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Item 3 of the provisional agenda

LATVIAN FRUIT VARIETIES

Note by the secretariat

The following information on Latvian fruit varieties is reproduced as received from Latvia. The Working Party may wish to consider including the varieties in the relevant standards now to avoid delays.

DESCRIPTION OF COMMERCIAL FRUIT VARIETIES GROWN IN LATVIA

The varieties have been described in the order of maturing.

1. APPLES

EARLY:

DOCH MELBI

Parentage: Unknown, possibly *Melba x Korichnoe Polosatoe*. Russia, St.Petersburg.

Fruits: Large, rounded conical (extra size fruits cylindrical), smooth, pale yellow with pink stripes and light bloom, attractive. Stalk medium, in a deep cavity. Eye half-open, in a broad cavity.  cream, firm, juicy, sub acid, good.

Tree: Very hardy, vigorous, the thin, long branches bend under the weight of fruits. Bears quite well and regularly. Blossoms early.

Diseases: Medium resistant, fungicide spraying recommended in coastal areas.

Season: Very early, even before *Baltais Dzidrais* (syn. *White Transparent*). Stores rather well.

Best rootstocks: Dwarfing and MM 106.

KONFETNOE

Parentage: *Papirovska* (syn. *White Transparent*) x *Korobovka*. Russia.

Fruits: Medium or larger, flat globose, smooth, greenish yellow with dull red stripes, not very attractive. Stalk medium or short and thick in a deep and narrow cavity. Eye open of half-open, cavity medium. Flesh greenish yellow, medium firm, sweet, aromatic, very good for eating.

Tree: Very hardy, medium vigour. Productive, some tendency to biennial bearing.

Diseases: Resistant to canker and fruit rot, low susceptibility to scab. Water core possible in hot summers.

Season: Early, after *Baltais Dzidrais* (syn. *White Transparent*). Fruits hang very well on the tree.

Best rootstocks: Dwarfing or MM106.

KOVALENKOVSKOE

Parentage: Open pollinated seedling of *Lawfam* Belarus.

Fruits: Over medium or larger, globose conical, smooth. Attractive, yellow or greenish yellow with dark red overcolour, solid with slight stripes. Stalk short or medium, in a deep cavity. Eye half-open, in a deep and rather narrow cavity. Flesh cream yellow, medium firm, sweet, juicy.

Tree: Hardy, medium vigour, easy to train. Productive, with a tendency to biennial bearing.

Diseases: Rather resistant to all diseases.

Season: Early to midseason. Best used off-tree, as colour becomes dull and flavour insipid during storage. Can be stored for 2-3 months.

Best rootstocks: Bud.9, MM106.

MIDSEASON:

ALRO

Parentage: *Calville Rouge de Paques X Peasgood's Nonsuch*. Latvia.

Fruits: Over medium or larger, short globose conical, regular shape, slight ribbing. Attractive, yellow with bright red overcolour, solid with slight stripes and visible light dots. Stalk medium, in a deep cavity. Eye open, in a rather shallow cavity. Flesh greenish yellow, rather firm, pleasant sub acid, juicy, with banana-like flavour at its best.

Tree: Medium hardy, medium vigour, tends to bear on spurs. Productive, with a tendency to biennial bearing.

Diseases: Rather resistant to all diseases.

Season: Midseason. Hangs very well on the tree, must not be picked too late. Stores 4-5 months.

Best rootstocks: Bud.9, MM106.

ANTONOVKA

An ancient Russian variety.

Fruits: Large, globose conical or oblong, with medium, narrow ribbing and bumpy surface. Skin greenish yellow, or lighter or darker yellow, depending of the growing area. Stalk medium, in a deep, strongly russeted cavity. Eye half-open, in a narrow, deep cavity. Flesh rather coarse, yellowish, strongly aromatic, tart. Used for all kinds of processing and cooking.

Tree: Extremely hardy, rather vigorous, crown irregular at an early age. Productive, with a trend to biennial bearing.

