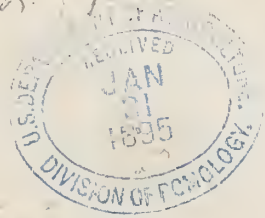


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[1895]



"Burbank, the wizard of horticulture."—*Orchard and Farm*



"GIANT" PRUNE

... AND ...

"WICKSON" JAPAN PLUM.

GRAFTS NOW FOR SALE.



NO RESTRICTIONS.

"Plant and seed novelties have always been and always will be high in price. This is necessarily so. Originators have never been adequately paid for their productions. The producer of a superior fruit, grain or vegetable should realize a fortune from its sale, for such productions are rare—the work generally of years of study and toil—and they are oftentimes worth millions to the public."—*Rural New Yorker*.

Burbank's Experiment Farms.

LUTHER BURBANK,
SANTA ROSA,
CALIFORNIA.

THE TWO NEW PLUMS briefly described in this circular originated on my experiment farms after many years of careful scientific experimenting in combining the best qualities of their respective classes in one fruit ; how well this tedious labor has been performed the public now have an opportunity to decide.

The stock and control of these new fruits was offered to the trade in 1893 and 1894, but, owing perhaps to the high value placed on them, were left on my hands. The inquiries about them became so numerous and importunate that, having no time to attend to propagating or retailing trees, I reluctantly concluded to introduce them myself in the form of grafting wood. After so deciding I was offered the price I had asked for them by an Eastern firm for their control, but had then accepted orders for wood from all directions.

Full well do I know, in introducing them at a time when the amount of grafting wood in existence is so limited (I have all the few trees of this variety on earth), that the profits will all be divided among purchasers and planters and the experience left for the originator, but two such valuable fruits should not longer be kept from the people.

Many growers, who know these fruits, are preparing to regraft their entire orchards over to them as soon as wood enough can be obtained.

I place *no restrictions of any kind* on their propagation and sale. Multiply and distribute them as fast as possible and rest assured they will take the highest place with "Satsuma," "Burbank," "Botan," "Abundance," "Gold," "Delaware," "Shipper," "Prolific," "Splendor," "Juicy," "Chabot," "Maru," "Long Fruit," "Hale," "Berckmans," "Late Blood," "October," and other

Asiatic, American, European and hybrid plums and the numerous nuts, quinces, berries, roses, bulbs, vines, grasses, vegetables, and flowers now before the public which have been produced on and introduced from my experiment farms.

A single foot of wood, cut into four or five cions and placed in a thrifty peach or plum tree, will, by July, furnish buds enough to stock a small nursery, besides yielding fruit the next year or the year after at the latest.

ORDER AT ONCE, on receipt of this circular, as I probably cannot fill orders for wood of Wickson after ~~February first, or for Giant after~~ **March first**; our season is nearly three months earlier than in most of the Eastern States.

Two New Plums by Luther Burbank.

“So far as we know, no man in the world is doing as much in the origination of new fruits and new ornamental plants as is Luther Burbank of Santa Rosa. Our readers have heard of him and of his work from time to time, and they will be interested to know that it is advancing each year in extent, in elaborateness and in results of the highest value and uniqueness. He has worked in tree fruits, small fruits, ornamental trees, shrubs, flowering plants, bulbs, garden vegetables, and in every department has given to horticulture new varieties which are recognized as new departures in the most unexpected and desirable directions. Those who know of these must recognize the fact that the handsome publication in which he portrays his achievements is very fitly named ‘New Creations in Fruits and Flowers.’

