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Pecans for Profit and How to Grow Them

The Eagle Pecan Co.
Pittsview, Ala.

Willis Thompson, Proprietor.
Illustrated Catalogue

of

Budded and Grafted

Paper Shell Pecans.

With Brief Points for Busy People
on How to Grow Them.

The Eagle Pecan Company,

Pittsview, Russell County, Alabama.

Willis Thompson,

Proprietor.
To Our Patrons.

In this small edition of our Descriptive Catalogue we wish to give "Pecan Facts" briefly for the busy man.

Our constant policy of fair dealing, promptness and liberality, continually increases our circle of friends and patrons, and to them we desire to express our sincere thanks for their patronage and support.
To Prospective Patrons:

When you plant Pecans You want the Best.

We offer you the largest and finest varieties that money and labor has been able to produce.

You want to know your trees will bear the variety of nuts you bought. We guarantee every tree sold true to name; we personally see to the grafting or budding of every tree offered.

You Want Vigorous, Well Rooted Trees. Our soil is deep, sandy loam, peculiarly adapted to the production of the best trees, and we guarantee every tree shipped to be well rooted, vigorous and thrifty.

You Want to Know if We are Reliable. We refer you to any business man in this section, and, by permission, to the Bank of Seale, Seale, Ala.; Bank of Hurtsboro, Hurtsboro, Ala., and Merchants & Mechanics Bank, Columbus, Ga.

We raise no trees for sale except Pecans, and will give you the very best.
Read Before Ordering.

Our Shipping Season opens as soon as leaves drop in the fall and, except for a few of the coldest days, continues uninterruptedly until March. Send your order at any time, and we will ship when instructed, or at the proper season.

We Are Well Equipped to fill orders for the stock described in this Catalogue. We have all the stock growing in the nursery that we have listed, and are well prepared to supply the wants of our customers.

Packing. We use only the best materials in packing, our workmen being well trained to the work, so trees should reach destination in finest order.

Selecting Varieties. We can often be of assistance to purchasers in making selection of varieties, and will be glad to render such assistance when desired.

Our Terms Are Cash with the order, or before shipment, except by special arrangement. Large buyers may, with advantage, send us list of their wants for suggestions as to cost, etc.

How to Send Money. Send it by Express Money Order, Postal Money Order, Bank Draft, or Registered Letter.

Our Guarantee is that all stock sent out is well grown, true to name, properly packed and shipped as instructed. Under the foregoing guarantee our liability is limited to the original price received.

Errors. Few of us are infallible, and in the most careful work mistakes will sometimes occur. If promptly notified any errors will be cheerfully corrected. We aim to please every customer.

Instructions. Buyers will greatly oblige us by using the order sheet enclosed herewith. Please give clear shipping directions, if goods are to go by freight or express, your name, post office and shipping point if different from post office, and write plainly as possible; and lastly, but not least, plant your trees at once upon receipt and in best possible manner. Cultivate well, and if season is dry water liberally; it pays. A good per cent. of trees made to live and grow off thriftily means something to us as well as to you.

Varieties.

We have 150,000 Trees in our Nursery—3,000 in Grove, and can furnish the following tested kinds.

Stuart. Originated at Pascagoula, Miss.
Average yield of parent tree (1889 to 1892) was about 140 pounds a year; and one year was 350 pounds, selling for $1.00 per pound. A strong upright grower; nuts large to very large, averaging about 45 nuts to pound; quality good. A very popular variety.

Parent tree over 50 years old.
A strong grower of handsome appearance. Nuts medium to large, 45 to 60 per pound; shell very thin. A budded tree in Southwest Georgia, set out in 1892, yielded $65.00 in nuts at wholesale price in 1905.

Frotscher.
Varieties.

A very early and prolific bearer of vigorous growth and profuse blooming.

Budded trees known to produce 30 pounds of nuts sixth year from setting out. Nuts medium to large, averaging about 50 per pound. Shell thin, full meated and fine flavor.