Diseases: Rather good resistance to all diseases.

Season: Midseason, quality best if picked when fruits become yellowish. Stores well 3-4 months, optimal storage temperature 4° C. A widely grown processing variety in eastern Europe.

AUKSIS

Parentage: *McIntosh x Gravensteiner*. Lithuania.

Fruits: Over medium to large, flattened roundish, smooth. Attractive, solid bright red on yellow, some russet in unfavourable seasons. Stalk long, in a broad and rather deep cavity, with medium russet. Eye open, cavity broad, medium deep. Flesh cream, juicy, rather firm, sub acid, very good.

Tree: Medium hardy, rather small, easy to train. Productive or medium productive, with a trend to biennial bearing. Blossoms medium early, blossoming period is long.

Diseases: Rather good resistance to all diseases.

Season: Midseason, drops rather easily. Stores well 4-5 months, if picked not too late.

Best rootstocks: Bud.9, Bud.118.

A commercial variety in Lithuania and Latvia, widely planted.

KORICHNOE NOVOE

Parentage: *Korichnoe Polosatoe x Wealthy*. Russia.

Fruits: Large, uniform, smooth globose conical, yellow or green yellow with dull red stripes and grey dots. Colour not attractive, often with russet. Stalk medium, in a deep, russetted cavity. Eye open, in a deep and narrow cavity. Flesh greenish yellow, rather firm, juicy, with an outstanding aroma, sub acid with some dominance of acidity. Good dessert, excellent cooking/industry.

Tree: Very hardy, vigorous, with a tendency to form narrow crotches. Comes late into bearing on unsuitable rootstocks. Bears well, with a tendency to biennial crops.

Diseases: Resistant to scab and canker, susceptible to storage rot.

Season: Midseason, drops easily. Stores 4 months, can shrivel at low humidity.

Best rootstocks: Bud.9, Bud.396, MM106. Right choice of a rootstock is essential for good yields.

ORLIK

Parentage: *McIntosh x Bessemyanka Michurinskaya*. Russia, registered in 1970.

Fruits: Medium or larger, flat globose, smooth. Skin thin, almost completely purplish red, with a white bloom. Attractive. Stalk short, thick, in a rather broad, deep cavity, a conspicuous green, russet-free area around the stalk. Eye half-open, in a shallow cavity. Flesh greenish cream, firm, juicy and aromatic, with an excellent sub acid flavour, similar to *McIntosh*.

Tree: Hardy, below medium vigour, with a compact, upright habit, easy to train. Bears very early and well, mostly on spurs.

Diseases: Rather resistant to all diseases.

Season: Midseason, drops rather easily. If grown on dwarfing rootstocks, can be stored 4-5 months. Flesh browning possible during storage.

Best rootstocks: Grows very well on most rootstocks, larger fruits on dwarfing rootstocks.

RUDENS SVITRAINAIS (syn. Streifling Herbst, Sügisjoonik, Osensee Polosatoe)

An ancient variety of Baltic origin.

Fruits: Over medium to large, uniform, globose conical, medium ribbed. Skin pale yellow with red stripes. Stalk medium, usually in a very shallow and narrow cavity. Eye half-open, cavity shallow. Flesh yellowish with a pink tinge, medium fine grained, aromatic, sub acid, eating quality fair or good. Fresh and processing.

Tree: Extremely hardy, vigorous. Bears well, but has a tendency to alternate yields. Bears early only if the right rootstock is chosen.

Diseases: Rather resistant to scab, can be injured by canker.

Season: Late midseason. Stores only a few months.

Best rootstocks: Bud.9 and other dwarfing rootstocks.

SARKANAIS RUDENS SVITRAINAIS:

A red-fruited clone of *Rudens Svitrainais*, has intensively dark red striped, very attractive fruits. Other traits the same as for the standard clone.

SALTANAT

Parentage: Seedling of *Renet Burhardta* (syn. *Liivi Kuldrenett*). Kazakhstan, registered in 1966.