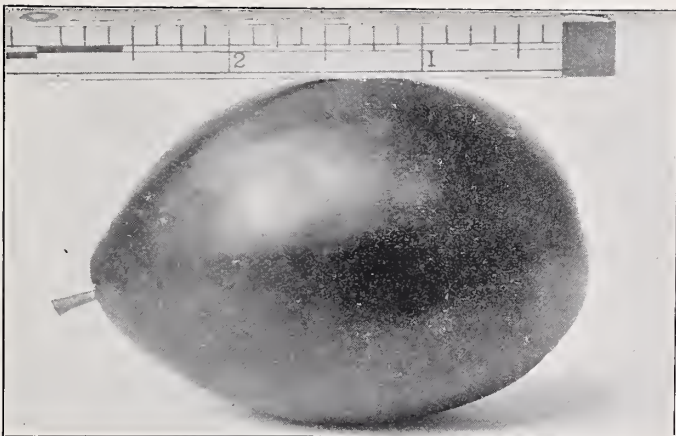
“Mr. Burbank came to California about twenty years ago. He had before that won fame by the origination of the Burbank potato which he brought from seed, when but sixteen years of age. At first he took up the general nursery business in Santa Rosa, but as soon as he accumulated sufficient means he withdrew from that line and embarked zealously and fearlessly upon his course as an originator of horticultural novelties. He had already secured a tract of rich land, excellently suited for his work of hybridizing, growth of seedlings and trial of the same, which, we believe, has never been equalled in extent or variety by any individual or institution in the world. The results of years of this work

are now being made public, and nurserymen are securing Burbank's new varieties to head their public offerings. The work is unique and in the line of fruit bids fair to make California as noted as the birthplace of new fruits as it now is as the home of the best of older origin.

“At this time we show our readers photo-engravings of two new Plums which Mr. Burbank holds to be his best creations to date. One was originally called ‘Perfection,’ but was this year rechristened ‘Wickson,’ in honor of Prof. Wickson of the State University. We have been familiar with this Plum for the last three years. It is a cross with Satsuma pollen upon Kelsey bloom. Its form suggests the Kelsey, but it is more symmetrical; in fact, for graceful outline there is no handsomer Plum. In ripening, the color develops from a deep cherry red down to a rich claret as full ripeness is attained. The color is solid and uniform, and in this respect is a vast improvement over the Kelsey. The flesh is of amber tint, very juicy and translucent; the pit is small and shapely; the flavor is striking and agreeable. The fruit, as we know by experience, has notable keeping quality, and letters from a large number of persons to whom it has been mailed in the East show that it has shipping qualities. Another fruit which is shown on this page both in section and exterior aspect, is fitly named ‘Giant.’ It is from the seed of the Petite Prune d’Agen pollinated with English Ponds Seedling or, as it is commonly called here, the Hungarian Prune. The engravings show its size and form faithfully. The fruit averages from one and one-half to two ounces in weight; it is sweeter and finer in texture than the Hungarian Prune, and larger also. The flesh is honey yellow, sweet and good. Experts to whom it was sent at the East speak in highest terms of its quality. The color of the fruit is dark crimson upon a yellow ground. It is a free-stone. It ripens with the Petite Prune. We are informed that a box of the fruit was given to Mr. A. Crawford of the Santa Rosa drier, to cure with his Petite Prunes, and the result was a dried Prune handsomer than Petite and averaging less than thirty-five to the pound.

“We understand these two Plums are to be distributed this year in the form of scions for grafting. We have taken them up at this time as two of Mr. Burbank's most striking successes. At other times we hope to show what he is doing in other fruits as well as in ornamental plants. Some of his most unique successes are in the latter line.”

—*Pacific Rural Press.*



“GIANT PRUNE.”

Petite d’Agen X Pond’s Seedling.

The description of this mammoth Prune is taken from my trade circulars of 1893 and 1894. During the busy season, when fruit is ripening, I sent samples to four or five prominent pomologists for examination. Their opinions are given below.

It is for a market, table, and shipping Prune that the “*Giant*” stands pre-eminent, owing to its great size, beauty of form and color, its firm, rich, sweet, delicious flesh, which separates readily from the stone, and the remarkably fine form, growth and productiveness of the tree; but, besides possessing all these

qualities, it makes one of the finest Prunes so far known, taking into consideration its quality, size, and general appearance when cured.

Nothing need be said in regard to the size of this Prune—that is made sufficiently plain by the photographs; but besides its mammoth proportions it has a honey yellow flesh of remarkable sweetness,

and so firm that it can be shipped six thousand miles in good condition. This is a case where great size and other rare qualities are combined in one fruit.

