



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
5th Floor, Hunt Library
Carnegie Mellon University
4909 Frew Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890
Contact: Archives
Telephone: 412-268-2434
Email: huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu
Web site: www.huntbotanical.org

The Hunt Institute is committed to making its collections accessible for research. We are pleased to offer this digitized version of an item from our Archives.

Usage guidelines

We have provided this low-resolution, digitized version for research purposes. To inquire about publishing any images from this item, please contact the Institute.

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.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Agricultural Extension Service

.....
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

566 LUGO AVENUE
SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA
Turner 4-2134

January 28, 1964

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
c/o Escuela Panamericana
Tegucigalpa, Honduras - CENTRAL AMERICA

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Dr. Chandler has spoken very highly of your ability and experiences in the production of temperate climate fruit crops in the tropical areas of Central and South America. I have been informed by the former dean of the School of Agriculture, University of California in Los Angeles - Dr. Robert Hodgson - that you have been instrumental in testing numerous deciduous fruit species and varieties of same at various elevations - particularly in the Guatemala-Honduras fruit producing areas. I have been asked to be of assistance to the Ministry of Agriculture in Peru in the improvement of the problems existing in their industry at present.

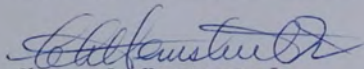
One of the major problems in Peru appears to be the selection of apple, pear, peach, and plum varieties which will produce adequate quantities of good quality fruit in their warm climate. Apparently, they do not have supplies of water either from irrigation or rainfall at higher elevations of the west slopes of the Andes which would make it possible for them to find cool enough weather to adequately break the rest period of various deciduous fruit species. Even though they have a fog overcast during most of their "winter" period, they still have considerable delayed foliation on certain of their deciduous fruit varieties at elevations below 5,000 feet along their present supply of river water.

I would very much hope that your recent experiences with improved varieties resistant to delayed foliation, yet providing good quality fruit, would give us a better clue of certain varietal selections that we should test in Peru.

Your comments on any aspect of the above subject is sincerely solicited and would be of great value, I am sure.

Very sincerely,

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE


Chester L. Hemstreet, Jr.
San Bernardino County Farm Advisor

CLH:et

Muchas Saludes Dr.
Popenoe.
Suada [Popenoe]

Antigua, Guatemala, 7 Feb 1964

Mr Chester L. Hemstreet Jr.,
566 Lugo Avenue
San Bernardino, California.

Dear Mr Hemstreet:

Your letter of 28 January has come at an opportune moment, for we have very recently prepared a memorandum for Dr Ernest Casseres of the Organization of American States and the ASHS, Caribbean Region, which covers our most recent experience with temperate zone fruit trees in Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras. I am enclosing two copies of this memorandum, one of which I will thank you to pass on to that great man who has done more for us than anybody else - Professor W.H.Chandler.

I am fairly familiar with conditions in Peru, having been there three or four times. In fact, back about 1922 Archie Shamel got me the services of Ralph Gray, somewhere in your part of California, and we sent him down to the Cafete valley, south of Lima, to work with fruit trees. As usual, not much came of this effort.

Since the Lima-Arequipa region lies at just the same latitude South as we lie North, I would think our experience regarding adaptability of temperate zone fruit trees - that is to say, the factor of altitude - might be very helpful down there, excluding of course areas under the influence of the Humboldt current, where really remarkable results are obtained. I am seen apples on the coast just south of Lima, at sea level, doing fairly well, while up here we cannot grow most apples below 6000 feet.

You will find all the information on varieties, so far as our experience goes, in the memorandum enclosed. The original paper, in the Proceedings of Caribbean Region, 1962, is not so hot. Benitez and I hope to get a lot more information this year. Incidentally, you will do well to recommend purchase of apples, pears and some of the plums from Bountiful Ridge Nurseries, Princess Anne, Maryland; the Japanese hybrid pears, Baldwin especially promising, from Glen Saint Mary Nurseries, Glen Saint Mary, Florida; most of the Japanese plums from California Nursery Co.; Niles, California; and of course the newer peaches from Armstrong. All these people are good at shipping to Latin America.

Sincerely,

Wilson Popenoe
Director Emeritus

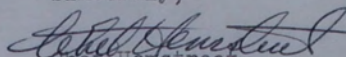
Address: Antigua
Guatemala, C.A.

Dr. Wilson Popenoe

Lima, April 5, 1964

possible the viewing of various varieties of fruit that appear to be successful in various elevations in Guatemala and, at a later date, obtaining buds of these for test plots at the La Molina Experiment Station, prior to dissemination to various areas that appear feasible for deciduous fruit production in Peru. Your help on this matter would be of great assistance to us.

Sincerely,



Chet Hemstreet
Univ. of Calif.
A. E. S.
on Leave in Peru

CO-OPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE AND COUNTY
OF LAKE, CO-OPERATING

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

KELSEYVILLE, CALIFORNIA
TELEPHONE: 279-4761

March 28, 1967

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua
Guatemala, C.A.

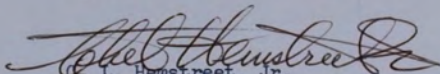
Dear Dr. Popenoe:

It has been of interest to read your published information on deciduous fruit production problems in Guatemala - I received some notes from you when working on a National Fruit Production program in Peru three years ago. Since then Starks' have sent me later information gleaned from your correspondence with them.