Georgia Giant.

Parent tree set out by the Bacon Pecan Co. in 1886 and began bearing in 1891 and has borne annual and increasing crops.

Nuts very large, its first crop, 32 nuts weighing one pound. Quality excellent. A very popular variety.

Productive and early bearer, a vigorous, strong and hardy grower.

Nuts of large size, 45 to 55 to pound. Excellent flavor and good quality.

Pabst.

Tree a handsome and vigorous grower, making beautiful shade tree. Early bearer. Nuts of good quality and large to very large size, 35 to 50 to pound.

Delmas.

In many sections has proved a vigorous grower and prolific and early bearer.

Nuts ranging from 50 to 60 to the pound; quality very good, flavor especially delicate, rich and sweet. Form long obovate to oblong-conical, with conical apex. Thin shell.

Schley.

Russell.

Parent tree stands in a city lot crowded with other trees, and yet averages about 150 pounds of nuts annually.

Nuts medium to large, weighing 55 to 65 per pound; shell thin; quality and flavor good.

Parent tree now more than 70 years old, is a thrifty tree of beautiful form, and bears large crops of fine nuts. Size large to very large, 45 to 50 to pound, quality excellent and flavor delicate.

Van Deman.

Centennial.

Trees grafted sixty or more years ago were inspected by Mr. W. A. Taylor (U. S. Department of Agriculture) in 1902, and found in fine condition, thrifty and productive.

Nuts are large, averaging 40 to 50 to pound, with meats solid, plump and of excellent quality. Rather slow to come to bearing in some localities.
Varieties.

- **Magnum.**
  (Synonym "Magnum Bonum").
  A very vigorous grower of fine shape. Nuts large, shape oblong-ovoid, and very similar to the Columbian and Rome.

- **Moneymaker.**
  A strong grower; foliage pale green; originating in Mississippi. Nuts of medium size, 50 to 60 to pound. Quality and flavor good. Variety promising well in more Northern Pecan belt.

- **Teche.**
  (Synonyms: Egg Shell, Frotscher No. 2, etc.)
  A rapid grower and prolific and early bearer, having some advantages over the Frotscher. Nuts medium to large.

- **"Twelve."**
  A new and very promising variety of highest merit originating in Alabama. Nuts are bright and handsome, very large, full meated and of fine flavor.

- **Capital.**
  Is said to be largest Pecan known, and has been widely disseminated under different names. (Columbian, Mammoth, etc., etc.) Nuts variable in size ranging from 25 (selected) to 50 to pound. Meats not always well fixed.

- **Senator.**
  One of the most vigorous growers of all the select varieties. Nuts above medium size, 45 to 65 to pound. Meats full and plump, and very rich in oil and fine flavor.

- **Monarch.**
  (Synonym Mammoth.)
  Nut often grows to 2 1/2 inches in length and an inch in diameter. Tree a very rapid grower and vigorous, making it especially valuable for quickest possible shade together with fine nuts.

- **Clarke.**
  (Synonym: Louisiana Paper Shell.)
  Nut something like Van Deman in appearance. Tree makes a quick growth, and is an early bearer and prolific.
The parent "Senator" Tree at 12 years old reached a height of 65 feet, with a spread of limbs 45 feet.
"Don't"

Do not plant seedling Pecan trees under any conditions, unless it be to bud or graft into, in the future. More than twenty-five years ago a farmer within three miles of us planted an orchard with nuts from one of the finest trees, bearing among the largest nuts in this section. He now has a Pecan orchard of large and fine looking trees—no two bearing nuts alike, none bearing nuts like parent tree; but he does have nuts of all shapes and sizes (see cut) except large ones.

