

Tart Cherry- self fruitful

Bearing age = 4

NORTH STAR CHERRY -This tree's small stature makes it perfect for small spaces. Ripens in late June - early July. Fruit has dark red skin and red flesh. Heavy producer.

SWEET CHERRY PIE -This large fruit of this sour pie cherry is delightfully sweet and great for making pies, jams, and jellies.

MONTMORENCY CHERRY-Good tasting hardy cherry with large, firm and juicy fruits for pies and preserves. Ripens in July.

MESABI CHERRY -A cross between a sweet and tart cherry, Mesabi is a bit sweeter than other tart cherry cultivars. Bright red skin with pale red flesh. Ripens in August.

EVANS BALI CHERRY- Extremely cold hardy. Large, bright red fruit has small pits. Fruit will sweeten if left on the tree and protected from birds. Beautiful cinnamon bark. Sold as 'Evans', 'Bali', or 'Evans Bali'.

Apricot – cross pollinator

Bearing age = 4

WESTCOT APRICOT - A favorite among serious cold-climate apricot growers. Good for fresh eating. Harder to find than some other cultivars. Freestone.

SUNGOLD APRICOT - Small fruit has yellow skin with red blush. Yellow flesh is sweet and mild. Ripens in late-July.

MOONGOLD APRICOT -Medium size, sweet, juicy, freestone. Ripens over several days in mid-July. Earlier than 'Sungold'.

BROOKCOT APRICOT -Medium size, sweet, good for fresh eating, canning, jam, drying. Developed in Canada with good winter hardiness. Ripen from mid-July to late-August.

DEBBIE'S GOLD APRICOT-Yellowish-orange 1 ½" fruit with firm texture. Great for canning and fresh eating. Bloom's later than other varieties. Freestone.

Plum – cross pollinator

Bearing age = 5

ALDERMAN PLUM Japanese-Attractive trees produce large, sweet, juicy fruit with burgundy skin and golden flesh. Early ripening, often in late July.

SUPERIOR PLUM Japanese- Released by UM in 1933 and still popular today, Superior has large pointed fruit with bright red skin and yellow flesh. Rich, super sweet flavor.

LA CRESCENT PLUM Japanese-A yellow plum with a pink blush and sweet, golden flesh. Freestone fruit are great for fresh eating. University of Minnesota introduction. Use 'Toka' as a pollinator.

BLACK ICE PLUM Japanese- University of Wisconsin release (2006). Naturally dwarf tree with weeping form. Large 2" fruit has blue-black skin with deep red flesh.

TOKA PLUM Japanese- Most recommended to plant as a pollinizer tree. Fruit has deep magenta skin with golden flesh. Rich, spicy-sweet flavor. Ripens around late August.

PIPESTONE PLUM Japanese- A very hardy red fruited variety with a yellow blush. Large fruit are of excellent quality. Sweet, juicy plums are great for fresh eating or preserves.

MOUNT ROYAL PLUM European- plum has blue skin and yellow flesh. Heavy producer. Ripens mid-late August. Delicious right off the tree, but also well suited to drying and preserves. Susceptible to black knot.

Peach – self fruitful

Bearing age = 4

POLLY PEACH- a hardy semi-dwarf peach tree. Fruit is white skinned with red blush. Flesh is white, sweet and juicy. Red-pink blooms before foliage emerges in spring.

RELIANCE PEACH - Medium, freestone fruit has good flavor. Very hardy. Newer cultivars ('Contender' and 'Intrepid') have improved flavor.

CONTENDER PEACH - Large, freestone fruit has soft yellow flesh that is sweet and juicy. Highly tolerant of late spring frosts.

Pear – cross pollinator

Bearing age = 5

TAWARA ASIAN PEAR Unusual dark tan to light brown fruit, tasting like a cross between an apple and pear, with crispy texture. Partially self-fruitful. Excellent for fresh eating or canning. Not fully hardy in MN.

SUMMERCRISP PEAR Medium-sized, red-blushed fruit with mild flavor and crisp texture strongly reminiscent of an Asian pear. Harvest in mid-August when fruit is still crisp. Fireblight resistant.

