Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices
CATALOGUE AND PRICE LIST
OF THE
ALPHA
Fruit Farm and Nursery

GEO. G. and H. G. WIRT, Proprietors

ALPHA, ILLINOIS

Our aim is to grow only the very best, most hardy and productive varieties of Northern varieties of fruit trees and plants in the very Best possible manner.

Wagoner Printing Co., Galesburg, Ill.
General Information

Orders should be sent in early on a separate sheet from letter. We will pay the freight to your nearest railroad station on all orders of $5 or over, east of Colorado, except on large shade trees.

CLUB ORDERS—If you do not wish $5.00 worth, get your neighbors to club with you and we will tie and label each order separate and ship together and pay the freight.

TERMS—Cash or satisfactory reference from unknown parties before shipment. Six at dozen rates, 50 at 100 rates.

PACKING—These prices are for stock well packed and delivered at the railroad station here.

MISTAKES cheerfully corrected, but no claims allowed unless made within seven days after the stock is received.

WE WARRANT ALL STOCK TRUE TO NAME with the agreement that should any not prove true we will return the money paid for said stock, or replace with stock that is; but are not liable for damages other than herein named.

PLANTING—Cut all side limbs back to two or three buds and shorten the top; make the holes plenty large so as not to crowd the roots and plant at the same depth as they grew in the nursery. See that the roots are well spread out; use surface soil for filling, pressing it firmly around them; do not hurry the job; do it well and success is certain. Trees and plants should not long be exposed to the sun and air. Never put manure in the holes next to the roots, it causes decay. Plant strawberries with spade or dibble; spread roots out fan shape.

Proper Distances Between Trees and Plants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fruit</th>
<th>Distance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apples</td>
<td>30 by 30 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pears</td>
<td>20 by 20 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plums</td>
<td>16 by 16 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peaches</td>
<td>16 by 16 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherries</td>
<td>16 by 16 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raspberries</td>
<td>2 by 8 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackberries</td>
<td>2 by 8 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strawberries and Asparagus</td>
<td>18 in. in rows 4 ft. apart</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number of plants required for an acre may be ascertained by dividing the number of square feet in an acre (43,560), by the number of square feet given to each plant.

Urbana, Ill., Sept. 7, 1912.

This is to certify that the growing nursery stock and premises of George Wirt, situated at Alpha, Illinois, have been inspected by H. J. Van Cleave, a duly appointed inspector of this office, and that said nursery and premises are apparently free from the San Jose scale and other dangerous insects and dangerous plant diseases.

This certificate applies only to the condition of this nursery for the year ending Aug. 30, 1913.

No. 54.  S. A. FORBS, State Entomologist.

REFERENCES: Alpha State Bank or any business house in Alpha.
APPLES

4 to 6 ft., 25 cts. each; $2.50 per 12
3 to 5 ft., 20 cts. each; $1.75 per 12
2 to 3 ft., 10 cts. each; $1.00 per 12

SUMMER VARIETIES

Early Harvest—Medium to large, roundish, bright straw color; flesh white. July.
Astrachan Red—Large, roundish, nearly covered with crimson; juicy sub acid, tree a strong, spreading grower; good bearer. August.
Red June—Medium oblong, hardy and productive, deep red color; flesh white, with tender, rich sub-acid. August.
Duchess—Large size, roundish, streaked with red and yellow; flesh white, juicy, acid. September.
Yellow Transparent—Medium, yellow; good quality; productive; excellent, bears early. July.
Benonia—Medium, roundish, pale yellow, shaded with crimson, juicy, tender, sub-acid. August.

AUTUMN VARIETIES

Bailey's Sweet—Large, crimson, superb, sweet, tender, excellent, vigorous, hardy, and productive. October and November.
Gravenstine—Large, striped, good grower and hardy; a good bearer and quality. October.
Famusee (Snow)—Medium; deep crimson, flesh snowy white, tender. November.
Wolf River—Very large redish striped; flesh, coarse. October.
McIntosh—Medium size, red, fine quality. November.
Wealthy—Large, roundish; smooth, nearly covered with dark red; flesh white, fine, juicy, sub-acid; quality very good; good grower and productive. October.
Dyer—Medium size, roundish, pale yellow, with a faint blush, flesh white, very tender and juicy, aromatic, slightly sub-acid, very good to best, tree moderate grower, hardy, good bearer. October.
Aunt Hanna—Sweet, good size, light red, fine quality, very hardy and productive. November.

