



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 1984

**TAMPA BAY CHAPTER of the
RARE FRUIT COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL, Inc.**

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE: TOM GOLDSWORTHY NEWSLETTER MAIL ADDRESS: ARNOLD & LILLIAN STARK
BOB HEATH 5215 PARADE STREET
ARNOLD STARK TEMPLE TERRACE FL 33617
LILLIAN STARK

PRESIDENT: ARNOLD STARK CHAPTER MAIL ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 260363, TAMPA FL 33685
(Including Renewals)

MEETINGS ARE HELD AT 2:00 P.M. ON THE SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH.

NEXT MEETING. SEPTEMBER 9, 1984

MEETING PLACE THE HOME OF JANET CONARD, 919 WEST HENRY AVE.,
TAMPA, PHONE 239-9246. YOU WILL FIND JANET'S
HOME ON THE NORTH SIDE OF HENRY AVENUE, BETWEEN
KENNETH AVE. AND THE RIVER, NINE BLOCKS WEST OF
FLORIDA AVE., AND FOUR BLOCKS NORTH OF HILLS-
BOROUGH AVE. TAKE I-75/275 TO THE HILLSBOROUGH
AVE. EXIT AND GO WEST TO FLORIDA, HIGHLAND OR
OLA, AND THEN NORTH TO HENRY AVE. THEN WEST
ON HENRY TO JANET'S.

PROGRAM Pot-luck (covered dish) luncheon at 1:00 p.m.
Please bring cold dishes such as salads, luncheon
meat, breads, desserts, etc., that do NOT need
to be warmed up. If you have any folding chairs,
bring them too. There will be a plant raffle,
and a very important planning session for next
month's annual Plant Sale.

WORK DAY

August 25 was work day at the Agricultural Center in Seffner. Sydney Brown and Bob Heath were joined by only three workers, none of whom are presently members of R.F.C.I. We extend our thanks to them and hope they will continue to join us in the future. None of our members made their appearance, which was very disappointing, as there is much work to be done and the end results will be so exciting. Those who have seen the planting in West Palm or the Fruit and Spice Park in Miami will certainly attest to this.

Saturday, September 16, will be our next work day. If there is any way possible, please make plans to attend. You may work a little or a lot, or just watch if you wish, but, in any case, your presence will be appreciated. We will start about 9:30 and work until we decide to quit. A shovel, rake, or wheelbarrow may be helpful. See you there!

"WANTS" LIST

ABE AZAR would like to find a source of male Arabian grape vines, for use in "stuffed grape leaves" and other dishes. If you have any available, or know of a source, please contact him at 584-6811 in Largo.

NOTE: The "wants" list is one of the benefits of the Newsletter available for members' use. Please avail yourself of this service by sending your want list to the Newsletter committee.

AUGUST PLANT RAFFLE. Please, please, please print your name when you are fortunate enough to win a plant in our monthly raffle. This is to enable others to know whom to contact when they wish to know how certain plants survive under various conditions. Thanks!

PLANT	DONOR	WINNER
Hood Pear	RFCI	Glen Myrie
Schlomit Apple	RFCI	Lounet Cory
Pink Pommelo	A & L Stark	?
Etrog (citron)	A & L Stark	John Bell
Australian Finger Lime	Sarasota Fruit & Nut Soc.	John Bell
Seville Orange	Sarasota Fruit & Nut Soc.	A. Mendez
Orange Jasmine	Sarasota Fruit & Nut Soc.	?
Black Sapote	A. Mendez	Al Roberts
Tamarind	A. Mendez	Roma Vaccaro
Lemon Grass	A. Mendez	Roma Vaccaro
Cavendish Banana	A. Mendez	Claire Kenney
Monstera	Ann Davis	Claire Kenney
Papaya	Roma Vaccaro	Glen Myrie
Sugar Apple	Ray Thorndike	Al Roberts
Virginia Persimmon	Ray Thorndike	?
Solanum amori	Ray Thorndike	Abe Freedman
Loquat	Ray Thorndike	Glen Myrie
Flying dragon trifoliata	Ray Thorndike	Bob Duke
Seedling? (Fruit & Spice Park)	Christine Prodanas	Bob Heath
Seedling? (Fruit & Spice Park)	Christine Prodanas	Glen Myrie
Seedling? (Fruit & Spice Park)	Christine Prodanas	Ben Abrams
Seedling? (Fruit & Spice Park)	Christine Prodanas	?
Papaya (hermaphrodite)	Bob Heath	R. Moline
Fried Egg Fruit	Bob Heath	Janet Conard
Wild Plum	Kay Netscher	?
Banana	Leland Terrell	Claire Kenney
Key Lime	Roma Vaccaro	Janet Conard
Surinam Cherry	John Bell	Ben Abrams
Hibiscus acetosella	Bob Duke	Kay Netscher
Yellow Guava	Bob Duke	Abe Azar
White Guava	Bob Duke	?
Atemoya "Geffner" Seedling	Bob Duke	Betty Dickson
Atemoya "Geffner" Seedling	Bob Duke	Ann Davis

