



Tree Fruit Varieties for New Hampshire Home Orchards

Fruit trees have long been staples on New Hampshire farms. What old farmstead does not have a small orchard of apples and pears, and perhaps a peach or a plum tree? Fruit trees not only provide farm families with fresh fruit, pies, sauces and cider, but they are also beautiful additions to the home landscape, especially in spring when they are covered with blooms. Below is a list of varieties to consider when planning a home orchard.

	Varieties	Maturity	Uses	Color	Comments
Apple	GingerGold	28-Aug	F	Y	Good flavor, Crisp
	RedFree	1-Sep	F	R	Crisp, Scab-resistant, Short shelf life
	Zestar	1-Sep	F	R	Flavor, Crisp
	Akane	1-Sep	F	R	Flavor, Scab-resistant, Fire Blight (FB)-susceptible
	HoneyCrisp	12-Sep	F	R	Great Flavor, Crisp, Stores, Trees weak
	Gala	15-Sep	F, C	R	Flavor, Crisp, FB-susceptible
	Crimson Crisp	18-Sep	F, C	R	Flavor, Crisp, Scab-resistant, Waxy if overripe
	McIntosh	18-Sep	F, J, C	R	Flavor, Aromatic, Scab-susceptible
	Cortland	25-Sep	F, J, C	R	Non-browning flesh, Scab-susceptible
	Liberty	1-Oct	F, J	R	Crisp, Scab-resistant, Flesh browns quickly
	Macoun	1-Oct	F	R	Crisp, Great flavor, Short shelf life
	SnowSweet	1-Oct	F	R	Crisp
	Freedom	5-Oct	C	R	Good for processing, Scab-resistant
	Mutsu	5-Oct	F, C	Y	Flavor, Stores well, Sterile pollen
	Golden Delicious	10-Oct	F, J, C	Y	All-purpose, Shrivels in storage
Baldwin	10-Oct	J, C	R	Firm, Keeps well, Poor pollen producer, Biennial	
Northern Spy	10-Oct	F, C	R	Great Flavor, Crisp, Biennial, Bruises	
Pear	Harrow Delight	25-Aug	F		FB-resistant, Very hardy
	Clapp's Favorite	25-Aug	F		Hardy, FB-susceptible, Soft
	Moonglow	25-Aug	F		FB-resistant, Fruit quality
	Bartlett	5-Sep	F, C		Great flavor, Small fruit, FB-susceptible
	Seckel	15-Sep	F, C		Crisp, Sweet, FB-resistant
	Nova	15-Sep	F		Very hardy
	Magness	15-Sep	F		FB-resistant, Fruit quality
	Flemish Beauty	25-Sep	F		Partially self-fertile, Very hardy
	Bosc	1-Oct	F, C		Firm, Flavorful, FB-susceptible
	Honeysweet	1-Oct	F		FB-resistant
	Luscious	1-Oct	F		Very hardy, FB-resistant
	Potomac	1-Oct	F		FB-resistant, Fruit quality

Key to uses: F – fresh use, C – cooking/canning, J – juice

Fruit color: Y – yellow, R – red, P – purple, G – green, B – blue, W – white



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	Varieties	Maturity	Uses	Color	Comments
Peach	Red Haven	5-Aug	F, C	Y	High quality fruit
	Reliance	8-Aug	F, C	Y	Relatively hardy (-25°F)
	Blushing Star	20-Aug	F	W	White-fleshed, Large
	Canadian Harmony	1-Sep	F	Y	Large, Good flavor
	Madison	15-Sep	F, C	Y	Large, Good flavor
Nectarine	Eastern Glo	1-Aug	F	Y	Firm, Good flavor
	Mericrest	25-Aug	F	Y	Relatively hardy (-20°F)
	Fantasia	15-Sep	F	Y	Firm, Good flavor
Plum	European				
	Green Gage	25-Aug	F	G/Y	Partially self-fruitful
	Early Italian	25-Aug	F, C	B	Sweet, Partially self-fruitful
	Castleton	10-Sept	F, C	B	Partially self-fruitful
	Stanley	20-Sept	F, C	B	Partially self-fruitful, Black knot-susceptible
	Japanese				
	Methley	5-Aug	F	R	Partially self-fruitful
	Shiro	10-Aug	F	Y	Juicy, Flavorful
	Santa Rosa	12-Aug	F	F	Partially self-fruitful
	Ozark Premier	25-Aug	F	R	Large, Good flavor
	Hybrid				
	Underwood	10-Aug	F	R	Hardy in northern NH
	Pipestone	15-Aug	F	R	Hardy in northern NH
	Superior	Sept	F	R	Hardy in northern NH
Cherry	Sour (Pie)				
	Montmorency	July	C	R	Excellent flavor
	North Star	July	C	R	Naturally dwarf tree
	Meteor	July	C	R	Naturally dwarf tree
	Sweet				
	Black Gold	Early July	F	P	Self-fruitful
	Sam	Early July	F	P	
	Lapins	July	F	P	Self-fruitful
	Hedelfingen	July	F	P	
	Bush Type				
	Jan, Joy, & Joel	Sept	C	R	Cross-pollination required
Apricot	Goldrich	15-July	F, C	Y	Partially self-fruitful
	Harogem	5-Aug	F, C	Y	Partially self-fruitful

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About pollination

Pears, apples, Japanese plums, hybrid plums, and sweet cherries are generally self-incompatible. To insure fruit production for these crops, at least 2 different varieties are essential. Most European plums and apricots are at least partially self-fruitful; however, planting 2 or more varieties is still recommended. Most peach, nectarine, and sour cherry varieties are self-fruitful. There are exceptions to these general guidelines above, and where possible, those exceptions appear in the notes on individual varieties. For more information, see [Growing Fruit: Pollinating Fruit Crops](#).

For more information

For more information on growing tree fruits in the home orchard, see the following:

- [Growing Fruit: Care of the Mature Backyard Apple Tree](#)
- [Growing Fruit in NH: Peaches & Nectarines](#)
- [Growing Fruit in NH: Pears](#)
- [Growing Fruit in NH: Plums, Cherries & Apricots](#)
- [Growing Fruit: Grafting Fruit Trees in the Home Orchard](#)
- [Growing Fruit in NH: Low-Input Tree Fruits for Home Orchards](#)
- [Growing Fruit: Home Fruit Spray Schedule](#)

By William Lord, UNH Extension Fruit Specialist Emeritus

Revised by Becky Sideman, UNH Extension Sustainable Horticulture Specialist, March 2017

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