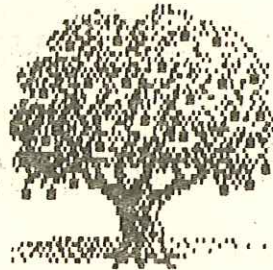


7-5-86

Aurora Village Fruit Show 11-8, -9
Pomological Bibliography
Apple Rootstock Budding Height
1986 WCTFA officers
Apple Anthracnose
Winter Injury 1985-86
New Varieties (promising)



WCTFA SUMMER 1986

FRUIT SHOW SCHEDULED FOR MALL

by Emory Leland

The Western Washington Apple Fair will be held in the Aurora Village Mall on the King County line at North 205th and Highway 99, November 8th and 9th from 10 am to 6 pm Saturday and from 12 noon to 5 pm Sunday. It will be a free educational type fair with fall fruit displays featuring apples, pears, Asian pears, kiwi fruit, prunes, persimmons and figs.

Other displays will be fruit diseases and insects, container fruit trees, fruit drying, edible landscape, fruit products, grafting and pruning, apple rootstocks, honey and bees, the 10 best apples for western Washington and drip irrigation for home gardens.

There will be a membership table for WCTFA and chapters, a Master Gardener table with WSU extension bulletins and information on fruit varieties and a fruit identification table.

Sample bags of best variety apples and container fruit trees will be sold and there will be fruit tasting of five popular varieties of apples.

Fruit baskets and arrangements, featuring western Washington apples and fruits for a Thanksgiving table centerpiece, will compete for awards for the best entry in each class. Entries from the public are welcome. There will also be a contest for the largest apple and pear based on size (height plus circumference).

For further information call or write Emory Leland, 7014 29th Av NE, Seattle, Wa 98115, 523-6363.

ALL ABOUT FRUIT SHOW

OCT 25th & 26th

PORTLAND MEMORIAL COLISEUM

POMOLOGICAL LITERATURE FOR THE FRUIT ENTHUSIAST

Our editor has asked me to write about publications that the fruit enthusiast, especially one interested in older varieties, might be interested in. The books mentioned below are a part of my personal collection.

THE NEW YORK SERIES

Why would anyone west of the Cascades want books published by the state of New York? Because, my friends, the titles are misleading - what the books contain is information on fruits of the United States:

The Apples of New York, by S. A. Beach, N. O. Booth, and O. M. Taylor, J. B. Lyon Company, Albany New York, 1903. Two volumes, in standard 6" X 9" format. Volume 1 contains apples that are late maturing, volume 2 contains apples that are early maturing, and a combined index for both volumes. This is THE standard work on United States apples. Sources of written material, histories, fruit and tree characteristics, etc. - is all here - with many colored illustrations.

The Pears of New York, by Ulysses Prentiss Hedrick, G. H. Howe, O. M. Francis, and Harold Bradford Tukey, J. B. Lyon Company, 1921, is a magnificent 9 X 12 X 3 inch book full of information on pear varieties. The 80 color prints are worth framing, and contribute to the loss of many of these books, which are being cut apart for their pictures.

The Plums of New York, by Ulysses Prentiss Hedrick, R. Wellington, O. M. Taylor, W. H. Alderman, and M. J. Dorsey, J. B. Lyon Company, 1911 is a companion volume to The Pears of New York, in the same format. Very little about oriental plums is mentioned, probably because Luther Burbank's work in this area was in progress.

The Cherries of New York by Ulysses Prentiss Hedrick, G. H. Howe, O. M. Taylor, C. B. Tubergen, and R. Wellington, J. B. Lyon Company, 1915, is another large and well illustrated work.

The Peaches of New York by Ulysses Prentiss Hedrick, G. H. Howe, O. M. Taylor, and C. B. Tubergen, is another heavyweight of the same caliber as all of those authored by Hedrick.

The other two books in this series, not in my collection, are Grapes and Small Fruits, also by Hedrick and friends.

NEWER PUBLICATIONS

Register of New Fruit and Nut Varieties: 2nd Edition, by Reid M. Brooks and H. P. Olmo, University of California Press, 1972. This magic book is a compendium of fruit descriptions and opinions on new varieties originating in North America since 1920. A very valuable tool.

