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Unrivalled for Hardiness and Productiveness!



W. A. GROSS & CO.
DAYTON

The CHAMPION Peach!

NAMED BY NATURE!
INASMUCH AS IT PRODUCED

A FULL CROP IN 1890.

Read the testimonials from the leading Nurserymen and Orchardists. There is but one verdict,
—IT IS THE BEST.—

The Champion Peach.

THE Champion originated at Nokomis, Ill., on the grounds of Mr. I. G. Hubbard. It has been carefully tested during a series of years. The feature which first attracted attention to this new variety was the regularity of its bearing, which in a section not specially adapted to peach culture, indicated a quality which alone gave it a place at the head of the list of profitable sorts for the orchardist. But the crowning event in the history of this great acquisition was the production of a *full crop in 1890*, when the peach crop was a universal failure. The scarcity of peaches caused the handsome, luscious fruit of the CHAMPION to be regarded as a novelty almost.

As will be observed by reading the testimonials, the Champion is placed at the head of the list for other qualities, also, particularly size and quality. Many specimens have measured ten inches in circumference. The flavor is delicious, sweet, rich and juicy, surpassing all other early varieties. Skin creamy white, with red cheek. It is strikingly handsome in appearance. It ripens at place of origin, Nokomis, Ill., about August 5th.

POINTS OF SUPERIORITY.

1. Hardiness.
2. Productiveness.
3. It ripens early.
4. It is one of the largest early peaches.
5. It is the highest flavored of the early peaches.
6. It is the best shipper of the early peaches.
7. It is a perfect freestone—a rare thing among early peaches.

 During the winter of 1887-8 the Champion withstood a temperature of 18° below zero, and produced an abundant crop the following season

EXTRACTS FROM TESTIMONIALS.

ALL FROM HIGH AUTHORITY.

Remember, these testimonials were given on samples of the *Champion*, grown in 1890, when other kinds universally failed.

OFFICE OF THE POMOLOGIST,
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 15, '90. }

Sirs:—I have to acknowledge, in the absence of Prof. Van Deman from the office, the receipt from Mr. I. G. Hubbard, upon your request, of specimens of his *Champion* Peach which reached this office in excellent condition. I have delayed replying to you, hoping that Prof. Van Deman would return, but as he has not yet done so, I would now acknowledge your kind favor. Judging from these specimens and the statement of Mr. Hubbard, this peach is undoubtedly an acquisition to the list of peaches, and is well worthy of extended trial. The fruit is of a more than ordinarily good quality, and owing to its size, and being a free-stone, and general fine appearance, it makes it a good market variety. The specimens which were sent here were received in perfect condition, and I presume from this that it may be a good carrying peach. I hope that another season we may receive more specimens of it, when we can judge farther of its value.

Very respectfully yours,

C. L. HOPKINS,
Acting Pomologist.

Champion received in excellent condition. You have got a splendid peach, judging from samples sent us. The are large, handsome, and of excellent quality.—*Eltwanger & Barry, Rochester, N. Y.*

The specimen of *Champion* Peach came while my father was away from home. We found it of good quality, and it is certainly a strong point in its favor to bear at all such a season as this.—*F. S. Earle, Cobden, Ill.*

The peach arrived on the 9th in excellent condition. Size, large (nearly ten inches in circumference); quality, very good to best; handsome in appearance, and if its bearing this year when all others around it failed, is an evidence of its ability to resist the vicissitudes of an unfavorable fruit season, it should become a valuable sort for the orchardist. It certainly would be appreciated in this section. We usually have "oceans" of peaches here, but this season we have hardly seen enough produced in this section to make a pie. One gentleman in the peach district has ten thousand trees in his orchard, and it is said his daughter ate the whole crop—one peach.—*Franklin Davis & Co., Baltimore, Md.*

