

2020
Avery County Cooperative Extension Center
Plant Sale Catalog



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2020
Avery County Cooperative Extension Center
Plant Sale

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Plant Sale General Information



Welcome to the 2020 annual Avery County Cooperative Extension Center Plant Sale. We look forward to providing the community with plants, which keeps Avery County the traditional rural mountain county it has always been. In keeping with that mission, we focus on **Southern Heirloom Apples, Blueberries, and Brambles**. These are the traditional fruits of Avery County and our ancestors. The plants naturally do well in our climate and require a minimum of pesticide input. We are confident they will do well for you. Please utilize the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service publications to make the most of your plants. These plants should give you many years of traditional fruit for your family. The educational publications are also located on the Avery County Cooperative Extension Center website at:

<http://avery.ces.ncsu.edu>

Please feel free to contact the Avery County Cooperative Extension Center at 828-733-8270, if you have questions regarding the plant sale information contained here. **Payment is expected at the time of ordering.** **WE DO NOT ACCEPT DEBIT OR CREDIT CARDS.**

The staff expects to distribute the plant orders on Thursday-Friday, April 16th and 17th, 2020.

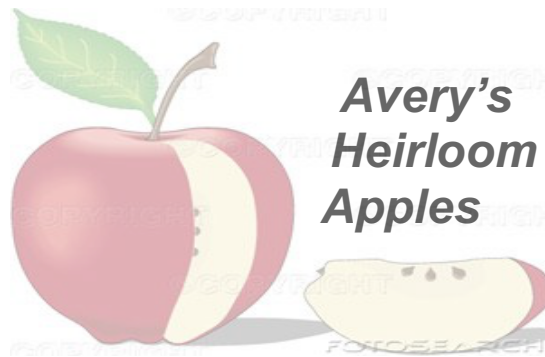
Plant orders will be distributed from the Avery County Cooperative Extension Center (Heritage Park Fair Grounds) at 661 Vale Road, Newland, N.C. You will be contacted by phone and/or by email to confirm the pick-up date and time.

Plant orders must be received by **Wednesday, April 8, 2020**. We would like to be able to guarantee that supplies of these varieties will hold out, but we cannot. So, the earlier you place your order, the better.



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We have had a great interest in Heirloom Apples in our area. Through the help of many local folks, we have found a great number of the heirloom apple varieties that have been in Avery County since the early 1800s. Along with history and production help we are able to provide orchard ready trees identical to the historic apples of our ancestors in Avery County.

Most of the apple trees in the sale are grafted onto M-111 semi-dwarf rootstock. Your tree will reach about 15-20 feet in height, and need to be planted 20 feet apart. The apple trees are two years old and will be approximately 4 feet tall at the time of planting.

M-111 rootstock qualities include:

- Good disease resistant
- Doing well in a wide range of soil types
- Can withstand wet spells and moderate drought conditions fairly well
- Will usually produce fruit in 5-6 years (5 years sooner than standard rootstock)

****Honey Crisp (Dwarf)** are grown on *M111* rootstock with an *M-9* interstock to add dwarfing to the tree; requires staking.

****Crimson Crisp** are grown on *Geneva 935* rootstock and will require staking.

We recognize that many people making purchases, through this plant sale, are home-gardeners/backyard orchardists and are looking for “low input” fruit trees. In order to better facilitate this, we offer many “easy to grow” apple varieties producing good fruit with minimum pesticide use.

You will find a detailed variety of information in the “**Apple Reference Guide**”, to learn about and compare varieties. Please note that this information is based on both solid science and personal observations.



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Pollination is an important topic when growing fruit trees because many, but certainly not all varieties, require pollination from a compatible donor tree before they can bear fruit. Most apple trees need another variety to cross pollinate for optimum fruit production.

Often, the neighbor's apple trees and even seedling apple trees nearby help with this pollination.

A general rule to follow is to plant apple varieties that flower (bloom) at the same time. Some of the varieties that bloom early may stop producing enough pollen when the late blooming varieties start blooming, therefore not enough pollination occurs to produce a good apple crop. Planting an apple tree listed as a late blooming with an apple tree listed as early blooming may not give you satisfactory cross pollination.