Fruits: Over medium to large, flat globose, smooth, very attractive - solid bright red on yellow. Stalk thick, medium or longer, in a wide cavity. Eye half-open to open, cavity shallow, very broad. Flesh yellowish, very firm, juicy, sub acid, good.

Tree: Hardy, vigorous, with very thick branches, difficult to train. Bears rather regularly and well, if the right rootstock is chosen.

Diseases: Highly resistant to fruit rot, resistant to canker, rather resistant to scab.

Season: Late midseason. Stores very well 4-5 months. Excellent in shipping, very good shelf life.

Best rootstocks: Bud.9, Bud.491. Bud.396, on poorer soils also MM106.

TALVENAUDING

Parentage: *Åkerö x Streifling Herbst*. Estonia, registered in 1976.

Fruits: Medium to large, not uniform, broad to oblong conical, distinctly ribbed. Skin thick, pale yellow with some red stripes and a light bloom. Not very attractive. Stalk medium. Eye closed, in a deep cavity. Flesh yellowish, rather firm, later medium firm, juicy, sub acid. Fresh/industry.

Tree: Very hardy, medium vigour. Yields good, but with some tendency to biennial bearing. Fruits born in clusters which must be thinned.

Diseases: Good resistance to most diseases.

Season: Midseason, for storage must be picked when ground colour still greenish, but for immediate use – when fully mature. Must be stored at 3°C and good ventilation to avoid skin browning. A medium quality apple variety which is suitable mostly for the aims of organic growing.

TIINA

Parentage: *Streifling Herbst x Liivi Kuldrenett*. Estonia, registered in 1976.

Fruits: Medium to large, not uniform, globose conical to oblong conical, smooth, skin pale yellow with some red stripes. Not very attractive. Stalk medium, in a narrow, shallow cavity. Eye half-open, cavity medium. Flesh yellowish, rather firm and juicy, very sweet, without special aroma.

Tree: Hardy, medium vigour, branching irregular. Shoot tips should not be headed back, then the tree will bear regularly and well on the right rootstock. Blossoms very early.

Diseases: Low susceptibility to scab and fruit rot. Susceptible to mildew. Canker is possible.

Season: Midseason, stores until Christmas, after becomes insipid.

Best rootstocks: MM 106.

A well-favoured sweet apple.

LATE:

ANTEI

Parentage: *Belorusskoe Malinovie x (Babushkino x Newtown)*. Belarus.

Fruits: Large, flat globose conical, medium ribbed, greenish yellow almost completely covered with dark purplish red, have a bluish bloom, not always are attractive. Stalk medium or short. Eye closed, in a broad, deep cavity. Flesh cream or greenish, medium firm, juicy, sub acid, good.

Tree: Hardy, medium vigour, easy to train. Productive, with tendency to biennial bearing. Fruit thinning is recommended for better quality.

Diseases: Resistant to canker, fruit rot and scab. Can be susceptible to bitter pit.

Season: Late, stores very well for 7-8 months.

Best rootstocks: Bud.9, Bud.491.

Grown in commercial orchards in Belarus and neighbouring countries.

BELORUSSKOE MALINOVOE

Parentage: *Antonovka x Lawfam*. Belarus.

Fruits: Medium or larger, flat globose, smooth, not always uniform. Skin thin, almost completely covered with dark purplish red on pale green or pale yellow, not always attractive. Stalk medium or short, often thick, in a deep and narrow cavity. Eye small, closed, cavity narrow. Flesh greenish cream, medium firm, very juicy, sub acid with some domination of acidity, good.

Tree: Hardy, medium vigorous, easy to train. Productive, with a tendency to biennial bearing. Fruit thinning is recommended for better quality.

Diseases: Resistant to canker and fruit rot, must be sprayed against scab in coastal areas.

Season: Late, stores very well for 7-8 months.

Best rootstocks: MM 106, Bud.9, Bud.396.

Grown mostly in commercial orchards in Belarus and neighbouring countries.

