

RARE AND HERITAGE PEACH CULTIVARS



IN AUSTRALIA

A TO D



Persica Persica

NOTE: ALL RIPENING DATES ARE CALCULATED FOR THE
SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE.

ABIACUTO

This cultivar is recorded as held by the Rare Fruit Society of South Australia. No other information is available.

AFTERGLOW

Ripens mid February - early March. No other information is available.

ALBATROS

Synonyms: Albatross

Provenance: South Africa, 1973

Use: Dessert, culinary

Flesh: Colour white, texture; melting

Stone: Cling

Fruit description: Diameter approximately 61 mm, shape; round with prominent suture, skin colour; green with a red blush. Moderate eating quality.

Blossom time: August

Ripening times Early to mid December

Pollination: Self-fruitful

Chilling requirements: Medium-low (201 - 400 hours)

Other information: Storage ability is moderate (around three weeks). The tree is highly productive.

ANZAC

Synonyms: None known.

Provenance: Australia., circa 1900.

Use: Dessert, culinary. Best eaten fresh.

Flesh: Colour white.

Stone: Freestone

Fruit description: Large, round. Skin dark ruby red and cream. Exceptionally sweet taste, very good flavour.

Blossom time: Unknown

Ripening times: Not verified. Some say late December to early January, others say January to February.

Pollination: Self-fertile

Chilling requirements: Normal chill

Other information: The tree produces abundant fruit for about a month. Does not appear to be susceptible to curly leaf.



Anzac Peaches. Photo: Garden Express

BABY GOLD 5

Blossom time: Early September - early October

Ripening times: Mid January - late January

BABY GOLD 6

Blossom time: Early September - early October

Ripening times: Mid February - late February

BEALE

This cultivar is recorded as held by the Rare Fruit Society of South Australia. No other information is available.

BENDIGO BEAUTY

Synonyms: None known

Provenance: Australia

Use: Dessert, culinary

Flesh: White and juicy.

Stone: Unknown

Fruit description: Excellent flavour but bruises easily.

Skin colour red and cream.

Blossom time: Unknown

Ripening times: Early January

Pollination: Self-fertile

Chilling requirements: Unknown

Other information: Very good producer. Fruit gradually ripens over a number of weeks, not coming all at once.

BLACKBURN

Synonyms: Blackburn Elberta

Provenance: Unknown

Use: Dessert or culinary. Used for fresh fruit, stewing or drying.

Flesh: Yellow; firm; sweet; good texture.

Stone: Freestone

Fruit description: Larger and earlier than Elberta, flavour excellent, The skin has a deep pink blush

over a cream-green background. The fruit is juicy, with a very good flavour.

Blossom time: Unknown

Ripening times: Mid February (late season).

Pollination: Self-fertile. This peach is the pollinator for J.H.Hale's Million Dollar Peach – which is about the only peach that really needs a pollinator.

Chilling requirements: Unknown

Other information: A vigorous tree which is a heavy bearer.

BLACKBURN ELBERTA

see 'Blackburn'

BLACKMAN

Blossom time: Early September - early October

Ripening times: Mid January

BLAKE

Flesh colour: Yellow

Stone: Freestone

Fruit description: Unknown

Blossom time: Mid September - early October

Ripening times: Early February - mid February

Chilling requirements: 750 hours

Other information: Bacterial spot susceptible

BOON COUNTY SEEDLING

Synonym: Boon Country Seedling

Provenance: Boone County is located in the U.S. state of West Virginia.

Use: A small-fruited root-stock cultivar.

BOYCE-ELBERTA

Synonyms: Boyce x Elberta

Provenance: A hybrid of 'Elberta' and 'Boyce'.

Use: Dessert, culinary

Flesh colour: Possibly yellow like 'Elberta'

Stone: Possibly freestone like 'Elberta'

Blossom time: Early September - early October

Ripening times: Mid February

BRIGGS RED MAY

Provenance: An old heritage cultivar

Use: Dessert and bottling.

Flesh colour: White.

Stone: Freestone

Fruit description: A medium to large round peach with a white skin and a bright red cheek. Sweet and juicy, with rich, delicious flavour. Melting flesh.

One of the best early peach varieties.