The Peruvian government has again asked for my services in formulating plans for more extensive testing of varieties resistant to their warm winters. I would very much appreciate the opportunity to discuss with you your experiences with various deciduous fruit varieties and rootstocks in relation to the delayed foliation problem. If you could see me, I could stop in Guatemala City. I do not know the location of Antigua - is it close enough to Guatemala City to allow us to get together?

Sincerely,

University of California
Agricultural Extension Service



G. L. Hemstreet, Jr.
County Director and Farm Advisor

CLH:dk

P.S. I guess it would help to give you the dates that I would be coming through, either April 17 or 18, depending on connections in Mexico City. Please let me know if you can see me and if either of these two dates would be satisfactory.

CO-OPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE AND COUNTY
OF LAKE, CO-OPERATING

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

KELSEYVILLE, CALIFORNIA, 95451
PHONE: 707-279-4761

October 28, 1970

Dr. John Poponoe
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Poponoe:

After my visit with you in 1967 on my way to work on fruit growing problems in Peru, I had heard you had left Guatemala. I understand now you have returned to Antigua, so will try to contact you there.

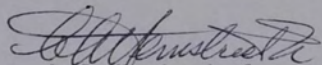
The Craetegus seed you gave me failed to germinate. It appeared the seed coat may have prevented germination. Do you practice any seed coat softening procedure?

A student at U.C. Davis, Sr. Pastor Roldon of Guatemala City, indicated an interstock would be necessary for Bartlett pears on your Craegegus? We would very much appreciate the receipt of a few hundred more Craetegus seed, and would be pleased to send a money order to cover your expenses.

Due to the lack of your proper address, I neglected to again thank you for your kind assistance during my short visit to Antigua. I have hoped to be able to learn more of your work there, but time and finances have not permitted a return visit.

Sincerely,

University of California
Agricultural Extension Service



C. L. Hamstreet, Jr.
County Director and Farm Advisor

CLH:dk

cc: Sr. Pastor Roldon
37 Ave O-53 F 7
Guatemala City, Guatemala

Antigua, Guatemala, 3 Nevbr 1970

Mr G.L.Hemstreet Jr.
County Director and Farm Adviser
Kelseyville, California 95451

Dear Mr. Hemstreet:

Your letter to John Pepenee, dated 28 October last, arrived today. Figuring it was for me, and not for my nephew Jahn who is Director of the Fairchild Tropical Garden in Miami, Florida, I opened it. There are just too damn many Pepenees in the horticultural world today.

I do not fully understand your statement that Pastor Roldan, of Guatemala City, now at Davis. You say "an interstock would be necessary for Bartlett pears on our Crataegus". In the past it has been customary to graft European pears on Crataegus. This has not been found satisfactory in the nursery; the custom has been to plant Crataegus in the field, permanent situations, and cleft graft at two to three years of age. Bartlett pear has not been successful here except at high elevations, above 7500 feet, and is scarcely known in this country. Four years ago we imported a lot of seed of Bartlett with the idea of using it as a rootstock for Clapp Favorite and others. In nurseries at 6000 feet it did not do well. It may be allright at 7500 to 8000 feet. We are trying to switch from Crataegus and Bartlett rootstocks to Pyrus calleryana, of which we now have about 50,000 seedlings in Guatemala, and grafted trees of Baldwin seven years old, on this root, received from Glen St Mary Nurseries in Florida seven years ago. They are doing well; we also have European pears recently grafted.

Crataegus grows very slowly. The scion outgrows the rootstock

very badly. Crataegus has the advantages (I believe) of being highly drought resistant and growing on poor soils.

I have never heard that any growers here practice any method of seed coat softening when using Crataegus, but I have not grown this plant myself. Arturo Falla, of Finca San Sebastian, one of our best horticulturists, has used this rootstock extensively and I will ask him about this matter. If you will give me some details as to why and where you plan to use it, I think I can get you some more seed in the near future as the fruits are now coming into the market, for use as a sweet conserve and more particularly to make garlands for hanging in the houses at Christmas time.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Wilson Pepee

P.S.

I don't understand Paster Rolden (or is it Roldan's) that an intersteck would be necessary for Bartlett pears on our Crataegus. Can he tell me of anyone who has ever used an intersteck for pears or any other temperate zone fruit in Guatemala. If the idea is to use Crataegus as an understeck (which as I have mentioned has been standard practice here for years, and works pretty well) what would be the intersteck, and what you gain by using one.

This is all very interesting, but I would like to know just what basis Rolden has for suggesting an intersteck and what pear or other species he has in mind. Ask him to talk to my friend Professor Hartmann at Davis (he is probably in one of his classes) and to Eduardo Matheu who is a student there, a Guatemalan who has worked with me for a couple of years on temperate zone fruits in the highlands.

We have plenty of pear trees, P. communis, fifty years old and on Crataegus steck. They seem healthy and they bear good crops. The Crataegus rootsteck 6 ins above the ground, may be 8 ins in diameter, and the communis pear above it 10 ins in diameter. But it has worked pretty well, and as I have said, Crataegus grows wild on rocky mountains with 35 inch rainfall during 6 months of the year. Baldwin at Zamerano, Honduras, on Calleryana, 15 years old is bearing fine crops. But tell me about this intersteck business. What will it do for us and what will be the intersteck? Bartlett pears, admittedly, are an important problem here. Experience indicates that they will need at least 7500 feet in Guatemala. We want a good canning pear. I don't think Kieffer is the answer. But we lack a lot of experience with Bartlett. Is there evidence that an intersteck is the answer?