

APPLE HARVEST TIME!

Determining when apples are ready to be harvested can be tricky. You need to know the variety of the apple and its approximate harvest date. These dates vary each year with fluctuations in blooming rates, degree days, and rainfall. If you're growing your own apples, perhaps the best way to tell if they are ripe is to taste couple. If they taste great, go for it. Another great way to judge if an apple variety is ready is to check seed color. Seeds will go from white to brown as the fruit ripens. When picking, simply lift the apple up. It should just snap off into your hand.

VARIETY	PICKING DATES	FOR EATING	FOR COOKING	FOR HOME STORING
Paulared	August 20-30	Good and tart.	Good for pie and sauce.	Short storage life.
Gravenstein	September 1	Excellent, mild, crisp and juicy.	Good for pie and sauce.	Short storage life.
McIntosh	September 5 - October 5	Excellent, slightly tart, crisp and juicy.	Good for pie and sauce. Poor for baking.	September - December
Cortland	September 20 - October 15	Excellent, mild, crisp, juicy, very white. Does not brown when cut	Excellent. Cooks and bakes quickly. Requires little sugar.	October - February
Macoun	September 26 - October 5	Excellent, crisp, juicy and aromatic.	Not a cooking apple.	October - December
Red Delicious	October 1 - 15	Excellent, fragrant, sweet and mellow.	Not a cooking apple.	October - April
Golden Delicious	October 10 - 20	Excellent, slightly tart, crisp and tender.	Good for general cooking, for salads, and excellent for applesauce.	October - April
Empire	October 1 - 10	Excellent, firm, crisp and fine flavor.	Great lunchbox apple.	November - April.
Baldwin	October 10 - 20	Fair, mild, firm and juicy	Very good for all cooking. Holds shape when baked.	November - April
Northern Spy	October 10 - 25	Excellent, slightly tart, crisp, juicy, light in Vitamin C.	Very good for all cooking users.	October - April
Gala	September 12 - 25	Excellent, sweet, buttery and juicy.	Great eating apple.	September - December
Honeycrisp	September 12 - 25	Very crisp and juicy, sweet and delightful.	Superior eating apple.	September - April
Mutsu	October 1 - 15	Large, crisp and sweet.	Superior eating apple.	October - April

The University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension programs and policies are consistent with pertinent Federal and State laws and regulations on non-discrimination regarding race, color, religion, gender, age, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, veteran status, or marital status. UNH, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, and New Hampshire counties cooperating.