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# Wm. PERRY'S

## FRUIT AND PLANT FARM,

### COOL SPRING, DELAWARE.

Again with the recurring season, I desire to present you, my friends, with my annual list of Strawberries. In so doing I desire to thank you all that have made it possible for the continuance of my business, and for the many kind and complimentary words you have given me.

I am grateful that my efforts to please have been appreciated and hope, in the future, as in the past, to merit still pleasant business relations.

So wishing you all prosperity and happiness, I present my little Drummer. I am,

Respectfully Yours,

WM. PERRY.

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### Terms, Etc.

50 at 100 ; 500 at 1,000 rates.

Plants freshly dug ; tied in bunches of 25 to 50 plants each ; lightly, but securely packed in boxes, well ventilated, between layers of damp moss.

Can send any distance safely, by Mail or Express, and by Freight where delays are not too great.

Checks, Drafts, P. O., or Express Money Orders, are suitable ways of remitting. Stamps for small sums.

**P. O. Orders** must be drawn on Lewes, Del. Terms : Cash with order. C. O. D. only when  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the whole amount of the bill is forwarded with the order.



# DESCRIPTIONS.

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**Michel's Early.** Introduced several years ago by Jacob B. Bauer of Arkansas. Plant healthy, vigorous and hardy; bloom perfect; berry early, firm, large and productive. In the southern states it is a standard and a money maker. My stock is straight and fine.

**Johnson's Early.** This berry is a seedling of the Hoffman and Crescent. The berry is much larger than the Hoffman, deep red in color, glossy, firm, sweet and of excellent flavor. The plants resemble the Hoffman. It makes runners freely—in this respect, I have never seen anything to compare with it, in point of yield—it is as productive as Crescent. It ripens with Michels Early. Soon after blossom the stems curve and the fruit turns down, thus getting the protection of the cap.

**Excelsior.** We are proud in being able to offer to our patrons this extra early, large, firm, high colored, well-shaped berry. It is immensely productive and will take the place of Michel's Early wherever tried. It was originated in the State of Arkansas, where all good things come from. We strongly urge all our patrons to get a start of them, for they are great early berries for profit. It is a seedling of Wilson crossed with Hoffman. Wilson shaped and Wilson colored. Plant resembles Hoffman, but larger and more robust.

The earliest variety grown with us the past season, fully one week earlier than Mthel's Early, which it resembles very much; still it is a distinct variety, and is also very much firmer than the Mthel's. We have had numerous reports of this variety and everyone, where earliness is desired, speaks of it as a most favorable variety. There has been a desire for years for a good variety that will ripen with Hoffman and as productive as Michel's. This is as early as Hoffman, and will grow three quarts of berries to the Hoffman's one per acre in the same sod. We recommend this, wherever earliness is desired, to be the best early berry now grown. The first ripe berries with us were found May 10th.

**Crescent.** The standard of productiveness all over the country; succeeds everywhere; stands neglect best of any. Plant small, bloom imperfect and should be fertilized. Berry fair size, bright, attractive, moderately firm and by many growers it is considered the most profitable berry for market.

**Seaford (Lloyd).** This is claimed to be superior to Bubach; it makes a very strong healthy vigorous plant and is equally if not more productive than Bubach, quite as large and somewhat better shipper, a little earlier and comes on faster. The fruit is a dark scarlet in color; blossoms pistillate. This berry was originally called Lloyd and is still known to many by that name but when introduced it was called Seaford.

**Gladstone.** This is one of the largest plants I have seen. It is a strong, healthy grower, and very productive of large berries. In short, it is about all that has been claimed for it, except in point of earliness. With me it does not ripen very well as was claimed, but about

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mid season, being four or five days later than Michel I would specially recommend this variety to the small grower who can give it a very rich, moist soil, as under these conditions, I believe it would be a great success.

**Lady Thompson.** Originated by Thompson of Virginia, several years ago and has proved a grand success almost all over the South. It is a splendid plant maker and a strong, perfect bloomer, being freely used as a fertilizer for early and medium pistillates. Yet unlike many fertilizers, it is profitable to grow for fruit by itself, for it produces a fair amount of fancy fruit of nice flavor. It is a little soft for long distance shipping, yet it comes in so early that we don't generally have to ship very far. Avoid planting it on land that is too wet and you will succeed with it.