WINTER VARIETIES

Ben Davis—Large, handsome, striped; good, hardy, vigorous and productive; late keepers; very showy. December to March.
Delicious—Medium size, red; excellent quality, good grower and hardy. December to March. Not over six sold in one order.
Cano—Good size, smooth and very attractive; deep red; resembles Ben Davis, but is an improvement on that variety, being handsomer and better colored. December to March.
Crimes' Golden Pippin—Medium; golden yellow, with white dots; crisp, tender and juicy; excellent; tree vigorous, hardy and productive. November to January.
Jonathan—Medium; red and yellow; very showy; juicy, excellent; tree slender and spreading; bears early. November to February.
Minkler—Medium, roundish, greenish yellow striped with red; juicy, sub-acid, vigorous and hardy. January to March.

Mammoth Black Twig—Large; deep red; sub-acid; early and abundant bearer; keeps well; tree a strong grower; resembles Winesap, but is superior in many ways, and fully one-third larger. January to April.

Northwestern Greening—Large, smooth, greenish yellow; flesh fine grained, firm and juicy; good quality; extremely hardy and a strong, handsome grower. December to April.

Roman Stem—Medium; yellow, sometimes with red cheek; excellent, vigorous, upright, productive. November to February.

Regan Red (Black Ben Davis)—Fruit much like Gano, only darker; tree hardy and a stronger grower. January.

Salome—Medium yellow and red, very handsome, flesh whitish, yellow, tender, slightly aromatic; tree a hardy, vigorous, upright grower. January to May.

Stayman’s Winesap—Seedling of Winesap; vigorous grower; early and abundant bearer; fruit medium to large, much resembling Winesap; late keeper.

Winesap—Medium; roundish; deep red; firm, crisp, juicy; excellent quality; moderate grower and good bearer; succeeds well throughout the West. December to May.

Tallman Sweet—Medium, pale yellow, firm, rich and very sweet; the most valuable preserving and baking apple; vigorous. October and December.

Seedless—Tree a good grower and hardy; fruit medium size, yellow with red stripes.

Malinda—Large, white tree, hardy and very productive; a favorite north. March.

Paradise Sweet—Medium size, greenish yellow; sweet, good quality. January.

York Imperial—Medium size, greenish with red stripes; good quality. February.

CRAB APPLES

25 cents each

Hyslop—Dark crimson, with bloom; very showy and popular on account of its hardiness.

PEARS

4 to 6 ft., 35 cts. each; $3.50 per 12
3 to 4 ft., 25 cts. each; $2.50 per 12

Bartlett—Large size; color rich yellow with often a beautiful blush next the sun. Buttery, very juicy and highly flavored. September.

Lincoln—Tree hardy, strong grower, remarkably free from blight; an abundant and early bearer; fruit large and a beautiful golden yellow of the very best quality; flesh fine, very sprightly, rich, juicy, highly flavored. August.

Keifer—A vigorous grower, and an early bearer; very productive; fruit large, golden yellow, with red cheek. October.
Duchess—Very large, dull greenish yellow, streaked and spotted with russet, flesh white, buttery and very juicy, with a rich and very excellent flavor.

Winter Bartlett—Resembles Bartlett in fruit, but is two months later; tree a strong, rather crooked grower.

Suduth—Tree strong, healthy grower; makes a fine shaped tree; has not blighted here; fruit small and fair quality. Fall.

Garber—Medium size; yellow, fair quality; tree a strong upright grower; productive.

Dwarf Pears—3 to 5 ft. 25 cts. each; $2.50 per 12. Duchess, Bartlett, Lincoln.

Quinces—25 cts. each.

CHERRIES

4 to 6 ft., 35 cts. each; $3.50 per 12

Early Richmond—Medium, red; early, hardy, immensely productive. Ripens last of June.

