



Tree Fruit Cultivars for New Hampshire

The fruit cultivars (varieties) listed in this publication have been selected for home gardeners on the basis of yield, quality and adaptation to particular uses such as canning or freezing. Winter hardiness, disease and insect resistance and adaptation to a wide range of soil conditions are other important factors considered in the selection process. We have appended a list of nurseries that sell many of these tree fruit varieties.

Most fruit crops (tree fruits in particular) require a significant commitment of time and effort. Information on the cultural requirements for the various fruits is available at County Extension offices throughout New Hampshire, through the Family, Home & Garden Education Center (tollfree 1-877-398-4769) or from our website: <ceinfo.unh.edu>.

Apples

Most apple cultivars are not self-fruitful. Grow at least two varieties to ensure cross-pollination. Several cultivars will not serve as pollinators including Mutsu, Gravenstein, Jonagold, Spigold, Roxbury Russet, RI Greening, Stayman, Winesap and Baldwin.

Disease Resistant Apple Varieties

We recommend apple cultivars with resistance to apple scab, cedar apple rust and other apple diseases for home gardeners because they eliminate the need to spray with fungicides to control these troublesome diseases, making home production of high quality apples quite easy. The following cultivars have good to excellent fruit quality and are resistant to both apple scab and cedar apple rust. Resistance to fire blight, powdery mildew, and other minor diseases varies.

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| <i>Redfree</i> | Medium-large, attractive, bright, red apple with tender, slightly juicy flesh. Flavor is sweet and pleasant. Ripens Sept. 1 in southern NH. |
| <i>Prima</i> | Large, red and green apple with crisp, juicy, sweet flesh. Ripens Sept. 15 in southern NH. |
| <i>Liberty</i> | Very attractive, dark red, large apple that ripens in early Oct. in southern NH. Flesh is sweet, slightly juicy and slightly coarse. A very high-quality apple that stores well. |
| <i>Macfree</i> | A medium-size red and green apple with a sweet, McIntosh-type flavor. Ripens in early Oct. in southern NH. |
| <i>Nova</i> | |
| <i>Easygro</i> | Large, sweet, juicy, red apple. Flesh is crisp and slightly coarse. Ripens early Oct. in southern NH. |

Other Popular Apple Cultivars

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| <i>Paulared</i> | High quality, red, late summer. Very productive--requires thinning. |
| <i>McIntosh</i> | Very attractive, large, red. Mid-September. Flesh tender and perfumed, delicious. Very productive and hardy. |
| <i>Cortland</i> | Large, red-striped. Late September-early October. White flesh resists browning. Excellent for dessert, culinary and salad use. Productive and hardy. |

- Macoun* Crisp, red, unsurpassed dessert quality. Ripens with Cortland. Needs thinning.
- Golden Delicious* Yellow, good quality. Very productive. Very susceptible to skin russet. Southern NH only.
- Northern Spy* Large, red, winter apple. Excellent flavor and quality. Southern NH only. Biennial bearing tendency.
- Baldwin* Red, winter apple. Stores well. Excellent for culinary use. Biennial bearer. Southern NH only.

Pears

Pears, like apples, are not self-fruitful. At least two varieties must be grown together. Seckel and Bartlett will not pollinate each other.

- Clapp's Favorite* Fire blight susceptible. Large, good quality. Late August.
- Moonglow* Medium size, soft, yellow. Late August. Good fire-blight tolerance.
- Bartlett* Superior quality and flavor. September. Susceptible to fireblight.
- Seckel* Small, yellow-brown russeted pear. Easy to grow, excellent flavor, some fireblight resistance. Mid-September.
- Bosc* Large russet pear. Very late, good pollinizer for Bartlett. Southern NH only.

Asian Pears

Asian pears, also known as "apple" pears or "oriental" pears, are crisp and crunchy rather than "melting" like European pears. Flavor is sweet and more delicate. Asian pears may not be as hardy as European pears and are recommended only for southern New Hampshire.

While European pears are generally picked before they are ripe and allowed to ripen off the tree (tree ripened European pears are often gritty in texture), Asian pears are generally tree ripened for maximum fruit quality.