**Haverland.** Of this wonderful variety, McNallie of Sarcoxie says: "This in my opinion is the "Crowned Queen" of the strawberry kingdom. There is nothing as productive, there are few as large, none that look so nice in the crates, few that ship as well, and I have none that sell as well. I have raised 432 24-quart crates to the acre besides what were used at home and wasted.

**Clyde.** This berry, originated by Dr. Stayman of Kansas, has been more written about and more highly praised than almost anything in horticulture in recent years. It has many points of excellence; a nice healthy plant, a fairly good plant maker, a perfect bloomer, producing an enormous crop of large to very large berries. All these qualities would seem to place it in the front ranks, yet to be perfectly frank, I cannot afford to conceal the fact that it is to most growers unsatisfactory, from two chief reasons: The foliage is not thick enough to protect the berry from hot sunshine, on red or sandy land the berries sunburn and swivel up. On dark land the sun also causes considerable damage, but the worst trouble on this kind of land is that the berries, while very large, are very much misshapen and very soft. I am sorry to make such a report on a berry that has been lauded so highly, but candor compels me to do so.

**Pride of Cumberland.** This is a very fine berry. The plant is a vigorous grower. Ripens about a week earlier than Gandy Prize, is as large, as firm, as good color, and more productive. It does well on any soil.

**Sample.** The introducer says of it: "Is of large size and fine quality, quite firm, continues a long time in bearing, giving large berries to the last. For marketmen this is the best strawberry grown. I have nothing on my grounds that will begin to compare with it in fruit. It will yield as many berries as the Haverland and will average as large as the Bubach. Colors all over at once. A berry that will do that is the best one yet. There is no weak spot in it. Foliage perfect, fruit perfect, needs no petting."

After fruiting the Sample one year I want to say that in my opinion it will as soon as known, become one of our standards. The berries are



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large, finely colored, finely flavored, very firm and exceedingly productive. There is not a better shipper in the entire list except possibly the Gandy and I am not quite sure that it is more firm. I shall plant it largely for market.

**Bismarck.** Bismarck is a self-fertilizing strawberry, possessing all the desirable peculiarities of Bubach No. 5. To those familiar with the Bubach, nothing further need be said since Bubach has been a favorite berry, and more plants have been planted than of any other. Bubach has two defects which Bismarck corrects. Bubach is a pistillate requiring other varieties to be planted near it, while Bismarck is self-fertilizing. Bubach while of good quality, is not of the highest character. Bismarck is of better quality. We have in Bismarck an extraordinarily large berry, glossy, fine color, good shape, and good quality with vigorous plants full of vitality.

**Grenville, (P.)** This ranks as one of the best mid-season varieties; the growth is strong, vigorous and healthy; remarkably productive, berries uniformly large, nearly round, bright crimson color, and of extra fine quality. It has been tested for several years.

**Bubach.** This is one of the old standards. It is one of the very large, beautiful, and reliable varieties. There are many who prefer it above all others. While not a very free plant maker, it has beautiful foliage of a deep green color. I have never seen rust on the leaves. The bloom is imperfect and must be fertilized. The berries are very large, the first ones inclined to be coxcombed. When the weather is dry they are good shippers, when wet they are too soft for distant markets. Bubach succeeds almost anywhere, time of ripening is medium early. In picking to ship to a distant market it should not be allowed to remain on the vines until it colors all over, for while it is true that a Gandy is red one day before it is ripe, a Bubach is ripe almost one day before it is red. Remember this, it will save you money.

**Wm. Belt. (Staminate).** This in plant is one of the largest, a very luxuriant grower, making an abundance of strong runners, and is healthy and hardy. It has a perfect blossom and is productive. It is very large. Rather long, conical, quite uniform in shape and size. The color is bright glossy red and it colors all over. It is as firm as ordinary and of better quality than found in large varieties.

**Cumberland Triumph.** A perfect flowering, good, sweet, old variety, that has been neglected for no reason, unless its somewhat light color, and its being a trifle soft. Produces an abundance of medium to large berries.

**Nick Ohmer.** The plant is a good grower, of large size, free from rust, makes a good number of plants and bears very heavy crops. The fruit is very large, one of the largest; dark, glossy red; firm; of good quality; of roundish conical form and never misshapen, although the largest specimens are sometimes triangular and slightly seamed. It has a long season, extending from early medium to late. It is especially adapted to hill culture. It amply repays good cultivation and care.

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**Delaware** I almost forgot to mention. It is a berry which originated near me and the originator is quite enthusiastic over it. It is light red, glossy, rather large, irregular shape, a good grower and immensely productive. As a pollinizer it will be valuable for it keeps in bloom through a long season.