The tree is a strong, handsome grower, and the fruit is produced in the utmost profusion and of uniform size. Ripens with Petite d'Agen.

A box of the "Giant" was taken to Mr. Adam Crawford's fruit-dryer, and his report was that his Prunes would have brought him three thousand dollars more if they had been like the "Giant" when cured; he is now preparing to regraft his orchards to it as soon as wood can be obtained.

"We thank you for samples of fruits and photos. We cannot begin to express our appreciation and admiration. We only wish those fine fruits could be at an early date generally distributed and grown for the good of fruit-growers and horticulture in general."

STARK BROS., Louisiana, Mo.

"I was agreeably surprised by your kind favor of the 26th inst. last evening, together with a box of Plums, which arrived in perfect condition, and were shown to a number of fruit-growers here, exciting many complimentary remarks and much surprise at the results of your cross-fertilization."

T. T. LYON,

Pres. of Michigan State Horticultural Society.

"The cross between Pond's Seedling and Petite I find a beautiful Prune of excellent flavor and should be profitable for shipping. I shall be pleased if, when you have trees to dispose of, you would put me on your list of those to be notified, as I shall want some of them."

A. T. HATCH,

Flood Building, San Francisco, California.

(One of the largest fruit-growers on earth.)

"Yours of recent date at hand, also the fruit, which came through in good condition. I showed it to my friends the Maxwell Brothers, and we tested it together. They united in the expression that 'Giant' was the finest Plum they had ever tasted. I thank you very much for these samples, which were really very nice." S. D. WILLARD, New York.

"Luther Burbank ranks among the leading scientists of the world, and is to-day recognized as the greatest scientific horticulturist of this or any other age."—*Orchards and Nurseries*.

NEW CROSS-BRED PLUM.

“WICKSON.”

Kelsey × Burbank.

FROM “NEW CREATIONS” OF 1893.

Among the many thousand Japan Plums which I have fruited, this one, so far, stands pre-eminent in its rare combination of good qualities.

The tree grows in vase form, sturdy and upright, yet as gracefully branching as could be desired, and is productive almost to a fault. The fruit, which is well shown in the photo-engraving, is evenly distributed all over the tree, and from the time it is half grown until a few days before ripening is of a pearly white color, but all at once soft pink shadings creep over it, and in a few days it has changed to a glowing carmine with a heavy white bloom; the stone is small and the flesh is of fine texture, firm, sugary and delicious, and will keep two weeks or more after ripening, or can be picked when hard and white and will color and ripen almost as well as if left on the tree.



A year ago I was convinced that this was perhaps the best of all the Japan Plums, and have yet no reason to change that opinion, only more than ever to admire the clean, sturdy, vigorous, upright growth of the trees, the pleasing light gray bark, the habit of ripening its wood hard to the very tip, its productiveness and the rare beauty and keeping qualities of its fruit, both size and quality of which have much improved since removing from the original hedge-row. The form has changed to be more generally obconical. It will probably prove hardy in central New York, and perhaps much further north. Ripens after "Burbank" and before "Satsuma."

I have been allowed to permanently name this fruit after my friend, Prof. Edward J. Wickson of the California State University, and author of "California Fruits and How to Grow Them."

HYBRID PLUMS.—"Mr. Luther Burbank, of Santa Rosa, Cal., sends specimens of Hybrid Plums, which are certainly remarkable in this—that they came in a small box by mail during the torrid weather of the early part of August, wrapped simply in cotton batting, and were as sound and fresh as if just taken from the tree. Certainly they are, in the language of the markets, admirable carriers.

"They are cross-bred Japan Plums. Though the first year of bearing, and therefore smaller than they will be next year, according to usual experience, they are six inches in circumference. One of them looks just like a very large Reine Claude de Bavay—the finest of all the green gages. The other is a dark purple, and of a piquant, agreeable flavor peculiarly its own. Another, the 'Wickson,' is superior to most of the Plums of the old world stock, both in size and flavor."—*Meehan's Monthly*.