Large nuts sell for double and thribble the price of small ones, and are incomparably superior for domestic use. Seedling trees are necessarily much cheaper. On the subject of "cheap trees" Mr. Albert Brownnell in an article (Northwest Horticulturist) truly says:

"It costs more to produce a good article than a poor one, and in buying, the first question should be not how cheap, but how good it is. Many people understand this well enough, and yet few ever stop to apply the rule to nursery stock. In no other kind of purchase is the quality of the article of such vital importance as in nursery stock. The price of a tree is the smallest part of its cost by the time it has come into bearing. If a man buys cheap trees, to save a few cents on each, by the time the tree comes into bearing, the expense of the land, labor, etc., has amounted to several times the cost of the tree; and, consequently, if his cheap stock turns out, as it uniformly does, to be of inferior and worthless varieties, then it is a serious loss to him, and he has to begin all over again. Now, is it not plain to all that it is rank folly for any one to risk this dead loss of trees, use of land for years, expense of cultivating, etc., to save a few cents on the tree, when, for a trifling increase in price he can get the very best warranted stock? As a matter of insurance, a man can not afford to buy anything but the best warranted stock. It is a general rule, which can be relied on, that 'cheap' stock is worthless stock, and therefore dear at any price. If a man won't pay for good stock, and buys cheap stock in order to save money, he is very sure to lose all he puts into it. Most of the worthless stock is worked off by strange agents, who sell on their own account and are not authorized by any responsible firm to take orders for them. Such men buy up refused stock from large nurseries for almost nothing and fill their orders with it, claiming it to be good. They also frequently warrant the stock, but as they are unknown or irresponsible, their warranty is absolutely worthless."
Seedlings for Grafting or Budding.

We plant large quantities of Nuts for the purpose of securing stock into which to graft or bud the fine varieties.

We are prepared to furnish Nurserymen, and others, large or small quantities of seedlings two years old, well packed, at 10 cents each. Special low prices in large lots.
Planting a Pecan Grove.

Suitable Soil. While rich alluvial lands are best, yet the Pecan has proven decidedly cosmopolitan as to location and soil, and will do well on almost any lands in the Southern States—of course the more fertile the better.

Preparation. Dig holes three feet deep and two feet in diameter—using only good top soil in filling up. A bushel of well rotted manure well mixed with soil is an advantage, but do not let strong manure come in contact with roots.

Distance to Plant. In very rich soil 60 by 60 feet is best, on poorer lands 40 to 50 feet each way.

Number of Trees. Planting 60 by 60 feet requires twelve trees to the acre, and 50 by 50 feet requires seventeen trees per acre.

Planting. Trim off any bruised or broken lateral roots, using a sharp knife. Plant tree straight and firmly in hole about an inch deeper than it grew in nursery, shortening tap root if necessary. Be careful that no part of collar (where root and body meet) is above ground. Carefully press soil tightly as possible while it is being placed around and about roots. Straighten out each lateral root nicely, so it will be, as nearly as possible, in its natural position. If soil is very dry when planting, pour in a bucket of water when hole is about half filled.

Do not allow roots to be exposed to sun or wind at all. Keep roots protected with moist coverings, and take out only one tree at a time for planting. It is important that roots do not get dry before planting.

Care of Trees on Arrival. If not ready to plant open package and place trees in trench in sloping position, covering roots and part of body with moist soil well firmed down. Dig trench in shady place and do not expose roots to drying out by sun or wind while trenching. If trees seem dried out from delay in transit, bury trees completely in moist soil for several days before planting and they will resume their natural condition.

If trees arrive in frozen condition do not open them, but bury package in cool moist earth for few days, or place package in a cellar or other dark protected place until thawed out. When taken out for planting protect roots with wet sacking, moss or other damp material.

Fertilizing. Good cultivation is the finest possible fertilizer the first year after planting. The winter following a good application of stable manure forked or plowed in around tree, three to six feet out, will be good. Also any good guano, bone dust, or ashes (four or five pounds to tree) is beneficial, and may be applied annually with good results.

Crops to Grow. While trees are small the land should be occupied with growing cultivated crops. Irish or sweet potatoes are best. Pinders, peas, cotton, etc., are good. Do not plant in small grain. Peach trees may be planted between Pecans when first set out, and the peaches will give several crops before they will be in the way of Pecans.

