

# NEW YORK FRUIT QUARTERLY

## Editorial

### Stone Fruit Research in New York State

Both this, and the previous issue of the *New York Fruit Quarterly* feature collections of papers that were presented at the stone fruit symposium held this past spring in Geneva in honor of Dr. Robert Andersen's contributions to the stone fruit industry. As you can see from the content and quality of these articles, there is a lot going on in stone fruit research in the Eastern United States. It is also evident that there is a great deal of work that still needs to be done.

Many growers that have the soils, micro-climates and markets to grow stone fruit and are seriously looking into the possibility of diversifying their operations or expanding their current acreage of stone fruits. This is evident by the recent expansion of acreage of peaches and sweet cherries in New York State. All growers need reliable, proven, and practical information on how to successfully and profitably grow stone fruits on their farms.

On behalf of the stone fruit growers of New York, I would like to thank Bob Andersen for the research he has done and guidance he has provided us over the years, and wish him well in retirement. To adequately express our appreciation for all he has done would probably take the rest of this page. Instead, let me outline Bob's legacy – the continuing work being done at the Geneva Experiment Station.

- Dr. Susan Brown will continue to evaluate the sweet cherry selections that have been bred at Geneva with the hope some winners will be found in that group. It is unlikely that new crosses will be made in the future.
- Dr. Terence Robinson will continue to work on stone fruit planting systems and evaluate new rootstocks.
- Dr. Courtney Weber is evaluating the plum selections that are at Geneva and making some new crosses.
- Jay Freer, Bob's longtime technician, is helping all three of with their stone fruit work.

These individuals are dedicated to, and very interested in the stone fruit work they are doing. How much research gets done in the future though, will be dictated by the amount of funding that can be found for the work. We, as growers, are going to have to work together to ask for, and help secure the funding for the needed research. The success or failure stone fruit industry's future in New York depends on it.

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**FRONT COVER:** New fresh market peach varieties are larger and redder than Redhaven, highly productive and very high quality.

**BACK COVER:** New processing peach varieties from the Vineland Research Station in Ontario.

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