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# FRUIT VARIETIES FOR HOME PLANTING\*



Climatic conditions of Washington encourage the growing of some kinds of fruit for home use almost anywhere in the state. But some fruits grow better in some parts of the state than in others. Each person must select the kinds and varieties that are adapted to his locality. By careful selection, anyone who enjoys caring for fruit plants can have a successful home fruit planting. The fruit garden can be a source of pride and pleasure as well as a source of garden fresh fruit.

## Tree Fruits

### Apples

Apples are the most universally grown tree fruit of the state. There are a few areas in which apples cannot be grown. Some varieties are extremely hardy and some are grown solely or mainly for their ornamental value. Apple trees can be made to enhance the landscape arrangement of the home.

### Pears

Pears, like apples, are adapted to a wide variety of soil and climatic conditions. They can be grown in practically all parts of the state. Varieties are somewhat limited, but new ones are becoming available.

### Prunes and Plums

Prunes can be grown in nearly all parts of the state. Of the Japanese plums only hardy varieties are suitable for the colder areas.

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### Cherries

Sour cherries can be grown in nearly all parts of the state, but sweet cherries are limited to the milder areas. Even the hardier varieties of sweet cherries are not suitable for some of the cold areas. Insect and disease pests and damaging rains discourage the growing of sweet cherries in some parts of the coastal region.

### Peaches

Even though there is a long list of peach varieties, there are many areas of the state to which this fruit is not adapted. Because the trees are only semi-hardy, peaches are not suitable for the cold areas. They grow well in those parts of the state where the winter temperature is mild and the light is intense. The coastal region, because of diffuse light and a lack of heat units, is limited mainly to early and midseason varieties.

### Apricots

Apricots are limited mainly to central and eastern Washington. They are dependable and grow to perfection in the mild parts of these areas.

### Filberts

Filberts are confined mainly to the coastal region. In other parts of the state, winter temperatures often injure the trees. This crop requires very special attention to pollination.

### English Walnuts

This crop is confined mainly to the coastal region. The southern part of this area is more suitable than the northern part. The trees are only semi-hardy, but often come back rapidly after having been frozen down. Many trees found in eastern and central Washington are regrowths from sprouts, following a freeze.

## Small Fruits

### Strawberries

Strawberries are the most universally grown small fruit crop of the state. There is almost no area for which there is not a suitable variety.

### Red Raspberries

Red raspberries are almost as universal as strawberries, but they grow exceptionally well in the coastal region. There are varieties especially well adapted to this area.

### Black Raspberries

As far as soil and climatic conditions are concerned, black raspberries are adapted to a wide variety of conditions. Unfortunately, most of the main varieties are susceptible to diseases which at the present time limit the planting of this crop.

### Blackberries

Blackberries are not as popular as strawberries or raspberries. The Evergreen blackberry is limited to the coastal region because of its tenderness, but many of the other sorts can be grown in other parts of the state also.

### Dewberries and Hybrids

These crops are limited mainly to the milder areas of the coastal region. They are not dependable in the colder regions.

### Cranberries

Cranberries are limited to those parts of the coastal region in which soil conditions are suitable. They grow well on acid peat soils, but can be grown on sandy or mineral soil if other conditions are favorable. Moisture requirements are exacting.

### Gooseberries and Currants

These crops can be grown in nearly all parts of the state. Insect and disease control is a major item.

### Grapes

Grapes prefer intense sunlight and considerable summer heat. For this reason, the production of grapes in Washington is limited mainly to the south-central area. In the coastal region, the lack of heat and brilliant sunshine virtually eliminates midseason and late varieties. For the colder regions east of the Cascades, only hardy varieties are suitable. Most European varieties are semi-hardy to tender. Only the hardiest of these are suitable for even the milder areas of the state.

## The Size of the Home Fruit Planting

The fruit planting need not be large. Many home orchards in Washington are too large. For the average family, three or four fruit trees, 100 strawberry plants, six grape vines, 10 raspberry plants, and two or three of each gooseberry and current plants are enough.

## Condense the Fruit Planting

Planting one standard tree of each of several varieties you want may require too much space but this need not keep you from developing a fruit planting. There are several ways to condense the fruit into a unit that will provide gardening pleasure and the desired fruit with a minimum of space, effort and expense.

### Dwarf Trees

Fruit trees are dwarfed by grafting onto special rootstocks and by using interstems of certain dwarfing stocks. Satisfactory dwarf apple and pear trees are available from many commercial nurseries. The same degree of success has not

been obtained in producing dwarf trees of any of the other fruits. So much success has been obtained with apples and pears that dwarf trees of these fruits can be recommended for home planting.

Size-controlling apple rootstocks are usually divided into four groups. These groups are:

Very dwarf - 8 to 10 feet high; about one-fourth the size of standard tree; usually consists of a common variety like Jonathan propagated onto Malling IX (M. IX) rootstock.

Semi-dwarf - about 15 feet high; about one-half the size of standard tree; usually consists of a common variety propagated onto M. VII, M. 26 or Malling Merton 106 (M.M. 106) rootstock.

