

## ROOTSTOCK SHORT COURSE

9:45 Discussion  
Wednesday, September 26

Questions for Mr. G. D. Bridges, Dr. E. C. Calavan, and Dr. L. W. Timmer

question: E. C. Calavan: In the tristeza program, how quickly and how effectively do they remove the trees that are infected?

answer: Most of this is done on a voluntary grower basis. After the incidence of tristeza is confirmed in the grove we give the grower 60 days notice in which he has time to remove the trees. In other words, he has 60 days from the time of the serving of the notice which will tell him exactly which trees are infected, to remove the infected trees. If he cooperates with the citrus tristeza board he will receive a check for \$25 for every tree he removed over 7 years of age and correspondingly less money for younger trees.

question: E. C. Calavan: What about stubborn and other virus diseases?

answer: There is no program provided for these. Only for tristeza.

question: E. C. Calavan: I understand that stubborn will not have the effect on an older tree as it will on a younger tree because it effects the branches primarily and will not translocate efficiently in a mature tree.

answer: That seems to be the case. Apparently, the virus disease is rather unevenly distributed within the tree.

question: L. W. Timmer: What can you tell us about the 'Star Ruby' grapefruit variety that you have in Texas?

answer: The 'Star Ruby' is far more susceptible to stress than are most other varieties. It seems that over application of herbicides, any condition producing moisture stress or in fact anything that might tend to produce chlorosis in a tree will be far more pronounced in the 'Star Ruby'. Most of the trees that we have planted now are about 6 years old and they have produced reasonable good crops the last 2 years for a nucellar. All 'Star Ruby' are essentially second generation nucellars. The budwood was taken from about a 10 year old tree. The acceptance I don't know as the fruit is somewhat different. The 'Star Ruby' has very firm texture and may not appeal to those used to a soft textured grapefruit. It also has a very deep red color which some people perhaps will find offensive. The biggest "ifs" are apparently in the area of production and acceptance. For sections and for juice the 'Star Ruby' has some great advantages in that it doesn't discolor and turn brown as does the juice from the 'Ruby Red' grapefruit.

question: G. D. Bridges: Have you observed any problems with young tree decline in the Foundation Grove at the Division of Plant Industry?

answer: In August of 1971 we did see the first symptoms of a nucellar 'Valencia' on rough lemon rootstock coming down with young tree decline. At the present time we have no additional trees which appear to be infected with this disease. It was brought out earlier that both registered and non-registered trees alike can suffer from the disease.

**9:45 Discussion (cont.)  
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**question: G. D. Bridges: Is it true that it is against the law to sell a tree which has psorosis in Florida today?**

**answer: At the present time it is against the law to sell a tree which is known to have psorosis.**

**question: G. D. Bridges: Do you think this law will be extended to also cover xyloporosis in the near future?**

**answer: Yes, I think that would be the next logical step, although there is not a great deal of discussion about it at the present time.**