

# REPORT OF SUBTROPICAL FRUIT COMMITTEE

GEO. D. RUEHLE  
Chairman

At the last meeting of the Krome Memorial Institute held in Miami in May 1946, the group voted favorably on the suggestion to form a Subtropical Fruit Committee to register new and desirable varieties of all types of subtropical fruits other than citrus. In the discussion prior to the actual voting, the group expressed the opinion that the new committee should take over the work of the then practically defunct Avocado Variety Committee and simply expand that work to include other fruits. Acting on instruction from the group, your Chairman has appointed the following individuals to the Committee:

Mrs. W. J. Krome, Homestead.  
Mr. Wm. R. Grove, Lychee Orchards, Laurel.  
Mr. T. T. Sturrock, West Palm Beach.  
Mr. Harold Kendall, Goulds.  
Mr. W. F. Ward, Avon Park:

An organization meeting of this committee has not yet been held for the purpose of electing officers and establishing policies. Such a meeting is called to be held here at the end of this program.

During the year your Chairman has served as Acting-Chairman of the Committee and with the help of individual members of the Committee has passed upon and completed preliminary registration of six new varieties. Four of these are new mango seedlings and the other two are new avocado seedlings. Apparently the idea of registering varieties of other fruits has not caught on as yet.

Description of the new varieties follows:

## No. 1 STROTHMAN MANGO

*Origin*—A seedling of unknown parentage growing on the property of C. H.

Strothman, 519 S. W. 11th Avenue, Miami, Florida. The tree is large and spreading with rather dense foliage and is about 29 years of age. It has not been propagated commercially.

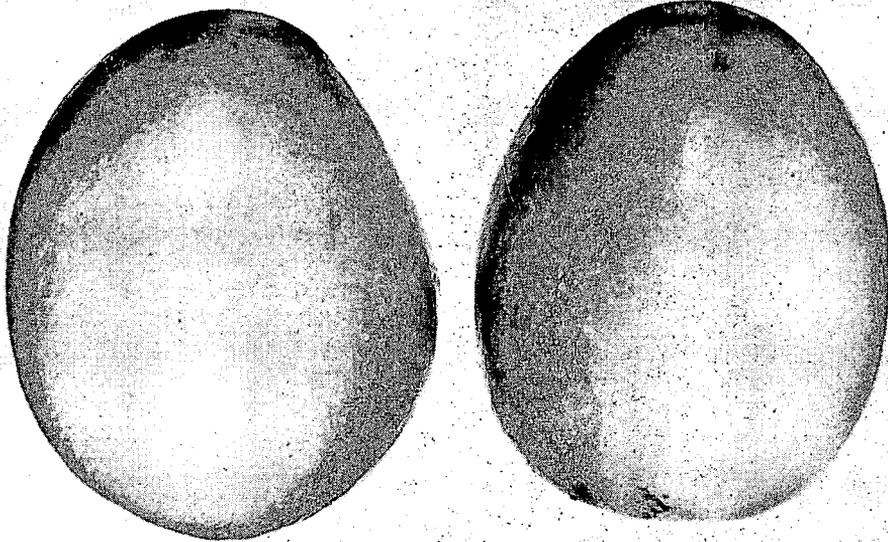
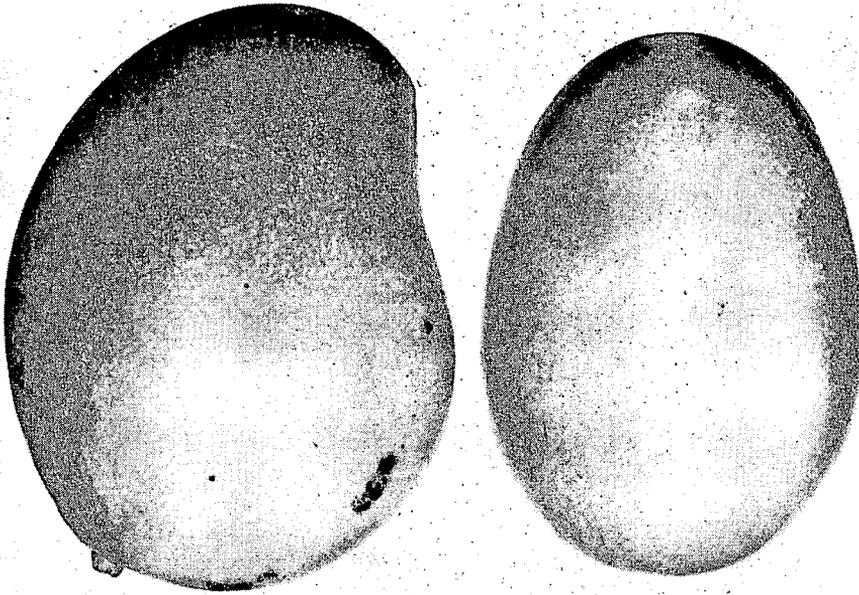
*Description of fruit*—Form oblong to oblong-ovate, plump (Fig. 1); size medium to large; weight 15 to 19 ounces (425 to 535 g.); length 4 1/2 to 5 inches (11.5 to 12.8 cm.); width 3 1/4 to 3 5/8 inches (8.6 to 9.2 cm.); thickness 3 1/8 to 3 1/4 inches (8.0 to 8.3 cm.); base rounded to obtusely tapering, the stout stem inserted a little obliquely level or on a slightly raised button; ventral shoulder rising and full the dorsal shoulder falling steeply; apex broadly rounded, beak none or small, the nak inconspicuous, from 1/2 to 3/4 inch (1.5 to 2.0 cm.) from the apex on the ventral side; surface smooth, ground color greenish yellow, blushed light crimson on the exposed side, with numerous small yellow dots; skin thick, tough, separating fairly readily from the flesh; flesh deep yellow, medium firm, melting, juicy, with considerable fine, soft, short fiber close to stone; flavor mild, sweet, slightly aromatic, quality fair to good; stone making up 8 to 9 percent of the total weight of the fruit, with considerable short, fine fiber both sides; seed monoembryonic, filling about 3/4 of the husk; season June and July.