Semi-standard - about 15 to 18 feet high; about two-thirds the size of standard tree; includes M. II, M.M. 111, M.M. 104.

Standard - 18 to 20 feet high.

Trees remain dwarf only as long as their roots are confined to the dwarfing rootstocks. (Interstem trees excepted) Trees planted deeply enough to permit roots to develop above the graft eventually lose their dwarfness. The graft union must be above the soil line.

When purchasing dwarf trees, specify the kind of dwarf you want. Don't just ask for dwarf trees. For example, if you want a very dwarf Gravenstein apple tree ask for Gravenstein propagated on M. IX.

### Multiple Trees

Placing several varieties on one tree is practical for those fruits whose trees are large. These include apples, pears and especially sweet cherries. There is almost no limit to the number of varieties you can put on one tree, but five or six on a standard apple or sweet cherry tree will furnish average family requirements of each variety. When placing several varieties on a tree, select those that will provide fruit successively throughout the season. Placing several varieties on one tree provides cross pollination, which is necessary for certain varieties. Top-working can best be started after the second or third growing season. At this stage you can select wide-angled and well-spaced branches for budding or grafting. Details for this operation are given in Extension Bulletin 442, available at your county Extension office. Because some varieties tend to outgrow others, the strong varieties must be held back by pruning, or bending. Keeping the various varieties growing in proper relation to each other is very necessary. Otherwise you end up with a tree of essentially one variety.

### Top Work Good Varieties Onto Trees of Poor Varieties

Many apple trees in Washington home orchards are of undesirable varieties. These can be top-worked to choice varieties or replaced with small trees. Extension Bulletin 442 tells how to top-work trees.

### The Location of the Fruit Planting

Where you locate your fruit planting is very important. Planting fruit trees in the vegetable garden area soon makes this area unsuitable for vegetables. The trees often produce too much shade and keep the vegetables from getting needed moisture. The most satisfactory plan, if space is available, is to plant the fruit trees by themselves where they receive full exposure to sunlight. Also, they can be tucked into the landscape plan to excellent advantage.

### Pollination

Some varieties require cross pollination. In the list of recommended varieties those requiring cross pollination are marked with an asterisk. With a few exceptions, any other variety is a suitable pollinizer. Extension Bulletin 342, besides giving details about various pollination techniques, lists pollinizers for varieties needing cross pollination.

### Fruit Thinning

Some fruit trees tend to bear a heavy crop one year and a light crop or none the next. This tendency to bear biennially is more pronounced in some varieties than in others. The Yellow Transparent and Golden Delicious apples are examples of varieties that tend to bear biennially. You can prevent it by thinning early and keeping the tree from bearing too heavily. Or, you can make one-half of a tree bear one year and the other half the next. To do this, remove all the blossoms from one half during the "on" year and thin the other half as described in the next paragraph.

Apple thinning, to be most effective, must be done within 30 days after full bloom. Even earlier is better, the earlier it is done, the more effective it is. You can thin as soon as the petals drop or earlier. Thinning when the fruits are small, although harder, is worth the trouble. When thinning, remove the small, deformed and damaged fruits and save the large ones. Space apples and pears the equivalent of six to ten inches apart. (The more vigorous the tree, the closer the fruit can be.) To do this on trees with a heavy fruit set you must remove all fruits from some spurs, and leave only one per spur on others. But on trees with a very light fruit set, leave two fruits on some spurs.

Varieties Listed in Approximate Order of Ripening  
\*Require Cross pollination

Western Washington

Yellow Transparent (summer)  
Red Melba (late summer)  
Early McIntosh (early fall)  
\*Red or Standard Gravenstein (early fall)  
King (early winter)  
Golden Delicious (early winter)

Eastern Washington

Lodi (similar to, but bigger than)  
Transparent)  
Duchess (summer)  
\*Beacon (summer)  
Red June (summer)  
\*Tydeman Red (summer)  
\*McIntosh (fall)  
Red Wealthy (fall)  
Jonathan (fall, early winter)  
\*Spartan (winter)  
\*Delicious (Spur type and non-spur  
type strains) (winter)  
Golden Delicious (Spur type and non-  
spur type strains) (winter)  
Rome Beauty (winter)  
Yellow Newtown (winter)  
\*Winesap (winter)

APPLESCRAB APPLES

Transcendent  
Dolgo  
Hopa (ornamental)  
Sundog (ornamental)  
Almey (ornamental)

Transcendent  
Dolgo  
Hopa (ornamental)  
Sundog (ornamental)  
Almey (ornamental)

PEARS

\*Bartlett  
\*Comice  
\*Anjou  
Winter Nelis

\*Bartlett  
\*Seckel  
\*Anjou  
Packham's Triumph  
\*Comice

QUINCE

Meech

Meech

PEACHES

Redhaven (early August, semi-free,  
yellow flesh)  
Rochester or Pacific Gold (yellow,  
mid-August)  
Veteran (early September, freestone)

Earlired (7 weeks before Elberta)  
Dixired (semi-cling, 6 weeks before  
Elberta)  
Sunhaven (6 weeks before Elberta)  
Redhaven (5 weeks before Elberta,  
freestone when ripe)  
Redglobe (3 weeks before Elberta,  
good canner or shipper, free-  
stone)

