**What is a cultivar?**
A seedling that has been chosen for good qualities, then named and propagated.

**Chestnut cultivar qualities to evaluate in trees:**
- Leaf out early or late?
- Bloom early or late?
- Produces pollen? Plants are pollenizers. Insects are pollinators.
- Do the nuts drop early or late?
- Do the nuts drop all at once or is the drop extended?
- Do the nuts fall free from the bur, or in the bur? (not "burr")
- Size of tree
- Size of crop
- Cold hardiness
- Heat units needed to mature nuts in summer
- Blight resistance
- Phytophthora resistance
- Grafts well or not
- Roots well or not
- Gall wasp susceptibility
- Does it produce good seedlings? Is it good for breeding?
- Does it hold leaves in winter? (marcescence is the trait of holding leaves)
- Timber or orchard type growth?
- Ornamental features-
  - Heavy flowering
  - Weeping
  - Variegated leaves
  - Reddish leaves or burs
  - Interesting burs
  - Lack of spines on burs
Chestnut cultivar qualities to evaluate for nuts
Size of nuts
  Variable?
Peel well?
Single or multiple embryos?
More than 3 nuts per bur (not "burr")
Flavor and sweetness?
Do they store well?
Split shells?
Are the nuts attractive to weevils?
Do the nuts have IKB? (internal kernel breakdown) - Colossal is among the worst
Do the nuts have brown rot? Gnomoniopsis smithogilvyi - Colossal and Labor Day are among the worst
BER - blossom end rot - BER in chestnuts is caused by a fungus, Colletotrichum gloeosporioides (asexual stage) AKA Glomerella cingulata (sexual stage). This fungus causes plant disease on a broad array of hosts

Cultivars:

Brownsville, California – The Chestnut Grove
A Five-acre cultivar collection planted from 1916-1920, by E. A. Hoeppner
  https://www.facebook.com/TheChestnutGrove/
Paragon and Colossal have been identified

Nevada City, California – Barren Hill Nursery/Felix Gillet Nursery
Colossal, Nevada, Long Street, NCC1, NCC6
Torakuri, Gillet, Kaibutsu, Bergantz, Okinakuri,
**Eighteen of the best West Coast cultivars:**
Bergantz – Sativa/crenata hybrid with large easy-peeling nuts
Boitano/Fife/Black Pearl – Washington state Sativa with large black nuts
Bouche de Betizac – Sativa/crenata hybrid with large easy peeling nuts
Chiusa Pesio – Italian Sativa with very tasty nuts that peel well
Comballe – French Sativa with very large nuts
De Coppi Marrone – Sativa from Australia with large nuts
Gillet – Sativa/crenata hybrid with huge nuts that peel well
Judia – Portuguese Sativa with large nuts that peel well
Long Street – Dentata/sativa hybrid with medium sized nuts that peel well
Marigoule – Sativa/crenata hybrid with large nuts that peel well
Mipung – Korean Crenata with medium-large nuts that peel well
NCC 1 – Dentata/sativa hybrid with medium sized nuts that peel well
Regis Montis – Washington state Sativa with medium sized nuts that peel well
Serenity Ridge – Sativa or Sativa/crenata hybrid with very large nuts
Serr – California Sativa, or Sativa/mollissima hybrid, with med-large nuts
Sweet Surprise – Probably Sativa/crenata/pumila hybrid with medium size nuts
Szego – Crenata/pumila/molliissima hybrid, with large nuts that peel well
Torakuri – Sativa/crenata hybrid with very large nuts that peel well

