious, Gravenstein, Rhode Island Greening, and one he calls Bockoop. I tried them all with interest and I have watched their behavior more or less. Here is the way they stack up with me: Winter Banana will grow and produce at the lowest elevations for apples (excluding the Spanish Grabs of course); it is a tremendous bearer, good for cooking but for eating second if not third class. Golden Delicious will grow at elevations almost as low as Winter Banana; not so productive; but much better in quality. Gravenstein the best in quality of the five mentioned. I don't know too much about its adaptations and productiveness. Perhaps needs a little more cold than the first two. Greening and Bockoop did not interest me too much.

I have a letter from the Dominican Republic; they want to grow grapes, primarily for wine. I am telling them that of 45 vinifera grapes we tested pretty thoroughly at Zamorano not one was wholly successful; the two best were Valdepeñas and Carignane. I am recommending they try the American hybrids, especially Golden Muscat (not so resistant to diseases) and Isabella and Pierce and Niagara. I would start off with Isabella because it is so thoroughly proved out.

Friends of mine are interested in Red Raspberries. Cuthbert is allright here at 7000 ft; no good at 6000; and no good here in Antigua at 5000. Some years ago a colleague of mine got a Red Raspberry which he said came from California and which bore good crops at Tegucigalpa, 3366 feet. He did not know where he got it (what nursery) nor the name. Have you any guess?

No, I never heard of passion fruits in a temperate climate but I don't see why they might not be started in a greenhouse and fruited outside before frost. -- No, I have never played with Citrus trifoliata but I would rather play with Meyer lemon as a house plant if you don't want Ponderosa. We have a small garden here, mostly roses and amaryllis and geraniums and Lilliums (especially philippinense, a grand thing) but also six Navel oranges, one Marsh grapefruit (all we can eat), three Persian limes, one Satsuma and one Reina Claudia from Ecuador which haven't borne yet and probably won't.

With old time regards, as Dr Fairchild used to say,

Ever yours,

Antigua Guatemala, 10 Dec 1959

Dr G M Darrow
Bowie, Md. EE UU de A

Dear George:

About this "Reina Claudia" plum from Ecuador. Maybe I have brought this to your attention previously. My great & good friend (as the Presidents say) Abelardo Pachano of Ambato thought the Reina Claudia of Ambato which is supposed to have come there from Chile, is the triflora Chabot; but Hedrick in his "Plumsoof New York" (what a fine job that was, plums of the whole world but New York paid the bill) shows Chabot in colors and it is pink to red. I have never seen any color but yellow in the Reina Claudia of Ecuador, which is now doing extremely well in Honduras and Guatemala and I think my supplant the excellent Santa Rosa as our leading commercial plum. Hedrick says Chabot is not as productive as could be wished. So far, the so-called Reina Claudia of Ecuador is very productive here. I think it may be highly self-fertile; I don't know.

I have just come from Salvador. Our friend Francisco de Sola has three plum trees at his place "Los Andes" about 5500 ft, and they are all good. I said a few years ago they are Satsumas; but he says the fruits are not quite alike and they have given different names to each tree. It now appears - the present Minister of Agriculture told me the story - that these three trees were grown from seeds of a Satsuma imported from California, perhaps 40 years ago. But here is my story about plums: the good ones in Central America are up to now Santa Rosa (principal commercial variety in Guatemala) Satsuma (not very well known in Guatemala but gaining ground in Salvador), Kelsey (growing here near Antigua and fine for eating but not shipping) and the newly introduced Reina Claudia from Ecuador. It interests me that plums are being carried by truck from Guatemala to Salvador and I believe even to Costa Rica.

Apples: I think I have written you. Winter Banana is the thing I would grow if I wanted to sell apples/ God from 6000 ft upward. Yellow or Golden Delicious much better but not so productive. Gravenstein still better but needs a little more cold. Guatemala is getting into the apple business; not promising from here to Colombia.