Blossom time: Early September - early October

Ripening times: Late December

Pollination: Self-fertile.



Briggs Red May. Photo: Mount Alexander Fruit Gardens

BRIGHTON

Synonyms: None known

Provenance: New York State 1972

Use: Dessert, culinary

Flesh colour: Yellow

Stone: Unknown

Fruit description: The fruit are medium in size, attractive red-skinned and of good quality, with a clingy flesh, sweet and juicy.

Blossom time: Early/mid September - early October

Ripening times: Mid December - early January

Pollination: Self-fertile

Chilling requirements: 750 hours

Other information: Brighton is an early-season variety that does well in cold areas. Moderately vigorous.

CANDOKA

Synonyms: None known

Provenance: Bred by American W.F. Ramsey and colleagues including Andy Gossman, a pharmacist from Minnesota USA. In 1932 Gossman patented Candoka, a 'fuzzless' peach. Assigned plant patent number 51, it was probably one of the first peaches to be patented. Its name was derived from 'Okanogan County.'

Use: Dessert, culinary

Flesh colour: Unknown. Flesh is firm.

Stone: Unknown

Fruit description: Very large and heavy, skin smooth and velvety, bright red-golden. Delicious, sweet flavour.

Blossom time: Mid September - early October

Ripening times: Early February - mid February

Pollination: Needs cross-pollination. Pollinated by most other peaches.

Chilling requirements: Unknown

Other information: Keeps well but bruises easily. Branches may have to be propped up while fruit is ripening, because it is so heavy.

An article from 'The Brewster Herald,' Brewster, Okanogan County, Washington, September 15, 1933 states:

'Brewster Candoka Peach Co. is New Local Organization To Set Out Large Orchard of New Variety.

The Brewster Candoka Peach Co. Inc. was organized last Wednesday in Brewster.

W.F. Ramsey, well known Okanogan Florist and principal originator of the new, popular peach, and D.S. Gamble are the organizers of the new company. They have several others who have planned on joining the peach growing company.

The newly orgaized company will plant 30 acres in Candoka peaches this year and increase their acreage until the company will have at least 100 acres within tree or four years.

The 'Candoka' is fast becoming the most popular peach on the market. it has a much higher colour, much firmer flesh, better keeping qualities and has a skin that is smooth as velvet. It does not drop as readily as its competitive brothers.

And from ‘Charlie and the Giant Peach... and the Wayward Cherries: A History of Oliver Ranch. (Now known as Brock Farm) Oliver Ranch History As I Remember it in 1943, Morrie Thomas, June 20, 2010:

‘I believe that there was 110 acres of fruit trees planted on the property, including: cherries, peaches, apricots and pears. At one time it was even said to be the largest soft fruit orchard in the British Empire.

‘The orchards came into full bearing in the early ‘40s. Along with the orchard, Charlie had also built a packing house. All the able-bodied males of the day were in the armed forces, so the available workforce was composed of local women and children. Between the orchard and the packing house, there would have been approximately 80 people working on the ranch in 1943.

‘One of the varieties of peaches which came into production at that time was the Candoka peach -- a peach with two serious drawbacks. Candoka was so large and heavy, the weight of them broke down the trees, plus they bruised easily, and thus were difficult to ship to market. To solve the shipping problem, all available teenagers were hired to work in the packing house folding large egg carton-type cardboard containers. As big as these containers were, each carton could only hold four of these huge peaches. My sister Dolly, cousin Ginny and I moved up to the ranch into one of the many picker cabins and were part of this early orchard experiment, which did not

prove successful, and the Candoka peach disappeared.'

Fortunately Candoka only disappeared from commercial use. This wonderful peach passed into the public domain and became a heritage fruit cultivar.



Candoka Peach, 1934. Artist: Royal Charles Steadman, b. 1875

CANDOR

Synonyms: None known

Provenance: Candor is a hybrid resulting from a cross of Redhaven with Erly-Red-Fre. It was released in 1965 and became the most widely grown and popular cultivar released from the North Carolina breeding program in the USA. It was grown extensively in many [warmer] southeastern states.

Use: Dessert, culinary

Flesh colour: Bright yellow, exhibiting slight red pigmentation at the pit.