Western WashingtonEastern WashingtonPEACHES

Early Elberta (Gleason strain, 5 days before Elberta, freestone, good canner)  
 \*J.H. Hale (3 days before Elberta, standard shipper, freestone)  
 Elberta (freestone, standard canner)  
 Gold Medal (with Elberta, good canner, freestone)  
 Rio Oso Gen (10 days after Elberta, good freezers, (freestone))

APRICOTS

\*Earliril (one week before Riland, tree very hardy, early blooming but frost hardy, processor)  
 \*Riland (10 days before Tilton, tree hardy, attractive, ripens from inside out)  
 Blenril (10 days before Tilton, tree hardy, frost hardy, medium size, highly blushed, very high quality)  
 \*Perfection (one week before Tilton, hardy, frost tender, large)  
 Sun-Glo (one week before Tilton, orange, tree hardy, frost hardy, glossy, medium size)  
 Wenatchee (Moorpark) (few days before Tilton, orange, large, medium hardy)  
 Tilton (mid to late July, tree tender, productive, processor)

EUROPEAN PLUMS

Richards Early Italian (Richards strain, 10-14 days before Italian prune)  
 Italian (blue, September)  
 Green Gage (late, good for canning)  
 Damson (small blue, good for jam)

Richards Early Italian (Richards strain, 10-14 days before Italian prune)  
 Italian prune (late August to early September)  
 Stanley (with Italian prune, heavy producer, hardy)  
 President (late)

JAPANESE PLUMS

Methley (very early, blue-purple, red fleshed, resembles Santa Rosa)

\*Santa Rose (red fleshed)  
 \*Burmosa  
 \*Redheart (excellent pollinizer)

Western Washington

Beauty (early, red)  
 \*Duarte (late, purple, red flesh)

\*Black Tartarian (good pollinizer)  
 \*Royal Ann  
 \*Bing  
 \*Republican (good pollinizer)  
 \*Van (dark, lustrous, good pollinizer, resistant to cracking)  
 \*Lambert

Montmorency (red, midseason, the variety commonly grown)

Sumner  
 Washington  
 Willamette  
 Fairview

Munger  
 Cumberland

Aurora (early)  
 Marion (midseason, thornless Youngberry)  
 Cascade (early)  
 Thornless Loganberry (midseason)  
 Boysenberry (midseason)  
 Chehalem (midseason for Clark and lower Cowlitz counties)

Eastern WashingtonJAPANESE PLUMS

\*Nubiana  
 \*Shiro (yellow)  
 \*Larodo  
 \*Clímax  
 \*Elephant Heart (large, red fleshed)

SWEET CHERRIES (all require pollinizers)

\*Rainier (white, large, hardy)  
 \*Royal Ann (white)  
 \*Chinook (dark, 4 to 10 days before Bing)  
 \*Bing (dark)  
 \*Van (dark, lustrous, good pollinizer for Bing, Lambert, Royal Ann)  
 \*Lambert (dark)

SOUR CHERRIES

Early Richmond (red)  
 Montmorency (red, variety commonly grown)  
 English Morello (fruit remains dark after canning and in pies)

RED RASPBERRIES

Sumner  
 Latham  
 Willamette  
 September (fall bearer)  
 Canby

BLACK RASPBERRIES

Munger  
 Cumberland  
 Morrison

DEWBERRIES AND HYBRIDS

Boysenberry (for protected areas)



Western WashingtonEastern WashingtonBLACKBERRIES

Thornless Evergreen

Eldorado

Texas

Darrow

GRAPES

Seneca (white)

Ontario (white)

Campbell (Island Belle, blue)

Diamond (white)

Worden (blue)

Van Buren (blue)

Buffalo (blue)

Csaba (white)

Schuyler (blue)

Cardinal (Large, red)

Interlaken Seedless (white)

Van Buren (blue)

Seneca (white)

Perlette (white, seedless)

Delight (white, seedless)

Buffalo (blue)

Campbell (blue)

Alden (black)

Black Monukka (black)

Chasselas Ciotat (ornamental, white)

Deleware (red)

Concord (blue)

Steuben (blue)

BLUEBERRIES

Earliblue (early)

Berkley

Bluecrop (early to midseason)

Concord (early to midseason)

Stanley (early to midseason)

Pemberton (midseason to late)

Dixi (late)

GOOSEBERRIES

Oregon Champion

Poorman

Oregon Champion

Poorman

CURRENTS

Perfection

Wilder

Red Lake

Perfection

STRAWBERRIES

Marshall (midseason)

Northwest (late)

Columbia (late, commercial freezing,  
adapted to heavy soils)

Puget Beauty (midseason)

Red Rich (everbearer)

Earlidawn (susceptible to verti-  
cilium)

Pocahontas

Puget Beauty

Marshall

Northwest

Midway

Western Washington

Eastern Washington

STRAWBERRIES

Cascade

Shasta

Gem, Superfection, Brilliant (ever-  
bearer)

Red Rich (everbearer)

Twentieth Century (everbearer)

Ogallala (everbearer)