"Specimens of 'Wickson' Plum duly received. I have had them modeled, and have good descriptions now made of them. This is certainly a handsome Plum, and of good quality also."

W. A. TAYLOR, Asst. Pomologist, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

“Your new cross-bred Plums, ‘Wickson,’ were received in as good order as if fresh picked from the trees. I can only say it is excellent, and would seem to be the best of all with Japanese blood.” S. D. WILLARD, Geneva, N. Y.

“Luther Burbank of Santa Rosa sends us a sample of what he considers the best new variety he has thus far obtained by crossing Plum varieties brought from Japan. It is a cross of the Satsuma upon the Kelsey. We commented favorably upon it last year, and the present sample strengthens the conviction that it will be a popular variety because of its strikingly handsome appearance and high quality. Its form suggests the Kelsey, but it is more symmetrical—in fact it is almost pyriform, inverted of course, for the stem is attached where the eye of the pear is found. Carrying its semblance to a pear shape further, we can say that it is almost identical with an inverted Doyenne du Comice. The color develops from a deep cherry-red down to a rich claret as the fruit becomes ripe. The coloring is uniform, and the fruit, from its firm shipping condition to its full ripeness, is even and handsome. In this respect it will be a great improvement upon the Kelsey. The flesh is of amber tint, very juicy and translucent; the pit is small and shapely; the flavor is striking and agreeable. From all the points of the variety, we anticipate its popularity as a dessert fruit for sale to distant purchasers, as it seems to have notable keeping qualities.”—*Pacific Rural Press*.

“Mr. Burbank, who never intentionally overpraises his grand productions, regards it (Wickson) as the best of the Japan Plums.”—*Rural New Yorker*.

“The new Japan Seedling Plum you kindly sent me was received in perfect condition. It was tasted by several of us, and we all pronounced it very delicious. I hope it may bring you an abundant reward, and prove a satisfaction to all who plant it.”
M. CRAWFORD, Ohio.

“We thank you for your favor of the 18th. The box of Plums also came in same mail. They are certainly *very fine*. Should it prove hardy as Burbank, then surely you have a bonanza in Wickson.”

STARK BROS., Louisiana, Mo.

“Thanks for your letter and specimens. The Plum is grand.”

(PROF.) E. J. WICKSON,
University of California, Agricultural Experiment Station.

“ All of the Plums of which you have sent us samples are certainly remarkably fine. I am well acquainted with your history and your life-work, as are many others, and I realize the fact farther that to very few parties who have brought out, as you have, so many new and valuable varieties is given just compensation for their work. I would here add the Plums sent out by you under the name of Burbank as well as the true Sweet Botan are a remarkable success on my grounds.”

S. D. WILLARD, Geneva, New York.

“ Your Plums reached us in first-class condition. They are splendid specimens of an improved race. You deserve great credit for the successful energy displayed in these useful lines.”

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS, Germantown, Penn.

“ Of great importance to nurserymen is the work of Luther Burbank of California. He is engaged exclusively in the production of fruits and flowers which are new in the highest sense of the word. It is wholly a private enterprise and the most extensive of its kind. The results of his work are of the greatest interest to nurserymen whose business it is to propagate and disseminate, in large quantities, the new as well as the old varieties. Mr. Burbank has succeeded in improving the old varieties to almost as great an extent as in introducing new kinds. His work will continue to be watched with interest.”—*The National Nurseryman*.

“ Desultory and unscientific experiment will not answer. The subject must be pursued in a thoroughly scientific manner. The work is tedious and most uncertain at the beginning. All the processes, from the pollenizing of the flowers to the gathering of the seed require the utmost care. Many of the fertilized flowers will fail to set seed, and then the fruits which contain the coveted seeds must be carefully watched throughout the season. It requires another year, sometimes many years, to produce plants from these, and the most careful investigation of their characters must be made. Sometimes the material produced will be too scanty to work with, and again it will be so abundant and will open out into so many directions, that a man with anything else on his hands will despair of exploring them all. No one can have too large a knowledge of horticultural varieties for this work; no one can have too profound a knowledge of plant-growth; no one can have too many appliances at his command to make the work efficient. It certainly is worthy of the highest skill and the closest application. . . . The

extent of his work only shows how much must be done before one good variety can be brought forth ; and how ardent must be the zeal which sustains any individual through long years of labor, expense and uncertainty. It can hardly be expected that many other persons will enter the field with so much enthusiasm, determination and ability.”