Montmorency—Large, fruit beautiful dark red, sub-acid, of the very best quality; ten days later than the Early Richmond; a fine shaped tree; hardy and productive.

PEACHES

4 to 6 ft., 20c each; $2.00 per 12

Alexander—Of large size, nearly round; skin greenish white, nearly covered with deep red; flesh white, juicy and sweet, adhering slightly to the stone. July 20th.

Champion—Fruit large, delicious, sweet, juicy; best quality of all early varieties; skin creamy white, with red cheek; handsome, hardy and productive and a good shipper. August 15th.

Crosby—Medium size; bright yellow, streaked with carmine; annual bearer; hardy. September 15th.

Elberta—Very large, yellow, with red cheek; juicy and high flavor; flesh yellow; very profitable and an excellent shipping variety. September 5th.

PLUMS

4 to 6 ft., 35c each; $3.50 per 12

Abundance—The fruit is very large, showy and beautiful amber colored, turning to a rich cherry, with a decided white bloom and highly perfumed; flesh light yellow, exceedingly juicy and tender. July.

Burbank—Very similar to Abundance, but of deeper color and ripens later in the season. The fruit is large, nearly globular, clear cherry-red, with a thin lilac bloom. Flesh deep yellow. The tree is a vigorous grower. August.

Red June—A vigorous, hardy, upright spreading tree as productive as Abundance. Fruit medium to large, deep vermillion-red, with handsome bloom; very showy. Flesh light lemon-yellow, slightly sub-acid of good and pleasant quality. Pit small. Early.
Wild Goose—Hardy, native, deep red, with purplish bloom. Flesh yellow, juicy and sweet. Rapid grower, early and abundant bearer. July and August.

American Sweet Chestnut—The nuts of this tree form quite an item in our commerce. They are sweet and delicately flavored. This chestnut is also a grand timber and ornamental shade tree. 5 to 6 ft., 35 cents each; $4 per 12.

**STRAWBERRIES**

All Perfect Flowering

| Senator Dunlap—Fruit good size; regular form, beautiful bright red, glossy, firm, splendid keeper and shipper; excellent quality; one of the best for canning; ripens early and continues a long time. 25 cents per 12; 60 cents per 100; $2.50 per 500. We consider the Dunlap the best berry that grows. It and the Gandy will cover the season from early to late.  
| Gandy—Extra large and handsome, firm, high quality, the very latest; most of the crop ripens after the Dunlap. 25 cents per 12; 75 cents per 100.  
| Glen Mary—A large berry of good quality; deep red all the way through; a sweet, rich flavor; the plants are vigorous and productive. 25 cents per dozen, 75 cents per 100.  

**EVERBEARING STRAWBERRIES**

10 cts. each; $1 per 12

These should have rich soil and good cultivation and they will bear from June until frost, but the best way is to cut the flower off until the first of August, then they will make a good crop of fine berries. Plants set in the spring will bear in the fall of the same season.

- Pan American—We have fruited this two seasons and find it a good, healthy grower, and very productive of medium sized berries of fine quality.  
- Patagonia—This is one of Burbank’s berries, and is claimed to be a very strong grower, a good bearer and of extra good quality. It will pay any one to plant a bed of these strawberries, that has time to take good care of them.

**GRAPES**

All Strong, Two Years. 10c each; $1.00 per 12, $5.00 per 100

- Campbell's Early—A strong grower; hardy, and very early; an abundant bearer; bunches and berries very large, glossy black color; pulp sweet and juicy, with few seeds; ripens with the Moore’s Early, but will hang on the vines until frost; we have kept them in baskets in fine condition until December.  
- Moore's Early—Black, bunches medium size and very compact, berries large and of excellent quality, ripens ten days before Concord, which makes it very desirable for market; very hardy, well suited for the north; one of the best.  
- Concord—Black, the most popular grape in America, bunch and berries large; hardy, healthy and productive.
Agawam—Red or maroon color; berries large; of rich, peculiar aromatic flavor; ripens about with Concord; a good keeper; vine a strong, rank grower.

Luti—Dark red, bunch and berry medium; flesh and pulp sweet; vine very hardy, vigorous and productive; ripens about with Moore's Early.