The sample of *Champion* Peach come in K. We were much pleased with its appearance, size, and quality. We consider it very fine, and the only thing in peaches we

have seen this year that was really a specimen of peach.—*J. E. Spaulding & Sons, Springfield, Ill.*

The sample peach came in due time. I regard it as very fine, both in appearance and quality. It excels other varieties in hardness, and is something well worth propagating. We would like to get a few trees for trial.—*W. J. Green, Horticulturist, Ohio Experiment Station.*

It has splendid size and appearance, and it is certainly remarkable that it should have fruited this year when all other sorts have failed.—*Geo. A. Sweet, Dansville, N. Y.*

It arrived in good condition, and impressed us favorably. It was of large size and superior quality for the season. In appearance very attractive, and from the fact that it produced a full crop when the peach crop is such a universal failure, we are not surprised that it should attract a great deal of attention.—*Smiths, Powell & Lamb, Syracuse, N. Y.*

Your *Champion* Peach was received and tested on its arrival. We pronounce it of excellent quality, a free-stone of fine appearance. Its bearing with you this year, when no other sorts bore (as you say), must prove it to be very hardy and a grand acquisition. When you have buds to offer notify us.—*L. G. Bragg & Co., Kalamazoo, Mich.*

The sample of peach you sent us arrived in good condition. It is certainly an exceeding fine peach. It resembles closely Lovett's White, except that it has a little color and is much earlier. We know of no other white peach so fine that ripens so early; and the fact that it is so hardy as to produce a crop when all others fail, renders it, in our estimation, of great value. Having but one specimen we had to use it to test its quality. Had we known how good it was before cutting, we would have had it engraved for our columns.—*Publishers Orchard and Garden.*

We are in receipt of a peach called "*Champion*," which we presume is the one you wrote us about a few days ago. There are no peaches at all in this section of the country, and we have nothing to compare it with. If this is an average sample it certainly is very fine fruit, and we think better quality than the Mt. Rose, and much larger than that averages with us.—*The Storrs & Harrison Co., Painesville, Ohio.*

We think the *Champion* Peach is excellent. It is surely delicious, sweet and juicy and of good flavor.—*Sidney Tuttle & Co., Bloomington, Illinois.*

We think so highly of this peach that we have had a section engraved, which we present herewith.—*Prairie Farmer, August 16, 1890.*

It was four days coming. It had a hard time of it somewhere for the box was broken in on one corner and the peach badly bruised but not decayed.—*N. S. Platt, Cheshire, Conn.*

Your new peach called the Champion surely deserves the name you have given it. We find it to be a large freestone peach of the best quality, small seed, and it will recommend itself to the fruit loving public when once known.—*J. Sterling & Son, Masontown, Pennsylvania.*

The peach seems very fine. It is too ripe to test its flavor, but in perfume and appearance it is fine.—*Prof. A. J. Cook, Agricultural College, Michigan.*

The Champion peaches which you sent us we would say are the finest peaches we have seen. Very large size and fine flavor. Can recommend them very highly.—*Hunicks Bros., Commission Merchants, Minorh, Ills.*

Specimens of your Champion Peach came in good condition, and I must say I have seen no finer, larger, or better specimens in Europe or America. It is remarkable for an early peach in all respects.—*Prof. J. L. Budd, Iowa Agricultural College, Ames, Iowa.*

Samples of the Champion Peach you sent us were certainly the finest early peaches we have ever seen. The largest of the two measured $9\frac{3}{4}$ inches in circumference. They were of a beautiful cream white color, and very juicy and delicious. If the tree is hardy, as you say it is, it certainly should become one of the most popular peaches both for market and home use.—*T. S. Hubbard Co., Fredonia, N. Y.*

Large, good and desirable.—*Charles A. Green, Rochester, New York.*

Mr. Hubbard sent several specimens of the new peach, "Champion," from which engraving was made. We measured one and found it ten inches in circumference, flavor rich and delicious. We are told the tree has fruited abundantly after withstanding a cold of eighteen degrees below zero the preceding winter.—*Horticultural Art Journal, Rochester, New York.*