History of Fruit Growing and Handling in the United States and Canada, 1860 - 1972, by D. V. Fisher and W. H. Upshall, American Pomological Society, University Park, Pennsylvania, 1976. Fun to have - but a little unorganized. This book has a magnificent bibliography of fruit and horticultural books. The companion book, History of Horticulture in America to 1860, by Ulysses Prentiss Hedrick, 1960, has many short histories on early American apples, and is very hard to find. I have studied the copy in the Seattle Public Library.

North American Apples: Varieties, Rootstocks, Outlook, edited by W. H. Upshall, Michigan State University Press (American Pomological Society), 1970, has major histories of most of the significant commercial varieties of apples and their families. Worth having.

Dwarfed Fruit Trees, by Harold Bradford Tukey, Cornell University Press, 1964, is the classic work on growing dwarfed trees, and should be read by everyone grafting and growing their own orchard. There are now newer rootstocks, but the underlying information is the same, and the coverage on most of the Malling and Merton Malling series is very good.

Apples - A Guide to the Identification of International Varieties, John Bultitude, University of Washington Press, Seattle, 1983, is a valuable recent book on apple identification and has excellent black and white photographs showing fruit sectioned horizontally and vertically, as well as color photos of fruit on the tree. Be forewarned that this was written by an Englishman, and is heavily weighted toward apples grown in the United Kingdom. Since our west of the Cascades climate is close to the English climate, many of the varieties mentioned should do well here.

Southmeadow Fruit Gardens Catalog, by Robert A. Nitschke, Birmingham Michigan, 1976. Bob's little booklet costs \$8, and is priceless. His variety descriptions are mouth watering. His major concern is the continued propagation of good tasting fruit, and he has been searching for superior varieties for the home fruit grower for years. Many of us signed a petition at the 1985 All About Fruit Show in Tacoma, requesting that Mr. Nitschke update his little book.

Western Fruit Berries and Nuts, by Lance Walheim and Robert L. Stebbins, H P Books, Tucson Arizona, 1981 (and a later edition) is a colorful book, full of current information on fruit and fruit growing for the west.

OLDER BOOKS OF Interest

A View of the Cultivation of Fruit Trees and the Management of Orchards and Cider, by William Cox, M. Carey and Son, Philadelphia, 1817 (reprinted by Fred and Walda Janson in 1976 and available from their Pomona Book Exchange, Highway 52, Rockton Ontario, Canada - LOR1X0, (519) 621-8897. They specialize in horticultural books, old and new). This is the first "scientific" United States publication on fruit. Some of the varieties Cox mentions are still with us, including Rhode Island Greening, Ribston Pippin, Newtown Pippin (the Newton of today's markets), Winesap, and Swaar. A fun book to have.

The Fruits and Fruit Trees of America, by Andrew Jackson Downing, John Wiley, New York. Various dates, starting in 1845 and with many revisions. Brother Charles Downing took over the revisions in 1857. This is an American classic for information on fruit growing and varieties. Many line diagrams of fruit. Prices vary astronomically depending upon condition, illustrations, and year published.

The American Fruit Culturist by John Jacobs Thomas, William Wood & Company, New York, (many editions, starting in 1849 through 1903) has a massive fruit index. Approximately 1225 apple names are listed in the twenty-first edition published in 1903. I laid out my new orchard, without a transit, using information from this book.

American Horticultural Manual by Joseph L. Budd and Niels Ebbesen Hansen, John Wiley and Sons, New York, 1904, is a small two volume set on fruit growing. Volume two is full of short fruit descriptions and line diagrams.

The Principles of Fruit Growing, by Liberty Hyde Bailey, Macmillan Company, New York, various editions from 1897 through 1915, is a classic on practical American fruit growing, written by the most famous horticulturalist in American history.

Cyclopedia of American Horticulture, by Liberty Hyde Bailey, Macmillan Company, New York, 1910 and later editions. This four volume set, each 8" X 10" X 3", is a compendium of the knowledge of horticulture at the turn of the century. Includes concise biographies on early American pomologists.