Moore's Diamond—White; bunch and berries large; flesh tender, juicy; hardy, productive, early; fine quality.

RASPBERRIES

35c per dozen; $1.50 per 100; $5.00 per 500

Cumberland—One of the largest black raspberries known; has been well tested in nearly all sections, giving thorough satisfaction; in hardiness and productiveness it is unexcelled; the quality is the very best; the fruit is firm and will stand long shipments; it commences to ripen mid-season and continues a long time; the bush is healthy and vigorous, and well adapted for supporting their loads of large fruit.

Eureka—Very early and productive; fruit large; black; hardy; the best early.

Columbian—Deep purplish red and highly flavored; extra strong canes; wonderfully productive; berry large.

Loudon—The best red raspberry; productive; large size, bright color; very hardy.

BLACKBERRIES

Eldorado—Among the good points of this valuable new blackberry are great productiveness, hardiness, extra fine quality, and sweetness of flavor; without core, the berries are large, jet black, borne in clusters and ripen well together; sweet, melting, rich and pleasant to the taste. Price, 40 cents per dozen; $2.50 per 100.

GOOSEBERRIES

Champion—A new variety introduced from Oregon, where it originated; bush a strong, upright grower, very hardy and enormously productive; fruit round, entirely free from mildew and easily gathered; we have tested most all varieties and discarded them, as they were so much inferior to the Champion. 15c each; $1.50 per 12; 2 years old.

CURRANTS

Large 2 Year, 10c each; $1.00 per 12

Pomona—Fruit clear bright red, almost transparent; has but few small seeds; hangs a long time after ripe; vigorous, healthy, hardy; most productive; quality best; good shipper.

London Market—Large red, a strong grower; hardy and productive.

Black English—Largest and best of the blacks. 10c each; $1.00 per dozen.

White Grape—A good grower, berries yellowish white, sweet and mild.

La Vorsells—Large red, very productive, very strong, healthy grower and the latest.

PIE PLANT

Linnaeus—Large, early, tender and fine; the very best of all. 10c each; $1.00 per dozen,
ASPARAGUS
25c per 12; $1.00 per 100; $3.00 for 500, 2 years

Conover’s Colossal—Produces large, tender shoots of vigorous growth.

EVERGREENS
All two or three times Transplanted

Arbor Vitae—The best evergreen for hedges or screens. 12 to 18 inches, 15 cts. each; $1.25 per 12; $10 per 100. 10 to 12 inches, 10 cts. each; $1 per 12; $7 per 100.

Norway Spruce—The best for wind breaks, 18 to 24 inches, 25c each; $2.40 per 12. 12 to 18 inch, 20c each; $2 per 12; $15 per 100. 8 to 12 inch, 15c each; $1.25 per 12; $9 per 100.

Red Cedar—30 to 40 inches, 35c each; $3 per 12. 24 to 30 inch, 25c each; $2.40 per 12.

White Pine—24 to 36 inch, 35c each.

Balsam Fir—18 to 24 inch, 25c each; $2.40 per 12.

Hemlock Spruce—12 to 18 inches, 25c each.

We have a screen of arbovitea 64 ft. long and 7 ft. high, containing 38 well branched trees; they make a thick, even screen. We would dig them with ball of earth and burlap and deliver on cars here for $50.

ORNAMENTAL TREES

Popular Carolina—One of the most rapid growing trees, with large, deep green leaves, succeeds everywhere, especially adapted to cities, where it makes fast growth, and resists smoke and gas; it makes a spreading head and dense shade when properly trimmed; there is more of them used for street planting than any other tree. 5 to 6 feet, 20c each; $2 per 12. 8 to 10 feet, 25c each; $2.40 per 12.

Elm—White, the noble, drooping, spreading tree of our woods, one of the grandest of park or street trees. 5 to 6 feet, 25c; $2.40 per 12. 8 to 10 feet, 35c each; $3 per 12.

Tulip Tree—A native tree of the magnolia order, remarkable for its symmetry, its rich, glossy foliage, regular distributed branches and large tulip-like flowers. It will make, with a little trimming, almost as dense shade as a hard maple, and it grows very much faster. 5 to 6 feet, 30c.