The peach is of good size, very fleshy and heavy, stone small, tinted with light red at stone. Rather large for this season of the year. As chairman of the Nomenclature Committee I will bring it before the Ohio Horticultural Society. Give me all the particulars about it.—*Leo Weltz, Wilmington, O.*

The peach arrived this a. m. in perfect condition—not a bruise on it, solid to the seed.—*J. Van Lindley, Pomona, N. C.*

The sample of peach you sent me by mail remained in P. O. three days in my absence, and was in perfect condition. I regard the peach as being a great acquisition.—*J. I. Newson, Nashville, Tenn.*

It is the first freestone peach I have seen this season. I think it will be valuable on account of its large size and ripening so early in the season.—*B. F. Merriman, Painesville, Ohio.*

We think it a fine peach. Large in size and fine in quality. Would consider it a valuable addition to the large list of peaches on account of it having a large crop of fruit when all others failed.—*N. Moore & Sons, Toledo, Ohio.*

A first-class peach in every respect, and fully agrees with the account of it in the *Prairie Farmer* of the 10th.—*W. F. Heikes, Manager, Huntsville, Alabama.*

It is a nice large peach, and we regard it as a very fine variety, both as to quality and appearance.—*S. Kinsey & Co., Kinsey, Ohio.*

It is the largest and best early freestone peach we have seen.—*Selover & Atwood, Geneva, N. Y.*

The sample of your new peach called the "Champion" reached us in good condition, and our first exclamation was, "She's a good shipper if she isn't anything else." We, however, upon further investigation, found that the Champion was of magnificent size, a freestone of high flavor. We divided it amongst the office force and all pronounced it A 1.—*Allen Nursery Co., Saginaw, Mich.*

If it will bear such a year as this it certainly has a future before it.—*Jones & Rouse, Rochester, N. Y.*

We are able to say that the specimen sent us was of good size and color—apparently very fine; from best we could judge, of very good quality. A perfect freestone.—*Albertson & Hobbs, Bridgeport, Indiana.*

We are very favorably impressed with its size and quality. The size is large and the quality good. We think it will be quite an acquisition to our peach list.—*W. & J. Ashworth, Tiptecanoe City, Ohio.*

I received the specimen of Champion Peach and was greatly pleased with it. Its enormous size, fine flavor, and the fact that it has borne when other varieties have failed, must make it very popular in the near future.—*A. B. French, Clyde, O.*

The sample peach arrived this morning, and we can assure you that it was quite a curiosity this year, as we have none in this section.—*Hoopes Bro. & Thomas, Westchester, Pa.*

Have just tested the peach kindly sent me. It is most excellent. My family pronounce it of superb flavor.—*J. Jenkins, Winona, Ohio.*

It is all a person could wish for in size, and I consider it of very good quality.—*D. S. Lake, Shenandoah, Iowa.*

It was a beauty. I showed it to a number of our fruit growers and most of them were well pleased with its appearance. It weighed $5\frac{1}{2}$ oz., and separated freely from its seed when cut open. I consider it a very desirable and profitable variety, provided it ripens as early usually as it did this year.—*J. W. Shewell, Prince Frederick, Md.*

We predict a great demand for the Champion in the future.—*Rakestraw & Pyle, Willowdale, Pa.*

I received by mail a very large, handsome, flesh colored peach with pale red cheek. After all hands had taken a look at it, I placed it on my desk as a curiosity, and after remaining there four days and handled by a score or more of callers, it was yet in perfect condition, but wife and children begged for a divide, so we took "Champion" down and ate it, and unhesitatingly pronounce it of very good quality. To my taste, better than the Crawfords. I congratulate you in getting a tree of such vitality and hardness of fruit bud to go through such a trying winter as the past and produce a full crop of fruit this year.—*M. W. Brece, Delaware, Ohio.*

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