The original Strothman tree is a heavy and consistent bearer with fruit of desirable size and color, but somewhat lacking in quality.

## No. 2 LIPPENS MANGO

*Origin*—A seedling of Haden, planted on the property of Peter Lippens at 135 N. W. 26th Street, Miami, Florida. The seed was planted in 1931 and the seedling first bore a crop in 1938. It has been propagated commercially since 1945.

*Tree and foliage*—The original tree has



Top—Fig. 1 Strothman Mango. Bottom—Fig. 2 Lippens Mango

a spreading form with rather dense foliage and is vigorous of growth. Mature leaves are grass green in color and of medium size.

*Description of fruit*—Form ovate oblong, and rather plump (Fig. 2); size medium, 12 1/2 to 16 ounces (350 to 445 g.), length 3 1/2 to 4 1/4 inches (8.2 to 8.8 cm.); thickness 3 to 3 1/4 inches (7.6 to 8.2 cm.); base rounded to slightly flattened, the fairly stout stem inserted a little obliquely in a slight depression; ventral shoulder full, rising very slightly above the base, dorsal shoulder sloping away gradually; apex rounded, beak none, the nak inconspicuous, level, 1/2 to 3/4 inch (1.2 to 2.0 cm.) from the apex; surface smooth, ground color deep yellow, blushed light crimson up to more than half the surface with a slight lavender bloom and numerous small yellow dots; skin rather thick and tough, not separating readily from the flesh; flesh deep yellow, medium firm, melting, juicy, with practically no fiber; flavor rich, sweet, moderately aromatic, quality very good to excellent; stone thin, oblong, making up 8 to 9 percent of the total weight of the fruit, with considerable short, very fine fiber which is not objectionable; seed monoembryonic, nearly completely filling the husk; season June and July.

The original tree is reported by the owner to have borne regularly and heavily since 1938. In some years it has borne very heavy crops with several fruits to a panicle. When visited in 1947, the fruit showed only moderate susceptibility to anthracnose and little tendency to seedlessness. Provided trees propagated from the parent bear as well, the Lippens should prove to be an excellent variety for commercial planting.

#### No. 3 FLORIGON MANGO

*Origin*—A seedling on the property of John G. Kaiser, 802 N. E. 2nd Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The seed was planted in 1932 and the tree bore fruit first in 1938, according to the owner. It has not been propagated commercially.