**Glen Mary.** The plant itself is one of the largest, handsomest and most vigorous of anything among strawberries. The bloom furnishes sufficient pollen for its own use but none to spare. The berry is a giant in size, a wonder in beauty and perfection and a dream to the taste. They are slightly flattened and first ones to ripen are somewhat irregular but they are mostly in good form. On good loam they often grow so large that 10 or 12 berries fill a quart. They should not be planted on thin, stony, or light sandy soil. Give heavy, loamy, moist soil with a moderate amount of well rotten manure or a good commercial fertilizer and you will get a crop that will make you feel glad that you ever planted a strawberry field. I find some difficulty about the latter part of the crop going to buttons. In some localities it is immense.

**Brandywine.** Large, late, productive, plants dark green, vigorous and healthy. The bloom is perfect and it is a good pollinizer for late pistillate varieties. The berry is very large and very productive, but the flavor is not so good as some others. It is not quite so late as the Gandy, but on dark, heavy soil it is more productive. If you have this kind of land, you will make no mistake in planting Brandywine. Don't plant it on stony or thin land. I saw a field last spring on dark prairie land that produced 256 crates to the acre. On this kind of soil the calyx does not die and the berry preserves a beautiful fresh appearance. This variety is getting to be a standard in many parts of the country.

**Parson's, (Per.)** We have in the Parson's a perfect bloomer, berry equally as large and very much of the same shape as Tennessee Prolific, firmer and a little darker in color and equally as productive, as they have been thoroughly tested in our vicinity the past season in a piece of land near us, side by side, and the Parsons gave more fruit and sold for more money than the Tennessee Prolific by far. In growing berries for a commercial purpose you should include this variety in every selection. We shall plant it for the fruit and shall expect to be well repaid for the outlay. The plant is a large, strong grower, resembling the Bubach in some respects, having a large, broad leaf, with a strong root. Being a strong, perfect bloomer, it is a desirable variety to plant with pistillate sorts.

**Tennessee Prolific.** Large, good color, productive, of good shape, free from rust and ranks among the best in the strawberry list. It is a seedling of Sharpless and Crescent, showing the parentage of both. The fruit is large, handsome plant, and as productive as Haverland.

**Gandy.** This is one of the most reliable late strawberries in existence. It has a hardy plant, mostly free from rust; withstands drouth; is a good vigorous plant maker; healthy, handsome and a perfect bloomer. It can be relied upon to produce a large crop of colossal



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berries year in and year out. The berry is a giant in size, often so large that 20 to 22 berries fill a quart box. It is a dark crimson, having a white tip when picked for shipment. This white tip gives the package a very handsome appearance, and instead of being a disadvantage, certainly is a point in its favor so far as appearances go, and this is the strongest consideration. If it pleases the consumer it will certainly please the producer. For home use let the tip get red and it is one of the sweetest and best flavored of strawberries. There is, perhaps, no firmer berry in existence, therefore it is unexcelled for long distance shipments. No matter what other berries you plant, you should plant some Gandy. There has been fault found with it by parties for lack of productiveness. This is due to the fact that they have not pure stock of this variety. For a berry that will produce 200 crates to the acre on land that has not been manured cannot be called unproductive, and this is what the Gandy does for me. It delights in a heavy soil either dark or yellow, but does well on any kind except very stony land. The time of ripening is medium to very late.

**Sharpless.** One of the older sorts that still has many friends in certain localities ; needs a very rich moist soil for its best development.

**Bennett Strawberry.** (Imper.) New. This plant is a joy to see, clean, strong, bright, deep-rooting, and free from spots. I marketed my first Bennetts two days before my first Warfields, May 21, '99, and clear on through till the Gandys were done, June 15th. The very last berries picked were Bennetts. Nothing came earlier than the Bennetts except the Michels (about seven days) and the Crescents (four days), and none lasted so long. In other years we have picked good, marketable Bennetts for five weeks. Haverland class. Color—The first berries were ready to pick for shipping May 21, and were then a deep scarlet. I left that row entirely alone for just one week. In the middle of the week these first berries were a glossy red, and at the end a deep crimson. At that time—May 28th—we picked them and marketed them with the rest, dead ripe and sound. There is nothing on the list that ships better. Seeds are prominent and flush with the surface. The calyx is of medium size, bright and healthy and does not detach from the berries readily when picking.