—*Garden and Forest.*

“Luther Burbank has established a world-wide reputation for the excellence of his products.”

—*Santa Rosa Republican.*

“Santa Rosa has one of the largest experiment stations in the world. The patient and expensive scientific work which is being carried on at this establishment in the production, or, more correctly, the creation of new fruits and flowers is destined to make our city widely known to the horticultural world, as nothing of the sort has ever before been undertaken on so large a scale by any single individual.

“In the creation of new plants Mr. Burbank has been surprisingly successful ; several of them are now extensively grown throughout the civilized world. By a glance at his order-books we learn that his new productions have brought him orders this winter from many far-away places, among which we noticed New Zealand, England, The Netherlands, France, Italy, Prussia, Canada, Guatemala, Mexico, Chile, Sandwich Islands, British Columbia, Japan, and all parts of the United States.”—*Santa Rosa Democrat.*

“So far the newly introduced Japanese varieties show themselves very hardy, and productive beyond our powers to describe ; while as regards productiveness, Burbank Japan excells them all. I have grown of this variety one hundred fruits to the square foot, while some branches producing this fruit, were making from two to three feet of new wood.”

S. D. WILLARD, New York.

“These Japan Plums are certainly the coming fruit.”

(PROF.) L. H. BAILEY, at Western New York Horticultural Meeting.

“I am now satisfied that the Burbank and your Japan Walnuts will winter all right here without protection, as the past winter has been the most severe on tender fruit in twenty years, so Prof. Budd writes. My little Burbank grafts are

loaded with fruit, and I think will ripen up, so if you have any varieties of Plums you think as hardy as Burbank, I should like to try them.”

DR. A. B. DENNIS, Iowa.

“The Burbank is the most celebrated of all our importations. After a thorough trial we pronounce it to be the best and most valuable fruit introduced to these colonies and the most profitable that can be grown. The tree, though an enormous bearer, is at the same time a most vigorous grower. The fruit is of the largest size, best flavor, most handsome appearance, and very much superior to all other Japanese Plums. We have fruited the Burbank for three years; one three-year-old tree growing in our nursery this autumn produced over twenty pounds of large, handsome fruit, some specimens measuring seven (7) inches in circumference. Visitors to our nursery were amazed at the marvelous sight and agreeably surprised at the splendid flavor of the Burbank. Those who came prejudiced against Japan Plums altered their opinion at once.”

D. HAY & SON, Auckland, N. Z.

“Burbank has the most wonderful collection of plants of new varieties in existence in America or Europe; he has made most marvelous improvements in Blackberries and Raspberries, and a vast number of Lilies, Roses, etc. He is doing a work no one has ever before attempted, and with wonderful results.”

H. O. MEAD, in *Fitchburg Mail* (Mass.).

“Luther Burbank, the greatest horticultural experimenter in America, if not in the world.”

A. CRAWFORD, Cuyahoga Falls, O.

“Luther Burbank is devoting his life and fortune to the improvement of fruits and ornamental plants by seedling cultivation.”

E. S. CARMAN, in *Rural New Yorker*.

“Notable results are already accruing from the wonderfully extensive and devoted efforts which have been put forth for many years by Luther Burbank of Santa Rosa. He has produced during the last twenty-five years something like twenty million hybrid and cross-bred seedling plants, and the endless labor and outlay bestowed in hybridizing, selecting, testing, etc., is now being more generally recognized, and some of the fruits and flowers originated by his labors are becoming household words wherever fruits and flowers are admired.”—*Pacific Rural Press*.

“Contrary to expectations I found the second invoice better than the first. I feel that I have received much more than my money’s worth. How it does revive one’s faith in poor human nature to meet, now and then, on the great highway of life a man who does not take advantage and is honest and square in action and word.”