Age of Bearing and Yield. Budded or grafted paper-shell Pecans will begin bearing four to five years after planting—occasionally a year or two earlier. At eight to ten years trees well cared for should yield fifty to one hundred pounds of nuts to a tree, and bear increasing crop as they grow older. Old trees have been known to yield five hundred pounds.

In Bulletin 30, United States Department of Agriculture, the following statement is made: "Trees cultivated in Mississippi that are thirteen years old have grown to be one foot in diameter and yield from a barrel to a barrel and a half annually."
Cost Per Acre. Because of the great distance in setting Pecan trees, the cost of planting is no greater per acre than peaches, apples, pears, etc. They are long lived—bearing heavy crops for a century or more.

Danger of Overproduction. It is an easy matter to "glut the market" with any crop of inferior quality, and it may be the home market may sometimes be over supplied with Pecan nuts of small size and poor quality.

The demand for large Pecan nuts of improved varieties has never been met, and is growing yearly. Not ten per cent. of the people know anything about such nuts. The crops are usually contracted for in advance to supply a fancy trade, and are disposed of from first hands at private sale at prices ranging from forty cents to one dollar per pound.

The Southern part of the United States is the only country raising Pecans commercially, and has the world for a market, and twelve months of the year in which to sell them. The Pecan ranks first as a table or dessert nut; first in quantity of fat oil; and first in food value per pound over all other nuts. Confectioners prefer it as the richest and most valuable nut.

This country imports annually over four hundred thousand gallons of nut oil, and many million dollars worth of foreign grown nuts—all inferior in quality and flavor to Pecans. Our home market has hardly yet been touched for fine Pecan nuts.

Wherever our fancy Pecans have been exhibited in foreign countries, they have always won immediate favor, and there will be no question of profitable export demand whenever it can be supplied. A Pecan Grove of the Improved Varieties will prove immensely profitable, and furnish a handsome income indefinitely.

Wise is the man that will look to the future.

We are Agents for White’s Budding Tool.

Budding the Pecan.

To those who have seedling Pecan trees and wish to convert them into the large fancy varieties of Pecans we cannot too earnestly call their attention to "WHITE'S BUDDING TOOL" which is a scientific instrument used for the propagation of the Pecan, hickory, chestnut, walnut and any other tree by the annular, semi-annular, patch or veneer methods. The tool has been in practical use throughout the United States for over six years and is endorsed by some of the most prominent horticulturists and experienced propagators in the country. The tool was designed to overcome the objections to other forms of budding tools and can be successfully used by any one after a few minutes practice. A tree or twig from 3/8 of an inch to one 3 inches and over in diameter, can be successfully budded. Upon receipt of $2.50 the tool will be sent postpaid with instructions for its use.
"The demand for large, thin-shelled nuts for seed has consumed so large a portion of the product up to the present time that market prices on large nuts for table use are hard to fix. For fresh nuts running approximately 50 or less to the pound, the retail price is rarely below 50 cents per pound in large cities, while for seed such nuts, if of well authenticated varieties, usually bring from $1.00 to $2.50 per pound."—Bailey's Cyclopedia of American Horticulture.

"Few investments promise larger profits in the near future, especially for a young man, than an orchard of selected pecans well cared for up to bearing."—Bulletin 69 Agricultural Experiment Station, Louisiana State University and A. and M. College.

The Eagle Pecan Co.

Mammoth Thin-Shelled Pecans

Willis Thompson, Proprietor
Pittsview, Ala.

"As it is at present, so it will be for many years to come, strictly first-class pecans will be handled almost entirely through a private trade. We know of several growers who dispose of their crops of several thousand pounds annually to private customers who have learned the value of good nuts. So greatly has the demand increased that in no single instance has any one of these men been able to supply the demand of the initial outgrowth of his own work, and orders are usually booked a year or more in advance."—H. Harold Hume, in "The Pecan and its Culture."