Cyclopedia of Practical Horticulture, by Granville Lowther, printed by the Lowman and Hanford Press, Seattle, 1914, is a four volume set (also published in half leather as a three volume set) on horticulture in general, with almost the entire first volume dedicated to apples. This is a Washington publication, but with input from many areas of American fruit growing. The bloom list, variety lists, and specific information on "District 15" (West of the Cascades) fruit growing are invaluable.

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Well, there is my list of books for the fruit fancier and history buff. If you have any other favorites that you would like to share with us, please write to me at Swenson Farm, 40404 SE 70th Drive, Snoqualmie, Washington - 98065

Dave Battey

ROOTSTOCK UPDATE FROM PENN STATE HORTICULTURAL REVIEWS

by Loren Tukey

The height of budding in clonal apple rootstocks is of concern to members of the NC-140 Regional Technical Committee, a cooperative research group in the US and Canada which evaluates fruit tree rootstocks.

The committee feels that budding should be done at a height of about 5 to 6 inches rather than at approximately 10 inches in order to avoid problems with burr knots and with poor rooting, tree establishment and growth, and even tree death.

When high budded trees are planted with the rootstock trunk well exposed, a burr knot problem can occur. When high budded trees are planted deep, with the union just above the soil line to provide for anticipated better tree anchorage, the existing root system is often replaced by adventitious root formation occurring on the rootstock trunk, especially on heavy or wet soils. Such root formation can be poor with spur sorts.

With the bud union made at 5 to 6 inches, these problems are greatly reduced when the tree is planted 1 to 2 inches lower than in the nursery, and trees later are mulched or gravel added for mouse protection. Further, a few inches of soil can be added to cover any exposed rootstock trunk.

NEW OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 1986

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APPLE ANTHRACNOSE

by

R.S. Byther, Extension Plant Pathologist
Washington State University
Puyallup, Washington

My interest in apple anthracnose was aroused several years ago when I visited an orchard devastated with this fungus canker disease. Because of this disease, many trees had already been removed and many others were severely damaged. This disease is particularly harmful to young orchards where cankers can completely girdle trunks and scaffold branches. Two- to four-year-old wood seems to be the most susceptible. New infections occur in the fall through natural openings in the bark, such as lenticels or through wounds. These infections are difficult to detect until the next spring when the canker begins to rapidly expand. Even then, the slightly darker colored bark in the canker area is not really obvious until about June when cankers appear more sunken and a crack outlines their extremity. As the summer progresses, some of the bark from the sunken surface falls away exposing the remnants of the vascular tissues which look like strings. Spores are produced by fruiting bodies of the fungus which form in the very small ruptures in the dead bark remaining in the canker. At this stage the tree has successfully walled-off the fungus preventing further canker enlargement. However, the fungus will live another year in the cankered tissue and produce another crop of spores to spread the disease.

There is also a fruit rot phase of this disease which is known as "bull's eye rot" and most commonly occurs on fruit in storage. Symptoms are sunken brown circular spots with dark concentric rings made up of numerous minute fungus fruiting bodies. A year prior to my visiting this orchard, a sample had been submitted to our plant clinic where the disease was identified. During the year the owner had done extensive pruning, excision and heat cauterization of cankers, but found the disease just as bad the next year. How could this be? Good sanitation by canker removal is the mainstay of our control recommendations.

While visiting the orchard, I found that a majority of the cankers had been dealt with but it seemed I could always find several unattended cankers which apparently were the sources for new infections. I suggested they concentrate their canker removing effort to a limited portion of the orchard and do a very thorough job, rather than trying to deal with the whole five-acre orchard at one time. But, would not spores from the infected trees re-infect the cleaned up ones? I did not think the fungus would spread too rapidly from tree to tree, since the conidial spores that are produced in the cankers are enclosed in mucilage and are reported to be spread primarily by water movement and not by air movement. This spore stage of the fungus is designated Gloeosporium malicorticis and is the imperfect or asexual stage of the fungus. This fungus also produces another spore form designated as Neofabraea malicorticis which is the perfect or sexual stage. These spores are airborne; however, this form of the fungus was not present on the samples I observed from the orchard.

As it turned out, the growers decided to pull out the orchard (probably a good decision) but graciously agreed to leave any of the trees I would like for experimental purposes for another season. This presented a great opportunity to do some tests on canker removal and fungicide testing.

