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Ronald M. Peterson

Dean M. Martin

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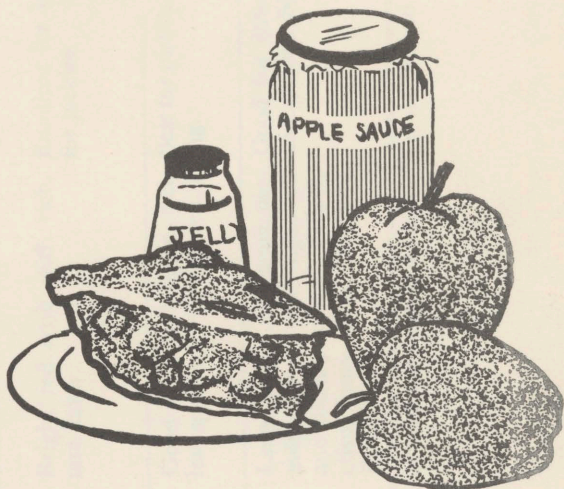
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Know Your

Apples



By **Ronald M. Peterson**, associate professor of horticulture and
Dean M. Martin, Extension horticulturist.

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Know Your Apples

Apple and crab apple varieties suggested for planting in South Dakota are briefly described in the accompanying table. It is important that all apple varieties planted in South Dakota be grafted on hardy Siberian rootstocks if they are to be considered reliably hardy.

Some varieties should be planted only in the more favored areas of the state as indicated in the table. Varieties are listed according to season of harvest. The information given will be helpful when selecting trees to be planted.

EXPLANATION OF TERMS USED IN THE TABLE

Annual bearer—Tends to bear an average crop each year.

Aromatic—Having a pleasing fragrance.

Biennial bearer—Tends to produce a heavy crop every other year and little or no fruit in the "off" year.

Favored areas—Areas of the state with conditions better adapted for fruit growing than most other areas of the state.

For trial only—The variety has not been sufficiently tested as to hardiness and possibly other character-

istics. The variety appears promising but should be planted with the knowledge that there is a risk of possible loss.

Hardy—A variety with ability to consistently endure climatic conditions generally encountered in South Dakota.

Keeper—Refers to ability of an apple to remain in good condition after harvest. (Depends on storage conditions as well as other factors.)

Overload—The tree produces too large a number of fruits resulting in small fruits of poor quality. Also may cause injury to the tree.

Pollinizer—A variety that produces a large amount of pollen suitable for fertilizing flowers of other varieties.

Russetted—Having a somewhat rough reddish-brown colored skin.

Shy bearer—A tree which consistently produces a rather small crop under South Dakota growing conditions.

Thinning—Removal of a high percent of blossoms or small fruits to prevent overloading.

Topworking—Budding or grafting a desired variety onto scaffold branches of a very hardy variety.

APPLE VARIETIES SUGGESTED FOR SOUTH DAKOTA

Variety	Season of Use	Characteristics	Uses	Remarks
Mantet	Mid. Aug.	Red apple similar to McIntosh, with crisp, juicy flesh.	Excellent for eating and sauce.	Fruit often drops prematurely. Tends to be a biennial bearer.
Oriole	Late Aug.	Large, yellow apple with pink blush.	Good eating, sauce, pie and freezing.	May be a shy bearer.
Duchess	Aug.-Sept.	Medium size apple. Yellow splashed and streaked bright red.	Good for pie, sauce, jelly and freezing.	Tends to be a biennial bearer. Very hardy.
Beacon	Aug.-Sept.	Medium size, very attractive red apple. Texture rather corky.	Fair for eating, cooking and freezing.	Susceptible to fire blight. Subject to cedar-apple rust.
Wealthy	Sept.-Nov.	Greenish-yellow blushed and striped with bright red. Juicy, sprightly flavored.	Good for eating, baking, pie, sauce, jelly and freezing.	Good yielder. Tends to be a biennial bearer. Good pollinizer.
Minjon	Sept.-Dec.	Attractive red color. Flesh somewhat stained with red, rather tart.	Fair for eating and good for pie, baking, sauce, and freezing.	Biennial bearer tending to overload in alternate years. Very hardy. Should thin early in summer to get best fruit size and quality.