The most interesting thing in Salvador, to me, is the development of Rubus glaucus as a commercial fruit. Chico de Sola now has several acres in production at about 5500 feet. His strain was on the farm when he bought it; don't know its origin but probably local. Very productive, the berries firm enough to stand shipping and handling, and mighty good to eat. Rubus glaucus has a real future in tropical Am.

Tell me something about the American Pomological Society. Going over my books I find I was Chairman of the Tropical Fruit Section back about 1915. A few years ago H B Tukey sent me the Wilder Medal of which I am very proud. Is the Society still pretty active and how should I re-join? Maybe it is too late; that old man with the scythe is now working down my alley. You know what I mean.

Ever yours,

Wilson Popenoe

Antigua, Guatemala, 7 May 1960

Dr George M Darrow,
Bowie, Maryland.

Dear George:

You and I are still in the running, though not running quite so fast as we were thirty years ago. I want your advice on a little problem.

When you were down here, I took you to Guinope and you saw those apple trees. Spanish crabs, I believe you called them. Recently Don Francisco de Sola and I went to Guinope and saw those same trees and some others. We were told they were brought into that region about 80 years ago by a Spanish priest. I got some basal suckers and took them to Francisco de Sola's place in Salvador but I doubt that they will grow.

On Uyuca - which place you will remember well because it was there you told me with your tongue in your cheek that the Shankberry was no good, - we have some crabs from the States which look promising. The best is labelled "Pineapple". I don't know where we got it, but it was flowering beautifully when don Francisco and I went up there about March 20. Do you know this variety?

In any event, what we want you to do is to tell us what crabs to get and where to get them. I have a hunch that they will produce fruit down here at lower elevations than Winter Banana, which so far is our best bet for elevations around 6000 feet. But you remember that Guinope is only 4400 ft and those perotes or crabs have been bearing fruit there for some 80 years. What shall we get and where, for some better?

Ever yours,

Antigua, Guatemala, 20 Oct 1960

Dr George M Darrow,
Olallie Farm, Bowie., Md.

Dear George:

My letter to you about those Spanish Cider Crabs made the rounds and finally ended up at the Arnold Arboretum. Donald Wyman wrote me a good letter and sent me a bulletin about ornamental crabs, but said he didnt know anything about the eating crabs. I remember very well the magnificent collection of flowering crabs at the Arboretum.

Now, cant you give me some sort of a hunch as to where to look for things like that apple you saw at Güinope? Do you know the Transcendent crab which is offered by Roeding? He says it is the largest and best of the eating crabs. We will try it, but somewhere there must be others of that type; I am going to work over the possibilities in Spain, where I have a number of contacts.

Incidentally, I am convinced that the Reina Claudia plum of Ecuador has nothing to dowith the Reina Claudias of Europe; I think it is just another salicina, which happens to be yellow instead of red. When our man Mario Jalil went to Ecuador some five years ago he brought back a lot of "Reina Claudias" from Ambato; they have come into fruit and there is everything among them, from Satsumas to Mirabelles . I am no longer going to list the Ecuador Reina Claudia as a domestica.

Ever yours,

Wilson Popenoe

THE DARROWS
OLALLIE FARM
BOWIE, MD.

Feb. 15-1961

Dear Wilson:-

Grace and I have just finished listening to Pres. Kennedy's news conference on the TV. He has done a good job so far and I think it brings home to people what government is. More power to him. - So far.

To-day I spent at the Univ. of Md. at their annual Florists short course and of course enjoyed reports of progress on many projects. effect of K on green house plants, forcing azaleas for Christmas, interaction of temperature and photoperiod on snapdragons, fungicides in soils for lilies and many others and yesterday I was at office for a while talking over blueberry

crosses. Also have suggested to others
the use of the high mountain blueberry
in Guatemala & bud down to Peru for
breeding with our Pacific coast one. It
is nearest related to *Vaccinium mortina*
or whatever it may be called in the
different countries. It fruited heavily at
Long Beach Wash. - large fruited but taste
less, productive. I suggested it to Prof. Sharpe
at Gainesville, Fla.