HOSPITALITY TABLE (August meeting)

Kay Netscher: Banana Nut Bread
 Weilna Hill: Sandwiches
 Christine Prodanas: Mango Jam, Crackers
 Irene Rubenstein: Jaboticaba Pastries
 Margaret Hughes: Lemonade

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This past month's meeting was really great! Not only did we enjoy the hospitality of our generous hosts, Tom and Margaret Hughes, whom we thank wholeheartedly, but our members again provided us with a marvelous selection of plants, over 30 of them, for our drawing, and some excellent edibles for our hospitality table. Now I can't wait for our jaboticaba to start bearing! Remember, this next one is the one at which we make final plans for our annual sale. We need all of you to help with that! There will be pictures of last year's sale, and lots of great food (remember to bring something for our third covered dish get-together). See you there!

As reported in our last issue and at our August meeting, the irrigation system at the Seffner Agricultural Center has been completed and we are ready to begin planting. Some trees have already been donated and are presently at the Center awaiting our efforts. These include Loquat, Banana, Surinam Cherry, Elderberry, Kei Apple, Anna and Dorsett Apples, Pomegranate, Downy Myrtle, Feijoa, Cherry of the Rio Grande and others. Below is a list of trees which we still need. In most cases trees should be grafted, named varieties, as large as possible.

APPLES - New Southern Varieties (Not Anna or Dorsett)	JELLY PALMS
AVOCADO - Young Gainesville	JUJUBE - Chinese
BANANAS - Cavendish Lady Finger Orinoco	LOQUAT - Grafted Varieties
BLUEBERRIES	MULBERRY - Black White Red
CARAMBOLAS - Named Varieties	NECTARINE - Sunred
CARISSA	PAPAYAS
CAROB	PEACH - Flordawon Okinawa
CATTLEY GUAVA - Yellow Red	PEAR - Flordahome Hood Pineapple Orient
CEREUS SPECIES	PERSIMMON - Tani-Nashi Eureka Tamopan Fuyu Gaki Hana Fuyu
CHINQUAPIN	PLUM - Methley Excelsior
CITRUS - Temple Tangor Meyer Lemon Rangpur Citrange Satsuma Meiwa Kumquat	POMEGRANATE
FIG - Osborne Prolific Alma Kadota Green Ischau Celeste Brown Turkey	QUINCE
JABOTICABA	SURINAM CHERRY
JAPANESE RAISIN TREE	WHITE SAPOTE - Dade Manners

Trees may be dropped off at the Agricultural Center or call Bob Heath at 876-7422 and he will arrange for delivery to the Center.

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FIFTH ANNUAL PLANT SALE

Don't forget to mark your calendar!

Saturday, Oct. 13 - Set-Up

Sunday, Oct. 14 - Sale

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Recipe of the Month MUSCADINE GRAPE WINE (Arnold Stark)

6 lbs. ripe Muscadine grapes
 4 lbs. granulated sugar
 water to 1 gallon
 1 tsp. acid blend*
 1 tsp. pectic enzyme*
 1 tsp. (or 1 tablet) yeast nutrient*
 1 camden tablet*
 wine yeast (liebfraumilch or champagne variety)*

Gently crush grapes and place in a wide-mouth gallon jar (including juice, hulls, and seeds). Add half the sugar and fill with water to 3 inches from the top of the jar. Add acid blend, pectic enzyme, yeast nutrient, and crushed camden tablet. Stir well and let stand (covered with cheese-cloth or the jar lid (not screwed on!)) for 24 to 48 hours. Meanwhile add yeast to one cup of water mixed with 1/4 cup of the sugar. When fermentation has obviously begun (24 - 48 hours) add to grape mixture. Allow to ferment 5-7 days, stirring twice a day. Strain through cheese-cloth or linen handkerchiefs, into a secondary fermentator (a narrow-neck gallon bottle is fine). Add the remaining sugar, dissolved in enough water to bring close to one gallon. Place a fermentation lock on the jar and allow to ferment until gas is no longer produced. Decant to eliminate sediment. Add 1 tsp. potassium sorbate* (to retard further fermentation), and, after 24 hours, sweeten to taste, if dry, medium dry, or sweet wine is desired. Bottle and age for 6 months to a year. Note: If you wish white wine, use a green or bronze grape variety such as Triumph. If you wish a rosé, mix in variable amounts of dark colored fruit, such as Cowart.