Birch, White—A tree with graceful, airy foliage and white bark, desirable for lawns. 5 to 6 feet, 25c each.

Mountain Ash—A very pretty, small sized tree, with clusters of large orange berries in the fall. 6 to 8 feet, 25c each. 8 to 10 feet, 35c.

Hard Maple—Spreading top and very dense shade, but slow growth. 4 to 5 feet, 25c each; $2.40 per 12. 5 to 6 feet, 35c each.

Catalpa Speciosa—This valuable tree is a rapid grower, with very large, light green leaves, with large white flowers in June. 4 to 5 feet, 20c each; $2 per 12. 5 to 6 feet, 25c each; $2.40 per 12. 3 to 4 feet, $5 per 100.

Catalpa Seedling—$1.00 per 100; $3.00 per 500; $5.00 per 1000. These are the hardy Speciosa. For posts they should be planted 4x4 feet and given good cultivation for two or three years; this is very important to get a straight, strong growth; the government report claims they will last as long as red cedar or hedge and should make a good post in half the time.
Catalpa Bungeii (Umbrella Catalpa)—Grafted on stems six to eight feet high, it makes an umbrella-shaped top without pruning; perfectly hardy. Leaves large, glossy, heart-shaped, deep green; lay like shingles on a roof. $1.00 each.

**BIRCH**

Cut Leaved Weeping—Erect, stately, rapid, hardy, with long, fine pendent branches and delicately cut leaves; the trunk very white; no tree more elegant for the lawn or yard. Undoubtedly the most popular of all weeping trees. 5 to 7 feet, $1.00 each.

**MULBERRY**

Tea’s Weeping—A variety of the well known Russian Mulberry. Forms a perfect umbrella-shaped head, with long, slender branches which droop to the ground parallel with the stem. Very beautiful and hardy. $1.00 each.

**WILLOW**

Kilmarnock Weeping—An exceedingly graceful tree; very hardy. 75c.

**SHRUBS**

25c each; two years

Almonds, Double Flowering—Dwarf, pink; flowers like small roses; very double; early; profuse.

Barberry, Thunbergii—A very pretty variety from Japan; of dwarf, graceful habit; foliage small, changing to beautiful bright red early in fall; very showy.

Calycanthus (Sweet-Scented Shrub)—The wood is fragrant, foliage rich; flowers are of chocolate color, having a peculiarly agreeable odor. Flowers in June and at intervals afterwards.

Hardy Hydrangia—This is one of the most valuable hardy shrubs. It attains a height of three or four feet, and is perfectly hardy in all parts of the country. The flowers are white, borne in immense panicles nearly a foot in length. It commences flowering in July and continues until November. The plant should be cut back every spring at least one-half of last season’s growth as the flowers are borne on new wood.

Lilac-Purple—A standard variety; always good; profuse bloomer.

White—A well-known white lilac, flowers slightly cream colored.

Snowberry—A very pretty shrub, with clusters of rose colored flowers early in the spring, followed by waxy white berries, which hang on through part of the winter.

Snowberry, Red Fruited—Similar to above, except berries are bright red.

Snowball—A magnificent old favorite, tall growing shrub with very showy, pure white flowers produced in large balls.

Syringa—Of vigorous habit, very hardy, with large handsome foliage and beautiful white flowers.

Spirea Van Houtei—The most beautiful of all Spireas; an immense bloomer; pure snow white flowers; early; hardy.

Spirea Billardi—Rose colored flowers in large spikes; blooms all summer; grows four feet high.

Spirea Anthony Waterer—Dwarf; this beautiful variety produces flowers of a bright crimson and blossoms so freely that it may be kept flowering through the summer till late fall by trimming away the dead flowers; in growth it makes a large, round head; one to two feet high.
Sumac (Cut Leaf)—A very striking plant of moderate size with deeply cut leaves resembling fern leaves, dark green above and glaucous below and turning to a rich red in autumn.

CLEMATIS, 2 YEARS

Jackmanii—A very profuse blooming variety, with flowers from four to six inches in diameter, of an intense violet purple color, borne successively in continuous masses on the summer shoot. 50c each.