**Lady Garrison.** Is one of the fanciest market strawberries grown, that has ever been sent to any market, and all berry buyers should try them at once without fail. All orders will be supplied with select plants from a new patch that has never been picked.

**Sheppard.** The best very late strawberry ever produced. I am glad to be able to offer the public just what we have all been looking for. A large, firm, late strawberry, that is productive. Such is the Sheppard.

It originated in Maryland and has been carefully tested infield culture several years, and all who have seen it say it is the most valuable late berry ever produced. The plants are strong and robust with dark green foliage that grows very tall. Has never shown any sign of rust, or other diseases. It is a perfect bloomer but has only sufficient pollen for itself and is not safe to plant with pistillate varieties. Ripens about two days later than Gandy and continues in bearing a long time.



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It is as productive as any variety ever produced, and does well on any soil.

The berries are as large and handsome as I ever saw on any variety. Holds its large size and fine shape till the end of the season. Color scarlet; bright and glossy, I never saw berries that are as glossy or look better in the baskets.

**Marshall.** If given rich soil and high culture, this is one of the most magnificent of all strawberries. The plant is a model of health, but not a free plant maker. It should be cultivated in hills for best results. The berry is very large and very handsome, but only moderately productive in number of berries, but the berries are so large that the quantity of the yield is fairly good. It has a beautiful dark red color, and the rich flavor of the wild strawberry. This variety has taken many premiums at fairs for beauty and large size. If you are willing to give it extra good treatment it will please you, otherwise let it alone. Ripens mid-season and is a perfect bloomer.

**Joe.** This variety was obtained after crossing three times. The first two varieties used were Middlefield and Chairs; We got a seedling that resembled the Middlefield in quality and form, which had always attracted us to this variety, also showed the size of the Chairs, both of these varieties being productive, this seedling was exceptionally so, and it was found advisable to get a cross that would increase the vigor of the plants, and this was done by crossing with Sharpless, which had the desired effect. Fruit large to very large and continues large to the end of the season; firm; quality good; season late.

**Nettie.** (Imp.) A very late variety that is above the average in productiveness. The berries are most too light in color and too poor in quality to find favor with most buyers.

**Robbie.** (Perf.) A late variety of vigorous, stocky growth; foliage large, broad, dark green, very productive. Berries large, round, conical, bright colored, firm and good quality. Gives promise of exceeding "Gandy" in value as a late market berry.

**Marsden Perry,** (Staminate.) All things considered I believe this new berry that I am about to introduce to be the very best variety ever offered to the public. While not claiming it to be the largest berry grown I do claim there is no other berry that will sell quicker or bring a higher price in market or bear more quarts of first class A No. 1 fancy market berries to the acre than the Marsden Perry, and when I add that it is a vigorous grower of large, strong, sturdy plants of bright green foliage what more could you ask for? Berries hold their size until last picking when they are nearly as large as at first. They have a large bright green double calyx which gives them a bright appearance both in box and crate.

Berry bright crimson, perfect form, firm and a good shipper. Medium early, perfect blossoms. It is a "giant of giants," the "strawberry of strawberries."

# PRICE LIST.

	Per 100	1000
Michel's Early, Perfect.....	\$ 50	\$1 75
Johnson's Early, Perfect.....	50	
Excelsior, Perfect.....	Sold	
Crescent, Imperfect.....	50	1 75
Seaford, Imperfect.....	50	
Gladstone, Perfect.....	50	
Lady Thompson, Perfect.....	50	
Haverland, Perfect.....	50	
Clyde, Perfect.....	75	
Pride of Cumberland, Perfect.....	50	
Sample, Imperfect.....	50	
Bismarck, Perfect.....	50	
Greenville, Imperfect.....	60	2 50
Bubach, Imperfect.....	50	2 00
Wm. Belt, Perfect.....	50	2 50
Cumberland Triumph, Perfect.....	50	2 50
Delaware, Perfect.....	50	
Nick Ohmer, Perfect.....	50	2 50
Glen Mary, Imperfect.....	60	
Sharpless, Perfect.....	50	2 50
Brandywine, Perfect.....	50	2 00
Parson's Beauty, Perfect.....	50	
Tennessee Prolific, Perfect.....	50	1 75
Gandy's Prize, Perfect.....	50	2 00
Bennett.....	50	
Lady Garrison.....	50	
Sheppard, Perfect.....	50	
Marshall, Perfect.....	50	
Joe.....	50	
Nettie.....	50	
Robbie.....	50	
Marsden Perry, Perfect.....	75	