I plan to see Sharpe in 2 or 3 weeks.
Grace & I plan to drive down to Florida to
spend a while with a brother & sister
and to visit friends on the way down
and back - blueberry friends.

am having a good time this winter
reading, writing, visiting, loafing & have
my greenhouse to care for.

I had a letter Tues. to answer from
a prof. in Univ. of Oreg. - Eugene, Oreg.
in regards to fruit in central America.

THE DARROWS

GLALLIE FARM

BOWIE, MD.

and referred him to you among others.
I think he plans to visit Costa Rica soon.

Wack, our son who looks after our
strawberry project - only 10 acres for next
spring's fruiting - and his wife have been
on a trip to Panama. Wack is to stay
another week but his wife is back as she
works and was to be on duty Tuesday.
They visited James Hawes who is the
American horticulturist for the Canal zone.
He is a brother-in-law of Dr. Wm Cowgill
who was in Guatemala and helped
start the Corn bean Sect. of the ^{Soc.} Hort. Soc.
Edith (Wack's wife) told of going up to David
& near there they saw tomatoes and strawberries.
I seem to be a dead loss as to
crab apples for Central America, I

would assume that most crabs would have been tried in various places and that none that we could suggest would be helpful. Those of Spain and perhaps of Israel and those at the experiment station on Mt. Kenya would seem to be the most likely to be of value.

How is the book progressing? Have you much of a flower and fruit ~~in~~ planting there at Antigua or do you have it through friends?

You must look back on your work at the school in Honduras with greatest satisfaction. If only it could have been multiplied by 10 or 100 in all the countries how greatly less complicated the world would be. Sincerely
George

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON

HORTICULTURAL INVESTIGATIONS ^{G.D./KB}

March 16, 1925.

Mr. Wilson Popenoe,

Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction.

Dear Wilson:

I have been over the pictures and have been thinking that I would like to see an article on your recent visit to the strawberry fields of South America. The following outline will cover some of the questions which I have in mind and which I am sure would be of interest to others.

I am returning your prints and would like, if possible, to secure a complete set of these, as well as your former pictures of the Chilean strawberry, for use here.

Very truly yours,

Geo M. Darrow

Geo. M. Darrow,
Associate Pomologist.

FURTHER NOTES ON THE CHILEAN STRAWBERRY:
Sex, Sterility of Flowers, and Firmness.

1. Previous publication
2. Translation of Duchesne on F. chilensis -especially on sex.
3. F. chilensis - previous introduction of 1921 to U. S. was perfect flowered.
4. Is there more than one variety?
5. Is it a dry land, poor soil, arid climate plant?
6. Are the flowers always perfect?
7. Do all the flowers set?
8. What is the structure of an inflorescence?
9. What is the plant structure? Does it make a new crown for each new inflorescence, or does it have several trusses from one crown?
10. How deep are the roots?
11. Is it a free runner maker?
12. How often are the berries picked?
13. How large are the yields?
14. What other plants grow on the same soils?
15. How old are the fields?



ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS
CENTRO AMERICA

Antigua, Guatemala, 8 March 1961

Dr G M Darrow, Bowie, Md.

Dear George:

Thanks for your interesting letter of 15 Feb. You mention driving down to Florida. I wonder if you are coming to the mtgs of the Caribbean Region, ASHS, at Miami March 19 to 25. I sure hope so.

Yes, I heard about the Prof at Eugene Oregon who wants to study fruit culture in Costa Rica, but when I found that he considers *Ceiba pentandra* and *Crescentia cujete* to be worthy of investigation as potential comestibles I got scared. Our friend Francisco de Sola over in Salvador is going to town with *Rubus glaucus*; sold 122 hundredweight, not pounds, of fruit last year.

I am getting nowhere fast on this crabapple business. Cant seem to find trees commercially available anywhere. I may have to settle down to propagating those trees at Guinope which you and I saw. I have seen a few others at Jinotega in Nicaragua; no more known to the writer. With good culture that Guinope tree might not be a bad bet, for apple sauce et id genus omne. I am particularly fond of id genus omne.

Ever yours,

THE DARROWS

OLALLIE FARM

BOWIE, MD.