**Discussion:**
Grafted trees vs seedlings? Gillet and Bergantz
For Breeding – Any of the top 18 plus:
ACE
Big Euro
Kaibutsu
Luvall’s Monster
Marradi
NCC 6
Paragon
Rihei
Schlarbaum
Twenty of the best Eastern cultivars:
Black Satin – Mollissima, seedling of Peach, has large nuts that drop late in Missouri
Chandler – Mollissima with large nuts that drop midseason in South Carolina
Emalyn’s Purple – Mollissima with large nuts that drop early in California
Gideon – Mollissima with medium sized nuts, tree is cold hardy and drought tolerant.
Jenny – Mollissima with large nuts that drop very early. Upright growth
Mipung – Crenata with medium-large nuts
Nanjing Special #1 – Mollissima with small nuts and exceptional eating quality
Nanjing Special #2 - Mollissima with small nuts and exceptional eating quality
Ness - Mollissima with large nuts that drop midseason in California
Pandora – Mollissima/seguin x Burbank Stump Sprout
Payne – Mollissima that is very productive with medium-large nuts
Peach – Mollissima that has large nuts
Qing – Mollissima/pumila hybrid that has medium-large very sweet nuts
Revival – Mostly mollissima hybrid that is very vigorous
Royalmark – Probable Crenata/mollisima hybrid
Sleeping Giant – Dentata/crenata/mollissima hybrid
WC – Possible sibling of Qing with similar nuts on a larger spreading tree
Yixian Good Flavor (YGF) – Mollissima with very good nuts
Yixian Large – Mollissima with very large nuts that drop early
Yixian Orange – Mollissima with small-medium size nuts that drop midseason

Discussion:
Grafted trees vs seedlings? Jenny and Payne
For Breeding – Any of the Top 20 plus:
ACE
Big Euro
Layeroka
Liu
Luvall’s Monster
Rihei
Schlarbaum
Sheng
Skioka
Skookum
Longer list of cultivars suitable for selected areas of the West coast:

Bergantz  
Big Euro  
Bisalta #2  
Bisalta #3  
Blake  
Bouche de Betizac  
Burbank Stump Sprout  
Campbell #1  
Colfax Gold  
Colossal  
De Coppi Marrone  
Fife/Boitano/Black Pearl  
Gillet  
Honey  
Ishizuchi  
Kaibutsu  
Kruk Trail  
Layeroka  
Maraval  
Marigoule  
Marissard  
Marki  
Marrone Comballe  
Marrone di Chiusa Pesio  
Marrone di Marradi  
Marsol  
Mipung  
NCC 1  
NCC 6  
NC Long Street  
Nevada  
Okei  
Okinakuri  
Paragon  
Regis Montis  
Rihei
Western cultivars continued:
Samjoseng
Schlarbaum
Serenity Ridge
Serr aka Yolo Grande
Silverleaf
Skioka
Skookum
Sloane
Szego
Tanzawa
Torakuri
Tsukuba

Longer list of cultivars suitable for selected areas of the Eastern US:

ABC Red
ACE
Amy
AU Buck I
AU Buck II
AU Buck III
AU Buck IV
AU Cropper
AU Homestead
AU Leader
AU Super
AU 1-11
Benton Harbor
Eastern cultivars continued:
Black Satin
Campbell #1
Carolina
Carpenter
Chandler
Chushuhong
Duanza
Dunstan - not a cultivar
Eaton
Eaton River
Emalyn’s Purple
Gideon
Hong Kong
Honglizi
Ishizuchi
Jenny
Jersey Gem
Jiaozha
Jiujiasheng
King Arthur
Kintzel
Kohr
Kuling
Kyoung
Layeroka
Little Giant
Liu
Luvall's Monster
Madison
Mahogany
Marsol
Meiling
Miller's Hope
Mipung
Mossbarger
Eastern cultivars continued:
Nanjing Special 1
Nanjing Special 2
Nanking
Ness
Old Smith
Pandora
Paragon
Patterson
Payne
Peach
Qing
Qingsu
Qingza
Resilient
Revival
Rihei
Royalmark
Sadie Hunter
Samjoseng
Schlarbaum
Shing
Shotgun
Skioka
Skookum
Sleeping Giant
Sweetheart - not a cultivar
Szego
WC
Willamette
Yixian Large
Yixian Orange
YGF
Yooma