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Five separate blocks of trees were set aside and attempts were made to remove all of the cankers by pruning and eradication. Four of the blocks had sixteen trees and one block had twenty-five. Initially, disease incidence in these blocks varied from thirty to forty cankers per tree, to some having only one or two cankers, and some showed no disease. These groups were surrounded by untreated trees, so we could monitor the movement of disease from the diseased trees back into the cleaned-up area. The trees varied from about seven to eleven feet in height and were planted on sixteen-foot centers. There were various varieties mixed throughout the orchard including Spartan, Summer Red, Gravenstein, Chehalis, Jonagold and Tydeman Red. Pruning and canker removal took place during the second week of June.

What was learned from this experiment? First of all, it was confirmed that fairly good control of disease can be achieved by just putting out an experimental field plot. Commonly, it seems, when field plots are established the weather conditions turn unfavorable for disease development. If you will remember, the winter of 1984-85 was one of the driest and coldest on record -- weather not favorable for disease development. Mild and moist weather during the fall and early winter are favorable for disease development.

Second, I found out that it was a heck of a job to prune out and eradicate cankers. Cankers on small branches were pruned out, while those on larger branches were either excised or burned. Eradication by heat cauterization - that is, burning cankers with a hand held propane torch proved to be a much easier method of eradication and apparently as effective as excision with a knife.

All of the five blocks showed essentially the same results. Canker removal reduced the incidence of new cankers by about forty-five percent. Treated trees averaged two to four new cankers per tree as compared to an average of four to ten cankers on untreated trees. The discouraging thing was that disease developed in the treated trees. The source of the disease in these treated trees was apparently cankers that I had missed which were left in the trees, rather than spores spreading from adjacent diseased trees. The culprit cankers were commonly small and inconspicuous on small branches higher in the tree canopy. A better job of canker eradication could be done if the trees could be worked on several times throughout the season, especially under different light conditions. The trees located in the center of the treated blocks had the same disease level as those trees adjacent to the diseased border trees, indicating that limited, if any, disease came from the border trees.

No new infections were seen to arise from the wounds caused by the excision, cauterization, or pruning. I estimated that there were nine hundred to a thousand wounds made on trees throughout the test area. None of these wounds received any special treatment. What I did notice, however, was that spores were being produced on the discolored wood that was not totally removed from the excised cankers. In some cases, cankers extend into the hardwood of the branch, giving it a brown, stained appearance. At the time I was making these excisions, I did not know if the fungus was actually in this brown-stained wood or whether this staining was only the trees' tissues' reaction to the nearby presence of the invading fungus. Laboratory isolations from that tissue revealed that the fungus was present and this was confirmed in the field by later finding abundant spore production on this dark-stained wood. Thus, it is important that all of the discolored wood from the canker be removed. It will take a sharp knife or a chisel and a lot of elbow grease to do a reasonably good job. If cankers are attended earlier in the season and do not have a chance to develop into the hardwood, removal is much simplified.

We tested several fungicides for their ability to control anthracnose. At the concentrations we tested, the registered fungicides Microcop and ziram gave control similar to any of the unregistered materials and applications reduced the number of new cankers by about one-half. Two applications were made - one in mid-October and the other in mid-February.

What is the take-home message at this point regarding control of apple anthracnose?

1) Do not let the disease become established in your trees -- a constant vigilance and prompt removal of cankers is very important. 2) Establish new orchards with only disease-free healthy trees. 3) Remove old infected trees prior to making a new planting. 4) If the disease is already present, both a canker removal program and fungicide sprays are probably necessary to get the disease under control. Expecting good disease control by using only one of these methods seems unlikely. 5) It is important to remove all of the discolored wood when excising cankers. 6) If time and/or resources do not allow for a thorough and diligent canker removal program, it is better to do a super job on only a portion of the trees rather than a mediocre job on all of the trees. 7) Cankers should be taken care of whenever they are found, but efforts should be made to have clean trees prior to the fall rainy season. Dry weather during removal is preferable to wet weather.

