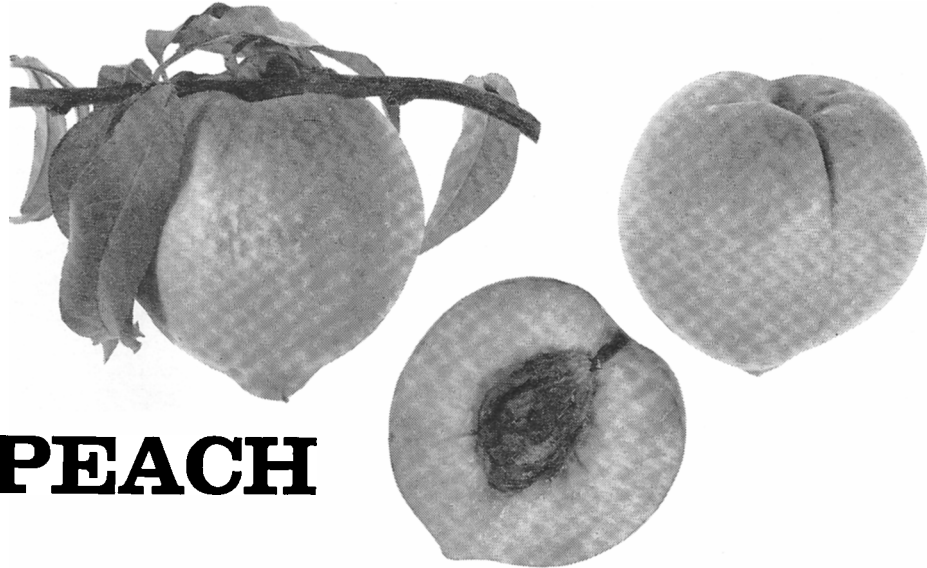


*New short-chilling  
late maturing  
cling variety*



# NUEVO PEACH

J. W. LESLEY • M. M. WINSLOW

The Nuevo peach has yellow nonmelting flesh, sweet-flavored and of medium acidity. It is intended for home or commercial processing in areas where winter chilling is insufficient for the standard varieties. It was satisfactory in a commercial canning test at Hemet, Riverside County.

Nuevo originated as seedling No. 335-10 from a cross made in 1947. Its pedigree is complex. Among the earliest ancestors are Elberta and Peento; later crossing added Peak (cling) and SPI 32374. With proper thinning the fruit is large and not inclined to preharvest drop. In chilling requirement, Nuevo is similar to Meadowlark and intermediate between Elberta and Bonita.

The tree is vigorous and upright (based on observations in southern California). Leaf glands are globose. Flowers are very small and nonshowy, the petals often wavy. The fruit is nearly spherical and fairly symmetrical. The larger fruits measure 3.1 inches in over-all length and smaller fruits are 2.5 inches in length. The cavity across the sutures is deep and narrow, and the ventral suture is distinct. The stem of a ripe fruit is about 0.25 inch long.

The skin is tough and adheres to the flesh; pubescence is very short. The surface is yellow, but exposed fruits are about 30 per cent dotted or splashed with red. A few russet spots, which disfigure the skin, occur in some localities. The flesh is yellow, nonmelting and fine in texture, but next to the pit, and extending outward about one-quarter inch, the flesh color is red. The fruit ripens evenly and keeps well. The pit is moderate in size—2.6 × 2.0 × 1.8 inches in large fruits—more grooved than pitted, and winged on the ventral side.

Nuevo is recommended for processing or preserves in localities such as the intermediate valleys of southern California, where winter chilling is insufficient for standard processing varieties. It would not yield regularly on the coastal plain. It is less subject to spring frosts than the very short-chilling varieties. At Riverside, Nuevo produced good crops in 8 of the last 10 years and light crops in 2 years with extremely mild winters. Inquiries

for budwood or for a limited amount of nursery stock may be addressed to J. W. Lesley, Department of Horticulture, University of California, Riverside.

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## TIMING MEDUSAHEAD BURNS

*to destroy more seed  
—save good grasses*

A. H. MURPHY • W. C. LUSK

Control of medusahead (*Elymus caput-medusae*) on rangeland is a major problem on many acres in California and other western states. Where this grass covers large areas and spraying or mowing is not feasible, burning has been extensively used. The purpose of burning is to destroy the seed in the head before it shatters and is deposited on the ground. Because medusahead is an annual plant it depends on the current seed crop to perpetuate itself. In many circumstances, where burning is properly accomplished, the medusahead stand will be reduced to a very low percentage during the next growing season.

Studies have shown that burning destroys more medusahead seed at certain stages of development than at other times.

This burning also has an influence on the germination of other range plants growing in the same area. For example, broadleaf filaree (*Erodium botrys*), frequently becomes dominant in an area the growing season following a grass burn. This probably occurs because filaree matures and shatters its seed early, usually before burning, thus the seed is on or in the ground where damage from fire is low. Between the extremes of the earliest seed maturity of filaree and the late seed maturity of medusahead are the dates when seed of other range plants will mature.

One of the more abundant and important range plants is soft chess (*Bromus mollis*), a plant that is more desirable than medusahead. Collection of seed from