Variety	Season of Use	Characteristics	Uses	Remarks
McIntosh	Oct.-Dec.	Medium size apple with bright red over green color. Flesh white, tender, juicy and very aromatic.	Good for eating, pie, baking and sauce.	Susceptible to apple scab. Tends to be a biennial bearer. Fruit may drop prematurely. Suggested for Black Hills and SE S. Dak.* Topworking suggested.
Cortland	Oct.-Jan.	Attractive red apple. Flesh firm, white, juicy, pleasingly aromatic and does not discolor when sliced.	Excellent for eating, salads, pie baking and sauce.	Good keeper. Tends to bear annually. Fruit hangs well to tree. Suggested for Black Hills and SE S. Dak.* Topworking suggested.
Victory	Oct.-Feb.	Purplish red apple with white flesh.	Good all-purpose apple.	Susceptible to fire blight. Tends to bear annually.
Delicious	Oct.-Feb.	Attractive red apple with sweet crisp flesh.	Excellent for eating and salads.	For limited planting in favored areas of the Black Hills and SE S. Dak.* Topworking suggested. Resistant to fire blight.
Redwell	Nov.-Jan.	Well-shaped, smooth, red apple.	Good for eating and excellent for pies, and sauce.	Tends to bear annually. Somewhat susceptible to apple scab and cedar-apple rust. One of the most successful varieties in South Dakota Experiment Station orchards.
Golden Delicious	Nov.-March	Golden yellow apple with a spicy flavor and fine textured flesh.	Excellent for eating, sauce, pies, salads, and freezing.	For trial only in favored areas of the Black Hills and SE S. Dak.* Topworking suggested. Biennial bearer. Good keeper.
Fireside	Nov.-March	Large greenish-yellow apple sometimes tinged with red.	Excellent for eating. Good for salads. Not suggested for cooking.	Excellent keeper. Requires long growing season. Tendency of trees to produce some small apples of poor quality.
Haralson	Oct.-March	Greenish-yellow apple heavily overlaid with dull red stripes and splashing. Conspicuous large white dots. Flesh crisp and tart.	Excellent for pie, fair for eating, baking, sauce, jelly and freezing.	Excellent keeper. Biennial bearer. Tends to overload in alternate years. Should thin early in summer to get best fruit size and quality. Very hardy.
Prairie Spy	Nov.-April	Large fruit. Red over yellow in color and russeted around stem end. Creamy white flesh with slight aroma.	Good for eating and excellent for pies, baking, sauce, jelly and freezing.	Excellent keeper. May be a shy bearer.
Crab Apples				
Dolgo Crab	August	Bright red fruit with rich, tart flavor.	Excellent for jelly and good for pickles.	Very hardy crab apple. Often valued as an ornamental because of its white blossoms and colorful fruit.
Whitney Crab	August	Good sized crab apple. Yellow splashed with dull red.	Best for pickles. Good for eating.	Poor keeping quality. Slow growing. Susceptible to fire blight.
Chestnut Crab	September	Large, yellow crab apple partially covered with light red and often russeted. Yellow, crisp, juicy flesh. Pleasing flavor.	Good for eating, sauce, pie and pickles. Not for jelly.	Fair keeping quality.

*Includes only extreme southeastern portion of South Dakota along the Sioux River and Missouri River and favored portions of northern Black Hills.

These three following varieties are recent introductions from the Northern Great Plains Field Station, Mandan, North Dakota. They have not yet fruited at the South Dakota Experiment Station or at the Substations. It is believed they may be well adapted to central and northern South Dakota. They are suggested for trial at this time. Descriptions are provided by W. A. Oitto, horticulturist, Northern Great Plains Field Station.

Variety	Season of Use	Characteristics	Uses	Remarks
Garrison (Duchess x Starking)	September	Medium size, attractive all red summer apple with darker red stripes. Crisp, juicy, subacid with some flavor of Delicious.	Excellent out of hand, good for salad and sauce.	Hardy, vigorous growing tree. Has not been widely tested.
Killand (McIntosh x Dolgo)	September to April	Medium to small in size. Well colored orange-red striped apple. Firm, crisp, juicy, tart-subacid with excellent flavor which holds up until late spring. A good storage apple.	Excellent out of hand and for pie and sauce.	Hardy, moderate growing tree. Tends to bear heavily and fruit may be small on older trees. Has not been widely tested.
Thorberg (Duchess x Starking)	November to April	Medium to large. Attractive red with darker red stripes. Crisp, juicy, tart when picked but becomes mellow after period of storage with some flavor of Delicious. Retains flavor until late spring. Very good storage apple.	Excellent out of hand after a period of storage. Very good for pie and sauce.	Hardy, moderate growing tree. Has not been widely tested.