At this time I cannot recommend varieties with anthracnose resistance. The only information on disease resistance appears to be observations from growers. These reports are inconsistent and not complete regarding varieties being recommended for use in western Washington orchards. Thus, this spring two test orchards were established at Puyallup to determine the susceptibility of the ten top apple varieties being recommended for western Washington to two canker diseases. The trees in one orchard will be inoculated with anthracnose disease, while the other planting will test their reaction to European canker. Hopefully, in several years we will have a comparative disease rating for both these canker diseases on at least ten different varieties that do well in this area. I would like to acknowledge and thank Cloud Mountain, Raintree, Hartman, and Northwest Fruit Trees nurseries who have contributed trees to make this planting possible.

ROMANCE IN AN APPLE ORCHARD

from Penn State Horticultural Reviews

Ben Davis was a flirt. He was a Tallman and handsome, a native of Spitzenburg, Holland. He became hopelessly smitten on Belleflower, who looked like a Duchess, dressed beautifully in a Russet gown. His attentions to her were so sweet that he made the Maiden Blush. Now she was engaged to another Mann. Although he was a Baldwin, he was Wealthy as a King and when he was advised of this he Snaar, and with rage turned white as Snow and nearly took an Apple-ptic fit. He at once engaged a Spy who soon informed him that he need Seek-No-Further for her affection. He immediately left Ontario for a Newtown down on the St. Lawrence, where he met Rome Beauty and now he declares there is Nonsuch as she.

(By Lorne Carey, in *Northerberland and Durham Apple Growers Booklet*. Reprinted in *Malony Bros. and Wells Co. Fall 1914 nurseries catalogue*.)

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Washington Tree Fruit Research Commission Approves Grant to Study
Apple Varieties

Recognizing the need to evaluate new varieties from around the world, the Commission has approved a grant of \$8,000 for 1986, according to George Ing, chairman of the Research Commission. A steering committee consisting of growers, research and extension people will administer the project. Tom Perkins is the grower member from western Washington. The plan is to select highly promising varieties and advanced selections from breeding programs throughout the world and grow the varieties on two rootstocks at three experiment stations (Wenatchee, Prosser and Mt. Vernon). Careful evaluation of all growing and handling characteristics will be made. Fruit variety evaluation projects are now underway in Oregon and British Columbia showing the increased interest in this area. It's about time!

Robert A. Norton

Cold Injury - Winter of 1985-86

This past winter, in some respects, was almost as devastating as the notorious November 1955 freeze. Our first blow came November 17 to 27 when almost everything was in full leaf. In early to mid January we had a fairly warm period which started the sap flowing, followed by another zapping of cold (17°F) on February 17 and 18. The

result - if the first freeze didn't get the tender plants, the second one did.

What got hurt?

At the research center, all our mature and young kiwi plants were killed to the ground line. The trunks of the bearing plants were killed while the smaller shoots on top survived. They, of course, would die later. There is some sign of regeneration from the root system and we may be able to salvage some of the plants.

P. calleryana understock was killed on many of our young trees. We had some damage with *P. betulaefolis* understocks but no deaths.

Our one-year old persimmon tree was also killed by winter injury.

About half of our genetic dwarf peaches were killed outright and others severely damaged. This confirms that most genetic dwarf peaches and nectarines are not hardy outdoors in this environment. They just don't harden off well in the fall.

Strawberries were the next hardest hit by the cold. In this case, we think the early spring freeze did the job rather than our November freeze which occurred after we had a substantial snow cover. Plants in raised beds, older plants and summer set plants were most damaged. We have also had several growers reporting damage in exposed or sandy locations.

Apricots suffered both freezing damage and spring frost injury so that our 1986 crop will be very light. Our selection XA-1 seems to set fruit under adverse weather better than most other varieties, however, we hope to release XA-1 next year.

Robert A. Norton

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New Varieties Showing Promise

Here are some of the new tree fruit varieties looking good on our trials:

APPLES

Royal Red Gala - Has more color than standard Gala but, flavor might not be as high.

State Fair - New, early variety from Minnesota attractive with good sweet flavor and low acid.

Centennial Crab - Good flavor, sweet, large for a crabapple.

Freyberg - Excellent flavor, connoisseur' apple, yellow with slight orange blush.