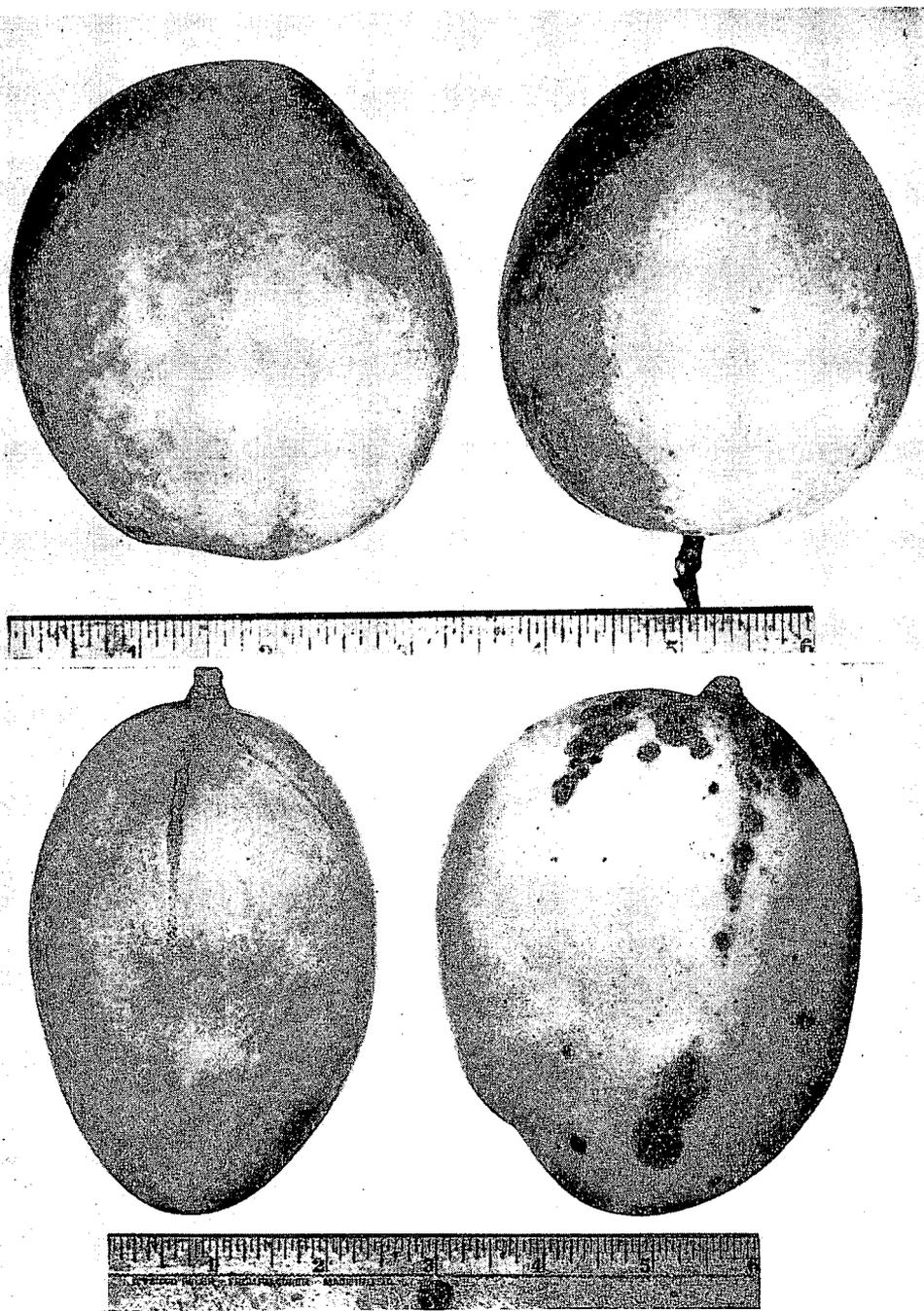
*Tree and foliage*—The tree is upright in form with rather thin foliage and is medium in vigor. Mature leaves are medium to large and grass green in color.

