‘H2-169’ (Ambrosia™) Pear

Jules Janick
Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Purdue University, 625 Agricultural Mall Drive, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2010

‘H2-169’ is an early midseason, very large, productive, green pear (Pyrus communis L.) with exceptional texture and quality (Fig. 1). Picking date in Lafayette, Ind., is mid-August, which is earlier than ‘Bartlett’ (‘Williams’ Bon Cretien’). When ripened at room temperature the flavor is rich and delicious. The texture is buttery and grit free with a very small core. Fruit can develop russet. The tree is round shaped with atypical spreading branches and produces annually. The tree is tolerant to fireblight caused by Erwinia amylovora (Burr.) Winslow et al. similar to ‘Honeysweet’. ‘Ambrosia’ is the third release of the Purdue University pear breeding program after ‘Honeysweet’ (Janick, 1977) and ‘Green Jade’ (Janick, 2004).

Origin

The seedling derives from a cross made in 1978 at the Purdue University Horticulture Farm between US 571 and ‘Honeysweet’ (progeny Purdue 727 in the breeding records). In total, 1488 seedlings were planted at the Hensley tract in 1985. On 20 Aug. 1993 a seedling located in Row 2 Tree 169 was selected carrying the designation H2-169. The seedling was grafted onto a seedling rootstock and planted in test plots at the Purdue University Horticulture Farm in 1997. The pedigree is diagrammed in Fig. 2.

Description

The following description of flowers, fruit, tree and leaves contain color designations according to the horticulture colour chart issued by the Royal Horticultural Society of London (2001).

FLOWER

Corolla size: 33 to 35 mm, petals nontouching when open. 

Petal size: 16 mm, rounded. 

Color: white (N155D) with pink spots (red group 49B). 

Stamens: 6 mm, white (N155D). 

Anthers: red purple (58D). 

Pistil: 9 mm, rounded, green yellow (8P). 

Pollen: yellow group 3C. 

Fragrance: slightly fetid.

FRUIT

Shape: pyriform, symmetrical, length to diameter ratio = 1.35.

Size: 73 to 91 mm in length and 82 ×120 mm in diameter). 

Stem: short and stout (19 mm, 4 mm thick), greyed orange (165A). 

Locules: small, closed.

Availability


Literature Cited

