

Best Fruit Varieties for Puget Sound Bio-region



Arranged in order of maturity

(Apple lists by Robert A. Norton, revised 2021 by Sam Benowitz)

E=Early M=Mid L=Late

(Cox) = Cox type (R) = Russet Type

BEST EATERS Connoisseur's Choice: best flavored eating.

Secondary factors: production, pest susceptibility, color

Karmijn ML

Honeycrisp EM

Alkmene E (Cox)

Fameuse EM

Cherry Cox M (Cox)

Early Fuji M

Jonagold M

COOK'S CHOICE Best for cooking – pie, sauce, baking, cider.

Gravenstein I (problems)

Bramley L

Elstar EM

Karmijn de Sonnaville M (Cox)

Jonagold ML

Belle de Boskoop L

Twenty Ounce ML

King L

LAID-BACK ORCHARDIST Easy care; disease resistant, good yield are the primary factors.

William's Pride E (gets mildew)

Akane EM

Ashmeads Kernal

Liberty M (gets mildew)

Pristine E

Spartan ML

Enterprise L

Belmac L

Centennial Crabapple VE

Chehalis M (Mildew)

Greensleeves M

Ellison's Orange M

Bardsey L

HERITAGE VARIETIES Introduced before 1920

Ashmeads Kernal M

Yellow Transparent E
Gravenstein E
King, Tompkins M
Esopus Spitzenburg L
Roxbury Russet VL
Newtown Pippin L
Brown Russet L

BEST KEEPERS

Early Fuji M
Karmijn de Sonnaville ML (Cox)
Melrose L
Newton Pippin

APPLES THAT RAISE A RED FLAG

Gala	Scab susceptible
Golden Delicious	Scab susceptible
Red Delicious	Scab susceptible
Granny Smith	Too late for most areas
Mutsu	Too late for most areas
Yellow Newtown	Too late for most areas
Braeburn	Too late for most areas
Cripps Pink (Pink Lady)	Too late for most areas
Cox's Orange Pippin	Difficult to grow – cracks, scab
Ginger Gold	Highly scab susceptible
Goldrush	Too late, shrivels, acid
Northern Spy	Great flavor, keeper. To late. Often won't ripen.
Cosmic Crisp	Excellent flavor. We don't know yet if it reliably ripens throughout Western Washington

European Summer Pears *Pick in July*

Bella di Guigno	Three inch fruit rich, buttery highly productive.
Ubileen	Large, tasty and productive

European Fall Pears

Red Clapp's Favorite	Late Aug. A red-skinned, productive, light sweet flavor.
Orcas	Early Sept. Large, canning, drying, eating, sweet flavor, resistant.
Rescue	Mid Sept. Resistant, large, red, sweet canning, eating.
Bartlett	Mid Sept. Aromatic, eating, canning, gets pear scab.
Blake's Pride	Mid Sept. Juicy, buttery, flavorful
Harrow Delight	Mid Sept. Heavy producer, scab resistant, excellent flavor.
Stutgarter Gieshirtle	Mid Aug. Early, small, sweet, firm eating, trees small, productive.
Gem	Mid Sept. Russet, good flavor, large size

European Winter pears *Pick in September-October, store for 3 to 4 months*

Seckel	Mid Sept. Sweet rich flavor, small size. Shorter storage.
--------	---

Concorde	Mid Sept. Good flavor, stores well, productive.
Comice	Mid to late Sept. Dessert, sweet, very juicy, stores well.
Conference	Late Sept. Dessert, russet, sweet flavor, cooking, late keeper.
Bosc	Late Sept. Dessert, russet, buttery flavor, baking, late keeper.
Honeysweet	Oct. Similar to Seckel, larger, sweet, good flavor, productive.
Johantorp	Oct. Great keeper. Flavorful. From Sweden
Suij	Oct. Pick while hard, will keep many months.

Asian Pears

	Asian Pears require cross pollination.
Shinseiki	Yellow skin. Old time variety. A heavy reliable producer.
Yoinashi	Russet skin. Heavy cropper, tolerates pseudomonas. Butterscotch flavor.
Chojuro	Traditional favorite. Russet skin, butterscotch flavor.
Mishirasu	A hit at the station. Huge size, flavorful, brown skin with orange dots.

Japanese, hybrid plums

	<i>Most plums require cross-pollination. More spreading habit.</i>
Methley	Late July. Dark red skin & flesh, juicy, sweet, productive. Self fertile.
Early Golden	Mid July. Pink, yellow skin, sweet juicy, productive, self fertile.
Beauty	July to early August. Red skin, rich flavor but only lasts a few days.
Shiro	Aug. Yellow skin & flesh, large, juicy, mild sweet flavor productive,.
Hollywood	Aug. Red skin & Flesh, medium, ornamental, red foliage.
Obilnaja	Aug. Red, yellow, small, sweet, vigorous, productive, jam, jelly.

European plums

	<i>Unless noted, requires cross-pollination. SF signifies self fertile.</i>
Early Laxton	July Yellow skin, yellow flesh, sweet, small, productive, vigorous.
Kuban Comet	July Purple when ripe, round two inch fruit. Tasty very productive. Sf.
Imperial Epineuse	Aug. Purple skin, yellow flesh, flavor, med., productive, reliable.
Italian	Aug. Blue skin, yellow flesh, medium, sweet, drying, canning. Sf.
Mirabelle de Nancy	Aug. Yellow skin & flesh, small sweet culinary, productive.
Seneca	Aug. Reddish purple, yellow flesh, large eating, drying, canning.
Mt. Royal	Aug. Superior, round Italian. Very productive for eating, drying. Sf.
Victoria	Sept. Purple-blue, yellow flesh, med., flavorful, productive, thin, Sf.
Purple Gage	Aug. Purple-red, yellow, med., firm, sweet, juicy, productive.
Schoolhouse	Sept. Yellow, yellow, large, oblong, sweet, free stone, prod., thin.
Reine Claude Doree	Sept. Most flavorful of the Gage plums. Small, yellow green skin.
Blue's Jam	Sept. Super productive small purple skin, Damson type, canning. Sf.
Pozegaca	Sept. Super productive oval purple skin, for canning, brandy. Sf.

Sweet Cherry self-fruitful

	<i>Rain cracking damages crop, entry for fungus rots.</i>
Black Gold	July. New Black, less productive, good for only one variety.
White Gold	July. Only "White" flesh self-fruitful, red blushed skin, prod., sweet.
Lapins	July. Sweet black cherry, very productive on Giesela 5, winner.
Vandalay	July. Dark red sweet, resists canker, good pollinizer, very productive.
Tehranivee	July. Black red sweet, firm, avoids cracking, very productive.

Sweet cherry non-self-fruitful

Early Burlat	June. Deep red, similar to Bing but softer in texture, birds prob.
Hartland	July. Very productive black cherry with good flavor; softer texture.
Kristin	July. Low cracking small, sweet, firm and of good quality.
Bing	July. Standard for dark sweet, top rated for quality; can crack.
Rainier	July. High quality, red over yellow, white flesh, can set poorly.
Angela	July. Sweet dark red, very reliable, softer, low cracking, small.
Hudson	August. Dark red, slow to get into production. Last variety.

Tart (pie) cherry

Surefire	<i>Self-fertile, less susceptible to frost damage, rain cracking and rot.</i> July. Very young bearing age, very prod., Bright red, tart, med.
Montmorency	July. Classic pie cherry, reliably productive.

Peach

Frost	Peach leaf curl resistant after several years
Salish Summer	White flesh, flavorful, thrives in western Washington. Was known as Q1-8 but was renamed by Bob and Carol Norton.