*Description of the fruit*—Form ovate, plump (Fig. 3); size small to medium, weight 9 1/2 to 15 ounces (267 to 427 g.), length 3 1/2 to 5 inches (8.8 to 10.0 cm.), width 3 to 3 1/2 inches (7.5 to 8.8 cm.), thickness 2 3/4 to 3 1/8 inches (7.0 to 8.0 cm.); base slightly flattened, the slender stem inserted squarely in a narrow shallow cavity; ventral shoulder full and rising slightly higher than the base, dorsal shoulder sloping gradually; apex rounded to very bluntly pointed, beak lacking or very small and indistinct, nak inconspicuous, level, about 3/8 inch (1 cm.) from the apex; surface smooth, ground color greenish yellow to deep yellow, sometimes very faintly blushed on exposed side, with slight grayish bloom and numerous small yellow dots; skin medium thick and rather tough, not separating readily from the flesh; flesh deep yellow, medium firm, melting, juicy with no fiber; flavor rich, sweet, slightly aromatic, quality very good to excellent; stone making up 10 to 12 percent of the total weight of the fruit, with a fringe of short to medium fiber along the ventral edge; seeds mostly polyembryonic, filling the husk; season May 15 to July 30.

The original tree has been a regular and heavy bearer, according to the owner. Fruit that has been shipped is reported to have carried well. The seedling is superior to Cambodiana, and appears to be the most promising of the Saigon type mangoes observed thus far.

#### No. 4. KEITT MANGO

*Origin*—A seedling of Mulgoba growing on the property of Mrs. J. N. Keitt 115 S. W. 2d Street, Homestead, Florida. The seed was planted in 1939 and, probably because the tree has received little fertilizer, is medium in vigor and of rather sparse, upright growth. It has not been propagated commercially.



Top—Fig. 3. Florida Mango. Bottom—Fig. 4. Keitt Mango

*Description of fruit*—Form oval (Fig. 4); size medium to large; weight 17 to 24 ounces (475 to 675 g.); length 4 1/2 to 4 3/4 inches (11.00 to 12.2 cm.); width 3 1/2 to 4 1/8 inches (9.0 to 10.5 cm.); thickness 3 1/4 to 3 1/2 inches (8.3 to 8.9 cm.); bases rounded, the stout stem inserted slightly obliquely either level or on a very slightly raised button; ventral shoulder full and rounded, the dorsal shoulder falling steeply; apex rounded to bluntly pointed, beak none, the nak inconspicuous about 1 1/4 inches (3.0 to 3.2 cm.) from the apex on the ventral side; surface smooth; ground color bright yellow, blushed light pink on the exposed side with numerous small, pale yellow to russetted dots and rather heavy lavender bloom; skin thick, fairly tough, not separating easily from the flesh; flesh deep yellow, fairly firm, but tender, melting and juicy, with considerable fibers of medium length near the base of the seed but fine and not objectionable; quality good to very good; stone making up 7 to 8.5 percent of the total weight of the fruit; seed (of the specimens examined) monyembryonic, filling about half of the husk; season September.

The Keitt bore a good crop in 1945 and again in 1947. The hurricane in 1945 may have been responsible for its failure to bear well in 1946. This appears to be a promising seedling.

#### No. 5. HAINZ AVOCADO

The Hainz originated as a seedling of unknown parentage on the property of Mr. Ed. L. Hainz at 33 West Center Avenue, Sebring, Florida. The tree is rather spreading in type, resembling a Waldin in habit, and is probably of West Indian parentage. It bore heavy crops in 1945 and 1947, thus showing a tendency to bear in alternate years. The fruit is medium in size, the specimens examined ranging from 8 1/4 to 14.5 ounces (232 to 415 g.) is pyriform, with a light green, slightly pebbled skin (Fig. 5). The seed is medium to large in size, making up about 15 percent of the

total weight of the fruit and is tight with a loose seed coat. The flesh is light yellow to greenish yellow next to the skin. Quality is only fair to good. The season of ripening is July and August. Flowering behavior and oil content have not been determined.

#### No. 6. ELLIOTT AVOCADO

The Elliott originated as a seedling of unknown parentage on the property of the late David B. Elliott, 1021 West Lakewood Road, West Palm Beach, Florida. The age of the parent tree is not known but it attained a height and spread of approximately 40 feet. The foliage and fruit is of West Indian type. Yields are reported to vary from a few fruit in some years up to 100 in better years. The fruit is pyriform in shape and very large ranging from 28 to 42 ounces in specimens examined and it has a rather large loose seed (Fig. 6). The skin is thin and light green in color. The flesh is rich yellow, smooth and of good quality. The oil content of the fruit and the flowering behavior have not been determined. This variety is not desirable as a commercial avocado, but shows some promise as a good sort for home planting, where a very large fruit of good quality is desired.