BOGATYR

Parentage: *Antonovka x Landsberger Renette*. Russia.

Fruits: large to very large, short globose conical, medium ribbed. Skin yellow with a slight blush, strong russet in the stalk cavity. Stalk short to medium, in a deep and wide cavity. Eye closed, in a large cavity. Flesh cream, firm, juicy, sub acid. Mostly used for cooking, a medium quality apple for fresh eating.

Tree: Hardy. Vigorous, spreading, crown rather sparse, with brittle wood. Bears early and well if correctly trained. Fruits need to be thinned for uniform size.

Diseases: Quite resistant to all diseases.

Season: Late, can be stored for 5-6 months at 3°C. Skin browning possible with poor ventilation and lower temperatures.

A large apple for cooking and processing.

IEDZENU

Parentage: *Sipolins x Adamapfe*. Latvia.

Fruits: Large, uniform, globose conical or flat globose conical, slightly ribbed. Skin yellow with bright red washed out stripes and conspicuous light dots, attractive. Stalk medium, in a medium cavity. Eye open, cavity medium. Flesh yellowish, firm, juicy, aromatic, with very good flavour.

Tree: Hardy, vigorous, tends to grow upright, hard to train. Bears early and well only on suitable rootstocks.

Diseases: Quite resistant to fungal diseases. Medium susceptible to bitter rot in storage. Susceptible to bitter pit, cannot be grown without calcium sprayings.

Season: Late, storage strongly dependent on calcium application.

Best rootstocks: B9, MM 106.

ILGA

Parentage: Open pollinated seedling of *Delicious*. Latvia, registered in 1999.

Fruits: Medium to large, truncate conical, medium ribbed. Skin thick, green yellow or yellow with brownish or dull red washed-out over colour, conspicuous large light dots. Not very attractive. Stalk medium, in a deep cavity. Eye half-open, in a deep, medium wide cavity. Flesh greenish yellow, juicy, sweet, aromatic, with a *Delicious* type flavour.

Tree: Medium hardy, spreading to drooping, needs rejuvenating pruning quite soon. Bears very early, regularly and well on all rootstocks. Better fruit colour in warmer locations.

Diseases: Quite resistant to all diseases. Water core observed in some years.

Season: Late, can be stored for 6-8 months.

Best rootstocks: All types of rootstock are suitable.

FORELE

Parentage: *Ruhm von Kirchwerder x Roter Borsdorfer*. Latvia.

Fruits: Medium to large, flat globose, very smooth. Skin thick, green yellow or yellow with solid dark red over colour, conspicuous large light dots. Stalk short, in a broad, shallow cavity. Eye closed or half-open, in a shallow, wide cavity. Flesh greenish white, firm, juicy, sub acid, with good or fair flavour.

Tree: Hardy, medium size, with a strong tendency to form bare wood. Bears very early, well, but biannually. Fruits in large clusters, must be thinned.

Diseases: medium resistant to scab, canker and bitter rot. Tolerant to mildew.

Season: Late, storage highly dependent on fruit size. Medium size fruits can be stored for 6-7 months.

Best rootstocks: All types of rootstocks are suitable.

NORIS

Parentage: *Streifling Herbst x McIntosh*. Lithuania.

Fruits: Medium or smaller, flat globose, smooth. Skin thin or medium, green yellow or yellow with striped and washed out red over colour. Stalk short, in a medium cavity. Eye closed or half-open, in a rather deep, wide cavity. Flesh white - greenish white, medium firm, juicy, sub acid, with good or very good flavour.

Tree: Medium hardy, medium size, spreading, has brittle wood. Bears on spurs, very early and well, but biannually. Fruits must be thinned to obtain acceptable quality.

Diseases: Medium resistant to scab and canker, resistant to fruit rot and bitter rot.

Season: Late, storage very good, in common storage for 7 months.

Best rootstocks: All types of rootstock are suitable.

RUBIN (Kazakhstan cv.)

