

ENGLISH ROOTSTOCKS ON MARKET

Following the note in the first issue of *Oregon's Ornamental and Nursery Digest* on the Malling-Merton apple stocks, several people have requested descriptions of these new rootstocks. There is increasing interest on the part of propagators in these selected rootstocks that offer certain refinements in the production of standardized fruit trees. Brief descriptions of some of the latest size-controlling apple stocks from England are of interest. Descriptions are from article by A. P. Preston, East Malling Research Station, published in *American Fruit Grower*, October 1953:

MM104- "Trees on this stock in England have yielded as heavily as those on the old Malling IV and possess no obvious disadvantages. Trees on MM 104 have yielded a total crop of 196 pounds per tree, and at their present planting distance of 15 x 18 feet have yielded at the rate of 470 bushels per acre in their seventh year. This rootstock produces well anchored trees, being far superior to M IV in this respect. In size, trees on MM 104 are now a little larger than those of AI IV."

MM 106- "This rootstock has made intermediate-sized trees at seven years of age. They are similar in size and crop to those on M VII, -which are larger than those on the dwarfing M IX, yet not so vigorous as those on M II. Trees on M VII have shown a serious tendency toward suckering in these trials, but those on MM 106 have not suckered. On sandy soils trees on MM106 are larger than those on M IX, but smaller than those on M VII . MM106 may prove valuable for backyard trees where such soil conditions exist and where M IX proves unsatisfactory. Both MM 104 and 106 are highly resistant to the wooly aphid."

M XXV- "Trees on M XXV are now as large as those on the very vigorous M XVI, but even under the light system of pruning that has been practiced throughout the trials this rootstock has been outstanding in inducing precocity, trees on it producing many more fruit buds and setting more fruit much earlier than those on M XVI.

"This rootstock might suit the grower -who plants extensively and who does not wish to interplant with trees on more dwarfing rootstocks but nevertheless requires early bearing from his orchard."

Boxwood Psylla is one of the most common pests of boxwood in Oregon. These aphid-like insects are easily recognized by the white cottony-like material which covers them. Work at the Maryland Experiment Station has shown malathion is highly effective for controlling this insect.

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