* Available from a winemakers' supply house.

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"CITRUS: DRENCHED IN HISTORY" (cont'd.)

60-79 A.D. Dioscorides of Cilicia, the area along the coast of southern Turkey, writes in his Materia Medica of the citron as very well-known in his area. He uses the names Median and Persian apple as well as "cedromela".

77 A.D. Pliny, the Roman naturalist and writer, talks of the citron as a medicine, poison antidote, perfume and moth repellent. He is the first to use the word "citrus". Other names he cites are malus medica and malus assyria.

50-150 A.D. Trade routes to and from Rome are well established. Gourmets in Rome occasionally have citrons, lemons and oranges.

300 A.D. Italian gardeners overcome difficulties in getting fruit from trees grown in that country. Apparently citrons, lemons and oranges were grown. Mosaics of all three decorate the mausoleum of Lady Constantia, daughter of Constantine the Great.

568 A.D. The Lombard invasion breaks the link between Italy and the Byzantine Empire. The luxurious gardens of the rich are destroyed and with them the delicate citron, lemon and orange trees. Without some shelter and special care, the trees eventually die out. Some citrons and oranges survive in the wild where climate was most favorable (Sicily, Sardinia and the region of Naples).

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TREASURY NOTES....by Tom Goldsworthy (continued)

13. Sprouting Kiwi seeds. The September issue of Organic Gardening Magazine has a brief description of how to sprout Kiwi seeds on page 8.
14. Expenses for the club. If you are going to expend money on behalf of the RFCI in preparation for the annual plant sale, please get one or more copies of our expense reporting form from the treasurer (RFCI-09) at a meeting or by mail.
15. You will need a current RFCI membership card to purchase plants at the annual plant sale with the member's discount. Pick up your card from membership chairman Armando Mendez at the September pot-luck meeting. Or, pick it up at the membership table at the Fairgrounds the Sunday of the sale.
16. Membership sale of plants at annual plant sale. If you are now growing items which you intend to sell at the October Fairgrounds sale - please pick up NOW one or more of our plant registration forms (#RFCI-10) and fill it out BEFORE you bring your plants to the October sale. This will save you and the plant "Check-in Committee" lots of time on a busy day. To sell your plants, they must be listed on one of these forms in advance.
17. Privacy screen for plant sale. Again this year, we need some sort of privacy screen to block off an area behind the sales counters where members can place plants on reserve. We need something which will block the view of these plants from our customers. Can you help solve this problem? If so, call me now.
18. It will help us if you will continue to sign up for specific committees for the October plant sale at Janet's after or before our September pot-luck meeting. I find myself increasingly tied up with demands of my new business, and consequently I cannot put anywhere near the number of man-hours into this sale as I did last year. If more people do not actively volunteer to help now when we need it, you can expect that the jobs will just not get done this year.

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BOOK REVIEW

The library welcomes donations of articles, papers or other such information of interest to the Club. A copy of "An Evaluation of Apple Cultivars for Central and North Florida", by E.P. Miller and L.H. Baker of I.F.A.S. was provided by Earl Martin -- Thank you, Earl -- and has been put into a folder for circulation. This 12 page paper describes the six cultivars best acclimated to Florida as well as chilling hours, adaptability, and fruit quality of a couple dozen more. Apple lovers, take note!

Since the books and other materials are being cross-indexed and catalogued, all "past due" materials need to be returned so that your librarian may do her job. Next month we plan to start sending out reminders.

Author Lewis Maxwell left a number of copies of his "Garden Guide for July/August 1984" with the librarian, and they are available for the asking.

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Loquat
Eriobotrya japonica

Tampa Bay Chapter Newsletter
Rare Fruit Council International, Inc.
P O Box 260363
Tampa FL 33685



P. JUDSON NEWCOMBE
314 DEER PARK
TEMPLE TERRACE, FL 33617



Apples

... from ISRAEL at the RFCI annual tree sale!