Parentage: *Renet Burhardta* (syn. *Liivi Kuldrenett*) x *Suislepp*. Kazakhstan.
(N.B. – This is a different variety from Czech cv.*Rubin*!)

Fruits: large or very large, oblong conical or globose conical, smooth. Skin thin, pale greenish yellow with bright, washed out purplish red over colour and numerous white dots. There is strong russet in the stalk cavity. Stalk medium to thick, medium or longer, stalk cavity deep. Eye open or half-open, cavity deep. Flesh cream, medium firm, juicy, aromatic, with very good sub acid flavour.

Tree: Hardy, vigorous, tip and spur bearing. Bears early and well, especially on dwarfing rootstocks. Has a tendency to biennial bearing. Fruit clusters must be thinned to obtain uniform fruits. Better fruit quality and storage are in cooler climate.

Diseases: Rather tolerant to scab, but susceptible to fruit rots. Canker is possible.

Season: Late, can be stored for 4-6 months, depending on the season's climate.

Best rootstocks: B9, B396, B491, MM 106.

SINAP ORLOVSKII

Parentage: *Severnii Sinap x Pamyat Michurina*. Russia.

Fruits: Large or very large, broad conical or oblong conical, slightly ribbed, not quite uniform. Skin greenish yellow with a slight blush. Stalk medium, cavity deep, narrow. Eye half-open to open, in a deep cavity. Flesh greenish cream, medium firm, juicy, sub acid, good.

Tree: Hardy. Vigorous, irregular upright spreading, with very long new growth. Bears regularly and well. Must be picked before fruit drop starts.

Diseases: Quite resistant to all diseases. Bitter pit possible.

Season: Late, can be stored for 7-8 months. Medium firm in shipping.

Best rootstocks: Dwarfing, MM 106.

ZAILIYSKOE

Parentage: Unknown, possibly *Renet Burhardta* (syn. *Liivi Kuldrenett*) x *Aport Alexander*. Kazakhstan, registered in 1960.

Fruits: large or over medium, truncate conical or flat globose, slightly ribbed. Skin yellow with red washed-out stripes and bluish grey bloom, strong russet in the stalk cavity, not very attractive. Stalk medium long, thick, cavity medium, rather narrow. Eye half-open, large, cavity broad. Flesh greenish yellow, medium firm, juicy, aromatic, with very good sub acid flavour.

Tree: Hardy. A natural dwarf, needs very little pruning. Bears regularly and well, especially on dwarfing rootstocks.

Diseases: Quite resistant to all diseases.

Season: Late midseason, can be stored for 5-6 months.

Best rootstocks: Dwarfing, MM 106.

ZARYA ALATAU

Parentage: Seedling of *Orleans Reinette*. Kazakhstan, registered in 1962.

Fruits: Size depends on thinning, from medium to large. Shape from truncate conical to oblong, very smooth. Skin dry, medium thin, bright yellow with an orange blush, a few russet spots possible. Stalk medium or longer, thick, cavity deep and narrow. Eye open, cavity medium or deeper. Flesh yellowish, firm, juicy, sub acid, very good.

Tree: Hardy, medium vigour, with a tendency to form narrow crotches, branches of young trees must be spread. Otherwise easy to train. Bears early, very productive, but tends to be biennial. Fruit thinning is strongly recommended.

Diseases: Good resistance to scab, canker and fruit rot. Some bitter pit possible.

Season: Late. Stores well for 6-7 months. Shrivels at low humidity.

Best rootstocks: Bud.9, Bud.396, MM 106.

2. PEARS

VASARINE SVIESTINE

Parentage: Unknown. Lithuania.

Fruits: Large, long pear-shaped, skin greenish with a blush. Flesh firm, crisp, sweet. Best for eating off-tree. Good also for canning.

Tree: Very hardy, vigorous. Starts bearing medium early. Bears very well and regularly.

Diseases: Medium resistant to scab.

Season: Early, must be picked before fruits become mealy. Short storage.