Henryii—Large, pure white flowering. 50c each.

Paniculata—New. A strong, vigorous grower, very free flowering; pure white, unusually fragrant. 35c each.

Wisteria, Purple—One of the finest climbers, of rapid growth and perfectly hardy, with long pendulous clusters of bluish purple flowers in June. 25c each.

Wisteria, Alba—Same as above, except the flowers are a pure white.

Honeysuckle, Scarlet Trumpet—One of the handsomest in cultivation; coral flowers; very vigorous and hardy; blooming all summer. 25c each.

ROSES, 2 Years

Everblooming Hybrid Perpetuals. 25c each, except as noted.

Coquette Des Blanches—Pure white, very beautiful. We think this the best pure white hybrid perpetual.

General Jacqueminot—Brilliant velvety crimson; large, showy and a fine grower; a magnificent variety.

Magna Charta—A general favorite, prized on account of its strong, upright growth and bright, healthy foliage, as well as for its magnificent bloom. The color is beautiful bright pink.

Paul Neyron—Deep, shining rose, very fresh and pretty. Flowers large, often measuring five inches in diameter. The buds always develop fine, perfect roses.

American Beauty—A hardy rose of the largest size, having the everblooming qualities of the tea roses, it is the sweetest of all roses; in color, it is a deep brilliant red, shaded to a rich carmine. 35c each.

CLIMBING ROSES, 25c EACH, 2 YEAR

Crimson Rambler—It is a vigorous grower; flowers glowing crimson and produced in immense panicles.

Dorth Perkins—Beautiful shell pink, full and double, large size for a cluster rose; it is a hardy, strong grower; one of the best.

Prairie Queen—The flowers are very large and of peculiar globular form. Bright rosy red, changing to lighter as flower opens. Of very strong, rapid growth.

Baltimore Belle—Pale, blush, variegated carmine-rose and white; very double. Flowers in beautiful cluster.

Paonies—A gorgeous flower; the dark green leaves are at all times very attractive; hardy as an oak and once planted will take care of themselves. Colors red and white. 25c each.

Yucca—A tropical looking plant with long narrow leaves; the flower stalks rise from the center about three feet high and are covered with creamy white, bell-shaped flowers, forming a perfect pyramid; perfectly hardy, the leaves staying green all winter. Strong two-year plants, 25c each; $2 per 12.
**PARCEL POST**

Parcels weighing 4 ozs. or less, 1c for each ounce regardless of distance; over 4 ozs. at lb. rates.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Local rate</th>
<th>First zone rate</th>
<th>Second zone rate</th>
<th>Third zone rate</th>
<th>Fourth zone rate</th>
<th>Fifth zone rate</th>
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**WEIGHTS OF PLANTS**

Strawberries, 4 ozs. per 12; 3 lbs. per 100.

Raspberries, 10 ozs. per 12; 6 lbs. per 100.

Blackberries, 16 ozs. per 12; 8 lbs. per 100.

Asparagus, 2 lbs. per 12.

In figuring the amount of postage to send, use the weights of plants as above. Other nursery stock cannot be sent by mail.

The first zone comprises the following counties and some cities in the adjoining counties: Mercer, Henry, Rock Island, Warren, Henderson, Stark, Whiteside and Knox.

As this goes to press we find that nursery stock cannot be sent by mail, at parcel post rates. The rate is one cent for each two ounces, in any zone. This applies to packages up to eleven pounds. Use this rate on all nursery stock.
The Toyah Valley Messenger

A paper showing the advantages of growing alfalfa and other crops, in the southwest. It tells about feeding of cattle and hogs on alfalfa and alfalfa meal, and about the growing of alfalfa, fruit and cantaloupes. Also the cost of growing these products, and the markets and market prices of alfalfa and other crops. It also tells the prices of land, and the cost of improving, and the amount that has been grown per acre, and the profits of different crops. And also tells about the climate, water and soil.

If you are interested in a new and growing country, where they have a mild, healthy climate, and cheap land, and where they grow big crops, or even if you are interested in the growing and feeding of alfalfa, you should have a copy of THE TOYAH VALLEY MESSENGER. It is free, and a postal card will bring it.

Address

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