- 20th Century* Medium sized, round fruit with clear yellow skin and crunchy-sweet, white flesh. Ripens Sept. 1 in Southern NH. Pear psylla has not been a problem on this cultivar in test plantings in Strafford County.
- Shinseiki* Crisp, round, yellow pear with sweet, white flesh. Ripens in late August.
- Hosui* Large, reddish-brown. Ripens in September. Flesh soft, sweet.

Peaches and Nectarines

Peaches and nectarines, both hardy to about -10°F, are generally restricted to exceptional sites in extreme southern New Hampshire.

- Harbinger* Good quality early peach. Requires thinning. Ripens in mid July in Durham.
- Reliance* Developed at UNH. Most winter hardy variety--has cropped after -25°F. Medium- sized fruit of fair quality. Requires heavy thinning.
- Harmony* Large, flavorful peach. Ripens late August in Durham.

Mericrest Nectarine from UNH. Excellent flavor and good disease resistance. May be as hardy as Reliance peach.

Hardired Good quality nectarine. Tolerant of bacterial spot and brown rot.

Plums

European Cultivars

Some European plums are self-fruitful but planting at least two cultivars is recommended to insure adequate pollination. Generally hardy in Southern and Central NH.

Earliblue Very early blue prune-plum, good fruit quality. Slow to begin bearing.

Stanley Large, dark blue prune-plum. Will generally mature south of Concord only. Superior flavor and quality. Excellent flavor.

Shiro Attractive, early yellow plum of good quality. Productive.

Ozark

Premier Large, attractive bright red fruit with juicy yellow flesh.

Burbank Medium-large fruit. Sweet, juicy and productive. Reddish-purple.

Hybrid Plums

The so-called hybrid plums are generally hardy in New Hampshire. Cultivars have been developed by crossing selected native or wild plums with the more desirable, but less hardy, Japanese types. All are self unfruitful and Toka or a Japanese or American cultivar must be used to insure pollination.

Underwood Fruit medium-sized, red and juicy. Good for jam and preserves. Ripens early.

Pipestone Fruit large, red and sweet. Good fresh and for preserves.

Superior Fruit large, firm and juicy. Excellent fruit quality. Fruits must be thinned as tree will overload.

Toka Fruit medium-sized and bright red. Used as a pollinator for other hybrid cultivars.

Tart Cherries

Tart cherries are very hardy, but they do bloom very early and spring frosts can be a problem. Tart cherries do not require cross-pollination.

Montmorency The best tart cherry. Excellent quality.

North Star Dwarf growth habit, fair quality.

Meteor Semi-dwarf growth habit. Good quality.

Apricots and Sweet Cherries

Apricots and Sweet Cherries are restricted to sites that do not often fall below -10°F. In addition, they bloom in extremely early spring requiring an exceptionally frost-free site. They are generally not recommended for New Hampshire.

Apricots

Goldcot Medium-sized fruit of good quality. Self-fruitful.

Perfection Large-sized fruit. Excellent quality, requires cross-pollination.

Sweet Cherries

- Hedelfingen* Excellent quality. Requires cross-pollination.
Sam Large and flavorful. Requires cross-pollination.
Van Large, black sweet cherry. Requires cross-pollination.
Kristin Large, dark, flavorful fruits. Requires cross-pollination.

List of Nurseries*

- Adams County Nursery, Aspers, PA 17304
Amberg's Nursery, Inc., RD 2, Box 269, Stanley, NY 14561
C & O Nursery, P.O. Box 116, 1700 N. Wenatchee Ave., Wenatchee, WA 98801
Hilltop Orchards and Nurseries, Inc., Hartford, MI 49057
Kelly Brothers Nursery, Dansville, NY 14437
J.E. Miller Nurseries, Inc., Canadaigua, NY 14424
Star Bros Nurseries and Orchards Co., Louisiana, MO 63353
Dave Wilson Nursery, Hughson, CA 95326
Roaring Brook Nurseries, Rt. 1, Box 728, Monmouth, ME 04259

****Inclusion on this list does not imply endorsement by UNH Cooperative Extension, nor does failure to appear on the list imply any discrimination against a nursery by UNH Cooperative Extension.***

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