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A Hardy Mexican Avocado

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A good deal of interest is being taken in the Mexican avocado growing at my place at Earlton, on account of its exceptional hardiness and the good quality of the fruit. It has stood the test of 22 winters, including 1917, without ever losing any wood and only a few leaves. Orange trees on the same block have been badly hurt and grapefruit trees killed outright. It is a vigorous grower, making an immense tree 40 to 50 feet high and seems to be practically free from insects and other enemies. It makes a magnificent ornamental, growing much quicker than the magnolia.

So far, it has produced 800 to 900 fruits per season; would probably bear much more with irrigation or on damper soil.

The fruit, although of only medium size, is very rich and fine flavored and was noticeably larger last season as the result of a little fertilizer.

It does not seem to be generally known that the avocado can be used otherwise than as a salad. We have found it excellent cooked in a variety of ways. Avocado custard pie is truly delicious.