A. P. ROACHE, Watsonville, Cal.

“We write to express our great satisfaction at the Burbank Plum, which we have now tested. It is a most delicious flavor, partaking of the Nectarine and Apricot, and we say, without hesitation, the best of all these valuable Plums. With us the fruit is like a handsome, highly-colored Nectarine.

“In conclusion, we express most sincere thanks for the many valuable things that you have sent, and for their reliable character. Everything from you we can depend upon. We have found your opinion about fruits to be genuine, and a long way superior to any other person or firm which we have had the pleasure of dealing or corresponding with.”

D. HAY & SON, Auckland, New Zealand.

“Three years ago last February we got Burbank Plum grafts from you. To-day there are Plums on the trees that measure six inches in circumference; they are just beginning to color, so will grow some yet. Not one has ever been touched by the curculio. In short, they seem to be perfect Plums in every particular.

“We write all this just to express our appreciation of what you are doing for horticulture.”

A. M. RAMSEY & SON, Mahomet, Texas.

“Another reason why I am a champion of new fruits is that the originators must have encouragement. As a rule, men who originate new fruits are very poorly rewarded for long years of experimentation. If no one becomes interested in their productions after they have secured them, certainly originators would cease to exist. Have I not said enough to encourage the reader to believe that the introduction of new fruits is a blessing to mankind?”

CHARLES A. GREEN, *in Farmer’s Home*.

“I think a great deal of the work you are doing for humanity, and hope you may live to originate many more new varieties of merit.”

C. W. GAMMON, Walnut Grove, Cal.

“You are certainly entitled to the credit claimed by some of our favorite Eastern florists, ‘of doing better than we promise.’”
HENRY NEWMAN, San Francisco, Cal.

“We cannot say enough in praise of the Burbank Plum; it is superior to all other varieties; the most fastidious cannot find fault with it. This is without doubt the best and most profitable Plum in cultivation.”
D. HAY & SON, Auckland, New Zealand.

“No fruit will give more satisfactory returns than the Japan Plums.”
J. H. HALE.

“The more I see of the Japanese Plums, the more I become convinced of the fact that no tree or small fruit of greater value has ever been introduced within my memory.”—*Green's Fruit Grower*.

“Dr. Eisen, of the California Academy of Sciences, remarked that in the Eastern States and Europe, where he has lately been collecting material for a new book, the name of Luther Burbank was familiar to scientists everywhere, and that unusual interest was manifested in his work.”—*Santa Rosa Democrat*.

“Your valued favor was read with much interest, especially in regard to the new seedling varieties of Japanese Plums, which we shall certainly order as soon as offered. Burbank is excellent in every respect, and Satsuma was a wonderful sight when ripe. We had fully one hundred bushels of the various varieties, and can therefore speak as to their value.”
J. P. BERCKMANS,
President American Pomological Society, Augusta, Georgia.

PRICES.

Good strong grafting wood of either or both "Giant" and "Wickson" (as long as it lasts):

1 foot.....	\$ 2 00
3 feet.....	5 00
5 feet.....	8 00
10 feet.....	15 00

Also fifty very strong one-year-old trees of "Wickson" on Plum root five to eight feet high, *cut back to two and three feet, extra fine trees.* Price \$4 and \$5 each, according to size; these bore fruit last season.

I also offer some plants of the improved North Pacific Coast "SALMON BERRY," red and yellow varieties mixed. Remember this is the true *Rubus Spectabilis* with red flowers and enormous berries, usually one inch and more in diameter, prefers a cool moist soil. The plants offered are the *best*.

Price 1 plant.....	\$1 00
3 plants.....	2 00
10 plants.....	5 00

"Who can fortell what the fruits of the future will be like? When we consider that the art of scientifically crossing and hybridizing fruits was scarcely known until a few years since and see what wonders have already been accomplished in the production of improved sorts by the all too few workers in the vast field, who can doubt that we may yet go on to improve other fruits until all shall be made as perfect as were ever grown by 'the grand old gardener' in Eden."

—*Orchards and Nurseries.*



"GIANT."