Glenn Dale

Feb. 7 '63

Dear Wilson: - Bill Ackerman has given a lot of attention to the crab apples and the apples here at the station. He offered to answer that relating to apples and has done a good job. The only thing more would be to find some one in Spain who knows apple varieties there and who would suggest those both crabs and apples that require the least chilling. I have supposed that the Spanish cider type was the kind that were at Guinape - I think Dr. Wilson Popenoe is the authority - I think they were call Spanish cider because they were mostly from Spain - probably many from seed. There are lots of French cider and English cider

varieties. One English station has done a lot of work on diabs for cider. They had 2000 to 3000 varieties of cider apples. Why not write them? Long Ashton ^{Sta.} Bristol, Eng. - I do not know who is in charge now. Spink was breeder there, Hobbs in charge of the plantations, D.C., Bould was also there but probably retired. Try Spink.

Are you not coming up before you go back to Guatemala? Have you gotten acquainted with Prof. Sharpe. You should, he is a grand person. Are you a visiting professor this winter?

It's quiet here. Am busy writing - go to office once a week - may go to Denver now as I have day lily seed to treat with colchicine and I want to work with Tom Arizumi on it.

Have you known Harold Winters who was at Mayaguez? He seems very fine - rather shy. As ever
George

THE DARROWS
OLLIE FARM
GLENN DALE, MARYLAND 20769

Jan 7 '65

Dear Wilson:-

yours of Jan 2 just
arrived and we are so happy to hear
from you. I saw Wallace Dec 26, and he
spoke of seeing you
at you have probably met Ralph Sharpe
at Gainesville - if not be sure to do so.
Mrs. Darrow & I flew down to see the new
blueberries about May 1 last year - its
breeding in the South for adaptation there.
It is most promising. But most of all talk
with him about his peach breeding. He is
getting fine peaches for the orange section.
Why not arrange to cross your best local
peach with one of his and you grow
the seedlings down there
Kieffer is used extensively for canning
and pickling. The quality of Kieffer for
canning comes with proper ripening -
picking and storing it till it is good -
picking while hard but large and
storing at about 65° I think.

Have you ever corresponded with
Wm Ackerman who used to be at Chico,
but is now Supt. at Glenn Dale here
for your old office? He has specialized
on fruit and apples. He would know
of the apples for the tropics - or rather
temperate with short days.

I would concentrate on Florida 90
strawberry to see if it is not better and
far more productive. Then try Trioga
of California - far better than Lassen. Also
try Da-break of Louisiana - Julia Miller
is the one to contact for Da-break, and ^{you} Trioga
try Royce Bringham at Davis, Cal.

You should try southern pears of high
flavor. Dr. Brooks, Hort. Plant Industry Sta.
Beltsville, Md. now has the pear work.

I am glad you have Baldwin & Hood pears.
Why not try the Magness & Moonlight Ask Brooks.

I cannot guess on grapes or raspberries.
We like best here the September and freeze
it for later jam or on ice cream. It has
far more flavor frozen or heated to
pasteurization or just to boiling - so much
flavor then that it needs diluting
- with apple.

All well here. Mack (George Jr.) and wife Edith are here to night. Mack looks after the strawberries - about 18 acres for fruiting this year - all mulched for winter protection and about $\frac{1}{2}$ sprayed with chloro DPC for winter weeds. And 2 more acres fumigated for planting next spring.

John Meader is with us trying to put the strawberry book into shape - is to be here a week longer. When that is out of the way we plan to go in every direction all at once - to see again blueberries in Fla - to see strawberries in Japan or Italy or Mexico and day lilies in Illinois & maybe in Los Angeles or San Diego and azaleas somewhere. It has been hard to be tied down so

much for 3 years now. And Henry
Wallace is to blame - got to blame
someone.

It's been a nice winter so far - one
snow of 2 inches. I keep heat in my green-
house, but do not have much there.

I hope we can get to Fla. this
winter, & if so will probably see
John Pophoe. I'll see Bob Knight at
Chapman Field.

With best regards
George