

size, color, shape, character of the flesh, taste, and aroma are all typical of Clapp Favorite. The pear trees at Chico, however, differ in two essential and important ways from Clapp Favorite. The trees of the latter, as they grow older, usually become rough and shaggy, the branches being overspread with gray scurfy skin. Clapp Favorite is very subject to fire blight; in fact, this dread disease has practically limited one of our finest pears to a very few locations. Doctor Hedrick, in his "Pears of New York," says:

"Except in one particular, the trees of Clapp Favorite are as nearly perfect as those of any fruit in American orchards. The weak character, unfortunately, is a most important one, and all but debars the variety from some regions in which pear-growing is a large industry. The weakness is susceptibility to blight. No standard pear goes down so quickly as this one when blight is epidemic."

Up to this time, after the lapse of eleven years, the parent trees of S.P.I. No. 33207 at Chico show no evidence of bark roughness and have been practically free from fire blight. This disease has attacked other trees nearby, especially Bartlett, proving severe in some cases. Speaking of the probable resistance of the Favorita to blight, Mr. Wight, in one of his letters, says:

"It has this indication in its favor. One year I made a few Bartlett crosses. I gathered my pollen before the flowers opened and I suspect I may have secured a little pollen from an infected bud, as that spring the Bartlett pears developed a good deal of blight. At any rate every twig on which I used that pollen blighted three or four inches, then stopped."

Recognizing that the real test of a tree like the Favorita pear to stand up under blight is a field trial under widely varying conditions of soil and climate, it became of interest to know what had happened to the trees that had been distributed, or at least representative selections that would clearly cover the widest variations of soil and climate. Accordingly, early in August of this year two hundred names of experimenters were selected from those that had received trees and inquiries were sent to them asking for data as to the condition of the trees, and especially whether they had shown any evidence of fire blight. To make sure that fire blight might not be confused with other diseases, a brief summation of the more important characters of fire blight was given on the questionnaire card sent out. One hundred and fifteen reports have been received; one hundred experimenters reported that the trees grown by them had shown no evidence of fire blight; fifteen reported blight and the remaining eighty-five have not yet been heard from. Not a single case of blight was reported from the Pacific Coast where more than seven hundred and fifty trees have been distributed. Texas received, in the nine years of the distribution, one hundred and thirty-three trees. Ten experimenters selected to report on the trees