PLUMS

Beauty - Santa Rosa type, reliable bearer.

Methley - Reliable bearer, small, red skin and flesh.

PEACH

Rosy Dawn - Highly productive, fairly leaf curl resistant.

PEAR

Highland - Still a favorite late keeper, preferred over Eldorado.

Varieties Losing Favor

Here are some of the varieties we have discarded from our trials and the reasons for doing so:

CHERRY

Summit - Insufficient quality.

Stark Gold - Fruit small, late ripening, sour.

APRICOT

Flora Gold - Fragile limbs, poor set.

Garden Annie - Inferior quality, poor set.

PEACHES

Western Pride - Diseased, poor quality.

Indian Free - Too late.

Garden Sun - Diseased, severe winter injury.

PLUM

Earliblue Prune - Brown rot susceptible, mediocre quality.

DeMontfort - Poor set.

Richards' Early Italian - Diseased, poor set.

Superior - Very severe cracking and rot.

MacVerna - Poor set, too vigorous.

California Blue - Poor quality, cracking, rot.

Gazebo Project

Last year, we established a small demonstration fruit garden to show how fruit could be used in a landscape situation. This year we are building a small building we call "the Gazebo" in the fruit garden. This structure will be two stories, the lower story open for a picnic bench or chairs and a barbeque pit, the upper story enclosed as a small meeting room. On the back we will have a two-story solar greenhouse for semi hardy plants such as figs or grapes. Hopefully, construction will start in May and completion is schedule for early July. Contributions from individuals and organizations are being used for this project. Come up and see it on July 16.

Open House

July 16, 1986
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
Northwestern Washington Research & Extension Center
1468 Memorial Highway
Mt. Vernon, WA 98273

Every four years or so, we open our doors to show the public what goes on at one of WSU's four outlying research and extension facilities in western Washington (others are located in Puyallup, Vancouver and Long Beach). We want to welcome everyone - farmers, processors, nurserymen, suppliers, gardeners and consumers to spend the day, or at least a few hours, with us. Here is the agenda:

9:00 - 12:00 Registration for door prizes, view exhibits eg. soil borne diseases and salt effects on peas, nematodes, tree fruit and berry varieties, weed identification, poisonous plants, tissue culture and much more. In addition, a 'Master Gardener Information Booth' will be available to answer questions and distribute publications.

9:30 Wagon Tour 1 - Vegetable research - peas, beans, sweet corn, vegetable seed crops, etc.

Wagon Tour 2 - Fruit research - strawberries, raspberries, apples, pears, peaches, cherries, apricots and nut trees.

Each tour will take about 45 minutes allowing time to take both tours in either the morning or afternoon.

10:30 Repeat Tours 1 and 2

11:30 - 1:00 Bill Wigner and his band playing lively music of the 30's and 40's will strike up to accompany your lunch, whether it be your own box lunch or the catered lunch (see reservation form below). They may even play the "Cougar Fight Song". Huskies are welcome to join in.

12:00 Old Fashioned American Picnic - grilled hamburgers and hot dogs with all the trimmings. Reservations required.

1:15 Dr. Sam Smith, President of WSU "The State is our Campus".

2:00 Repeat Tours 1 and 2.

3:00 - 4:00 Exhibits, consult with scientists and extension personnel, tour on your own.

Please reserve _____ places for your Old Fashioned American Picnic at \$5.00 each.

NAME (please print) _____

PHONE _____

14
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A REMINDER

Some of you may want to stay over either before or after the Open House. With the '1986 Expo' in progress, motel reservations should be made well in advance. A motel list is enclosed to help you with this.

BEST WESTERN	300 W. College Way Mount Vernon, WA	424-4287
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COCUSA	200 W. Rio Vista Burlington, WA	757-6044
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EXECULODGE	2009 Riverside Drive Mount Vernon, WA	424-4141
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QUALITY INN	2300 Market Place Mount Vernon, WA	428-6071
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MARK II MOTEL	1203 Golden Rod Road Burlington, WA	757-4021
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WEST WINDS	2020 Riverside Drive Mount Vernon, WA	424-4224
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STERLING MOTOR INN	866 South Garl Burlington, WA	757-0071
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