PARKER PEAR - Fruit similar in size, flavor and texture to 'Bartlett.' Seen to set some fruit without a second variety. Harvest mid-September. Fireblight susceptible.

LUSCIOUS PEAR- Medium-small fruits with a flavor similar to 'Bartlett'. Texture is firm but melting. Generally known to be pollen sterile, so it cannot be used as a pollen source for another tree. Harvest mid- to late-September. Fireblight tolerant.

PATTEN PEAR Ripens late season with a mild, sweet flavor and firm, melting texture. Best used for fresh eating. Use 'Parker' as a pollinator. Fireblight tolerant.

Pear cultivars NOT recommended for Minnesota: D'Anjou, Bartlett, Bosc, Comice

Apple – cross pollinator

Bearing age = 3-5

ZESTAR APPLE early Large, crunchy, juicy red fruit with balanced sweet tart flavor. Excellent for fresh eating and cooking.

KINDERKRISP APPLE early -Exceptional flavor and crisp texture, much like its parent ‘Honeycrisp’. Features smaller fruit with a good balance of sweet flavors and a crisp juicy bite.

MINNEWASHTA APPLE early -Large, highly-flavored apples have fantastic sweet and tart flavor. Great for fresh eating, pies, sauce and cider. Red-over-cream colored fruits ripen early season. Excellent keeper. A university of MN selection.

WINECRISP APPLE mid -Medium sized, dark red fruit has cream colored flesh and a pleasant spice flavor. Good for fresh eating and cooking, good storage life.

FREEDOM APPLE mid -Very resistant to scab. Crisp, juicy, sweet. Good for fresh eating and cooking.

TRIUMPH APPLE mid -Excellent disease resistance with a pleasantly tart and well-balanced flavor. A university of Minnesota introduction with a good storage life.

SWEET 16 APPLE mid- Medium to large, rosy red fruit. Crisp, juicy, very sweet with spicy, cherry flavor. Best for fresh eating. Stores 5-8 weeks.

HONEYCRISP APPLE mid Extremely juicy and crisp. Well-balanced flavor. Flesh is slow to brown when cut. Fruit stores 7 months +.

SNOW SWEET APPLE mid Large, bronze-red fruit. Sweet. Slow to brown when cut. Good for fresh eating, cooking.

CORTLAND APPLE early-mid Sweet-tart, aromatic flavor. Flesh is slow to brown when cut. Good for fresh eating and cooking.

TRIPLE PLAY APPLE ('Honeycrisp', 'Sweet 16' and 'Cortland') mid-Three mid-season blooming apple trees in one container to form a clump. Ease of pollination, assortment of varieties and extended harvest make this a triple play. All varieties are good for eating and cooking.

HARALSON APPLE late -An heirloom cultivar still very popular today. Medium size, striped fruit is full-flavored and tart. Great for fresh eating, cooking, especially pies. Fruit stores 4-5 months.

HARALRED APPLE late -An improved selection of ‘Haralson’ that is redder, sweeter and bears fruit earlier. Juicy, tart, firm, good keeper.

FROSTBITE APPLE mid-late -Very sweet, intense taste in a small, crisp, juicy apple. Excellent cold hardiness. Good for fresh eating and cooking. Outstanding for cider. Bred by the University of Minnesota.

CHESTNUT DWARF mid-late Large crabapple with russeted skin. Rich, nutty flavor. Best for fresh eating, sauce. Fruit stores 4-5 weeks.

Apple cultivars NOT recommended for Minnesota: Braeburn, Fuji, Gala, Golden Delicious, Granny Smith, Jonathan, Red Delicious

Tree Fruit Basics:

- Cultivar:** *An asexually propagated cultivated variety of a plant that has been deliberately selected for specific desirable characteristics.*
- Graft:** *A method of asexual plant propagation widely used in horticulture for the propagation of some trees and shrubs.*
- Rootstock:** *is a plant with an established root system used for grafting a cutting or bud from another plant.*
- Clonal rootstocks** *are used for uniformity of the properties imparted from the rootstock to the scion, such as precocity, dwarfness, and disease resistance.*
- Scion:** *The plant part being grafted onto the rootstock and grown into a tree.*
- Precocity** – *the ability of a tree to bear fruit soon after propagation.*