SUVENIRS

Parentage: *Malnavas No1 x Beurre Dumont*. Latvia, registered in 1999.

Fruits: Over medium size, pear-shaped, yellow with a blush. Flesh cream, melting, very juicy and sweet, excellent for eating.

Tree: Very hardy, vigorous. Branches of young trees must be bent horizontally for better yields, and heading back of all shoots is not recommended. Well-trained trees bear early and well.

Fruit clusters must be thinned for better fruit size.

Belorusskaya Pozdnaya is the best pollinator, but *Suvenirs* yields even without pollination.

Diseases: Good resistance to scab.

Season: Midseason. Early picked fruits store for 2 months. Can be ripened on the tree without becoming mealy, but then does not store long.

A hardy, scab resistant pear with excellent fruit quality.

MRAMORNAYA

Parentage: *Bere Zimnaya Michurina x Fondante de Bois.* Russia.

Fruits: Large, broad pear-shaped, skin greenish yellow with attractive dark pink overcolour, russetting medium. Flesh slightly yellowish, mild, juicy, fine grained with a few grit cells, sweet and aromatic, very good. Used also for canning.

Tree: Hardy, medium vigorous. Starts bearing medium early. Bears well, but has a tendency to alternate bearing. Flowering is late, needs a pollinator.

Diseases: Medium resistant to scab.

Season: Midseason, storage 1-2 months.

BELORUSSKAYA POZDNAYA

Parentage: A seedling of *Bonne Louise.* Belarus.

Fruits: Medium size or, with good care, bigger, broad pear-shaped, uniform. Skin smooth, with bronze russet on yellow skin, attractive. Flesh creamy white, firm, juicy, fine grained with a few grit cells, sweet, good.

Tree: Hardy, below medium height, with a wide crown, which needs some thinning. Bears early and very well.

Diseases: Good resistance to scab.

Season: Late, stores until February-March.

A good, hardy variety for storage.

4. PLUMS:

JAPANESE PLUMS:

KOMETA (syn. KUBANSKAYA KOMETA)

Origin: *Skoroplodnaya* (Japanese plum) x *Pionerka* (myrobalan plum).
Russia, Krymsk, breeder G.V.Eremin.

Fruits: Medium or bigger, round ovate, bright purplish red, semi-freestone, stone small.
Flesh yellow, firm, juicy, with good sub acid flavour. Dessert and canning.

Tree: Medium hardy, grows vigorously, but reaches only medium size.
Bears early and well.

Diseases: Very good resistance.

Season: Very early, before *Opal*. Can be stored for 3-4 weeks.

Pollination: Flowering early. Self-sterile, can be pollinated by *Alvis* or any myrobalan plum.

A very promising, extremely early plum.

EUROPEAN PLUMS:

JULIUS

Origin: A seedling of *Edinburgh* (syn. *Prince of Wales*). Estonia.

Fruits: Medium size, oval, slightly flattened from sides, purple violet with a bloom, freestone.
Flesh yellow, juicy, sweet and very good. Fruits do not crack and hold well on the tree. Dessert and canning.

Tree: Medium hardy, rather small, bears early, regularly and well.

Diseases: Quite resistant. Some fruit rot possible.

Season: Early.

Pollination: Flowering medium early. Self-sterile, will be pollinated by *Victoria*, *Oullins* or other plums in this group.

A very good early dessert plum with trees of limited size.

AVE

Origin: *Wilhelmine Späth x Tartu Kaunitar.* Estonia.

Fruits: large or medium, round, purple violet with a bloom, freestone. Flesh firm, sweet, aromatic, very good. Good also for canning.

Tree: Hardy, upright, bears regularly and quite well. For better yields, branches of young trees must be spread.

Diseases: Good resistance. Some fruit rot on rainy summers.

Season: Medium early.

Pollination: Flowering medium early. Self-fertile, but pollination by varieties like *Victoria*, *Oullins* and others in this group will secure higher yields.

A hardy dessert plum.