The Kalusa variety registered in 1946 has continued to show promise. A good crop was produced this past year on the parent tree which was not damaged by the freeze of February 6, 1947. The owner of the original tree has propagated and planted a block of young trees during the year.

The Herman variety, which has been propagated and planted on a small scale in Dade County in recent years, proved susceptible to cold in the freeze of February 6, 1947. Trees 1 to 3 years of age froze back as severely as Pollocks of the same age in several groves, and trees of bearing age proved no hardier than Waldin and Pollock.

The Hall variety, on the other hand, proved to be quite hardy, comparing favorably with Lula and Taylor in this respect.

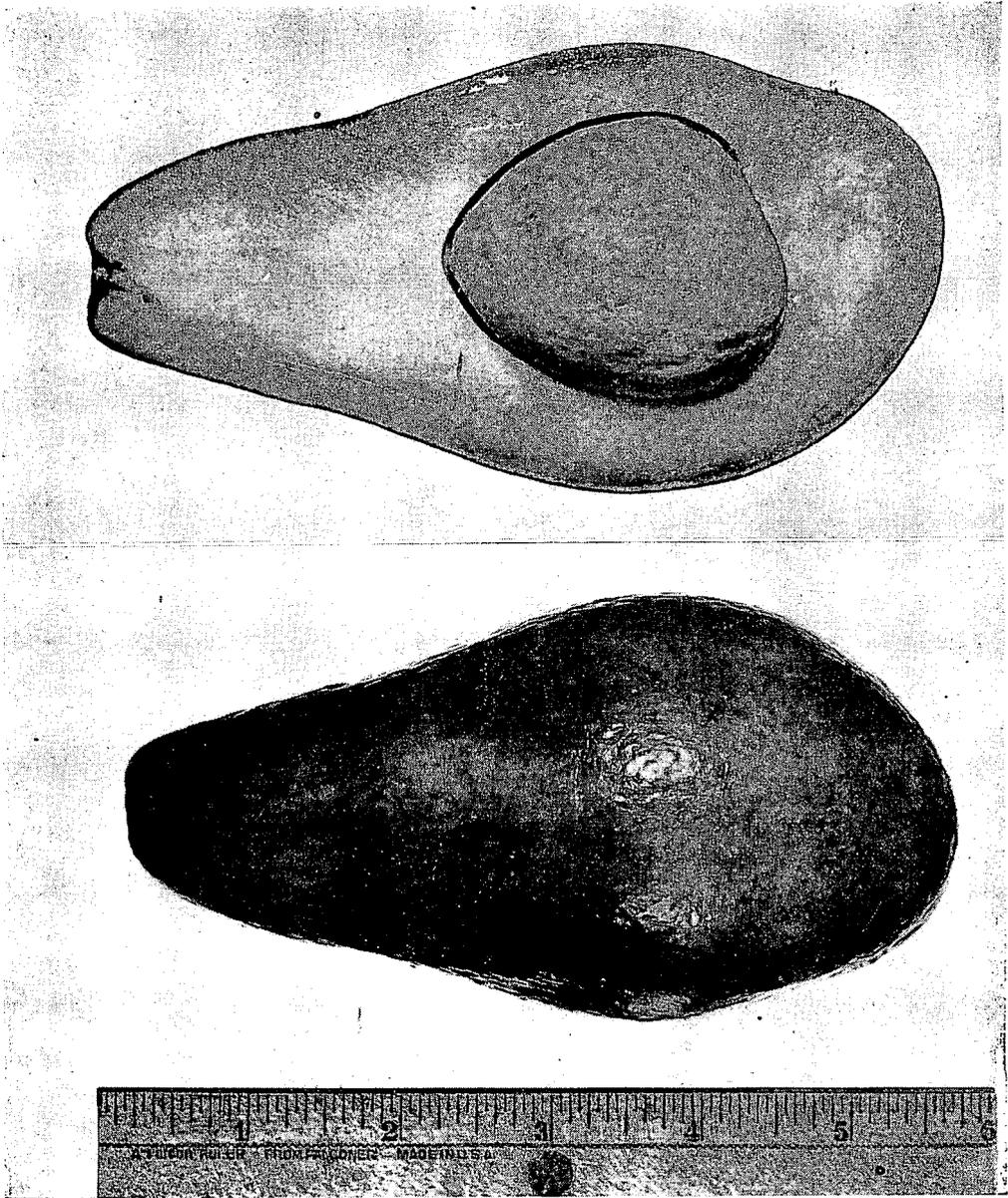


Fig. 5. Hainz Avocado

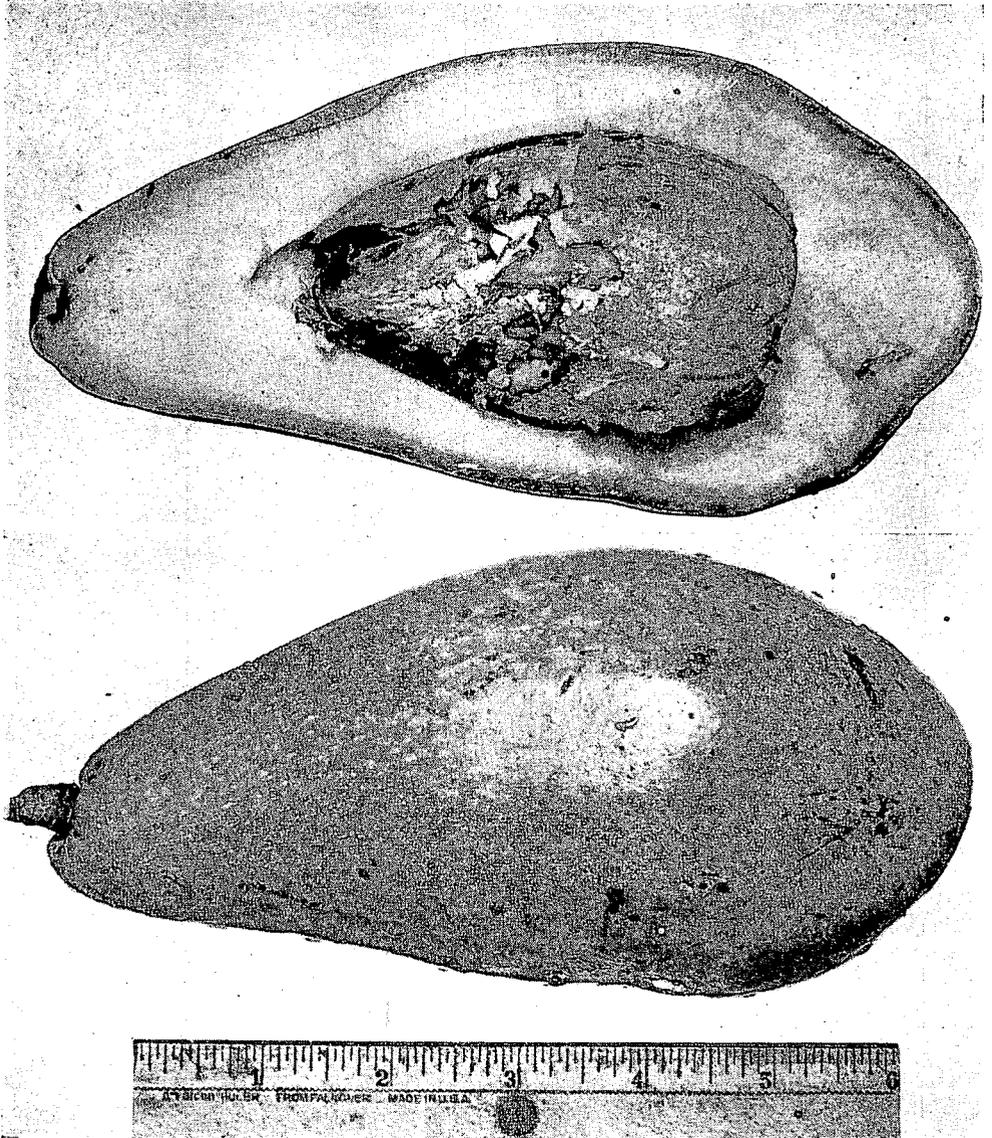


Fig. 6. Elliott Avocado