We listed the blooming times in our Apple Reference Guide this year to give you the opportunity to choose compatible apple trees in your planting. This is only a general guideline. Blooming times are listed as Early, Early/Mid, Mid, Mid/Late and Late season. Again, expecting an early blooming apple variety and a late blooming variety to pollinate each other will be a mistake. All other combinations should be fine. If you have other apple trees planted on your property within 100-200 feet, they will certainly play into this pollination system

Some apple varieties produce **sterile** pollen. These trees are called **Triploids** and will not pollinate other trees. Triploid trees can be pollinated by other trees and produce wonderful fruit, they just cannot be depended on to pollinate your other trees. We offer three Triploid varieties this year in our plant sale; Summer Rambo, Fall Premium and Winesap Blacktwig, all three trees are excellent apples.

Please contact the Avery County Cooperative Extension Center, if you need help with the bloom times or any additional information on the pre-existing apple trees.



Apple Reference Guide

Apples	Fresh Eating	Sauce/Butter	Baking	Cider	Stores Well	Ripens	Easy to Grow	Bloom Time Season
Carolina Red June	F	E	P	P	P	July/ August	E	Early
Early Harvest	F	G	P	P	P	July/ August	G	Early
William's Favorite	E	F	?	F	F	July/ August	E	Early/Mid
** Summer Rambo	G	E	?	F	F	Aug./Sept.	E	Early
** Fall Premium	F	E	P	F	P	Sept.	E	Mid/Late
Crimson Crisp	E	G	G	G	G	Sept.	G	Mid
Honey Crisp	E	G	G	E	G	Sept.	G	Late
Hewe's Crab	P	P	P	E	F	Sept.	G	Early
Wolf River	P	E	P	P	F	Sept./Oct.	G	Mid
Spitzenburg	E	F	E	E	G	Sept./Oct.	F	Mid/Late
American Golden Russet	E	P	E	E	E	October	G	Early/Late
Goldrush	E	?	?	G	E	October	E	Mid/Late
Gragg	F	F	E	F	E	October	E	?
Northern Spy	G	G	P	E	G	October	G	Late
Yellow Bellflower	G	E	E	E	F	October	G	Early/Mid
Fallawater	E	G	P	F	G	October	E	Late
Summer Banana	E	F	G	G	G	October	G	Mid/Late
** Winesap Blacktwig	E	F	E	G	G	October	G	Mid
Virginia Beauty	E	F	E	P	E	October	G	Early/Mid
Newtown Pippin	E	F	E	G	G	October	F	Mid
Swiss Limbertwig	G	P	E	G	G	October	?	Early/Mid
<p><i>This information was gathered from many sources and should be considered as opinions.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>P = Poor F = Fair G = Good E = Excellent</i> • <i>? Indicates "Unknown"</i> • <i>**Tripliod variety – Not a good pollinator!</i> 								



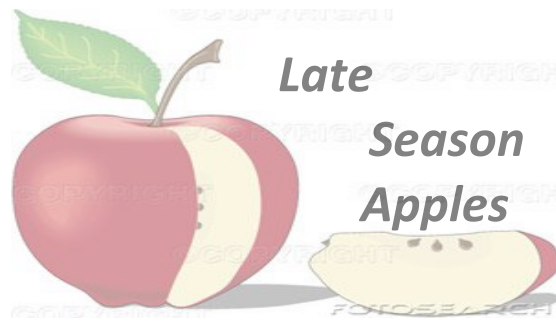
Name(s)	Time & Place of Origin	Size, Color, Taste & Texture	Qualities	Ripens
Carolina Red June (Blush June, Georgia June, Knight's Red June)	1800's Tennessee	Small to medium, dark red skin, oblong or conical, fine grained	Unique full-flavored early apple, and multi-purpose	July/August
Early Harvest	1700's Long Island, NY	Medium, pale yellow skin, tender, crisp, juicy, tangy, similar to Transparent but later ripening	Clear sauce apple with sweeter and tangier flavor than Transparent	July/August
William's Favorite (Raspberry June)	1750's Massachusetts	Conical, medium to large, bright red, absolutely beautiful early apple, firm flesh and an easy to grow	Excellent multipurpose apple, with good sweet flavor	July/August
Summer Rambo (Summer Rambour, Rambour Franc)	1600's, France In America from Colonial times, old heritage trees in Avery County	Medium to large, roundish conical oblate apple, skin is mottled with pinkish red and striped, greenish yellow flesh, tender, and very juicy and an easy to grow apple	Gourmet sauce apple, also sweet enough for fresh eating, vigorous dependable producer	August/ September

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Mid-Season Apples

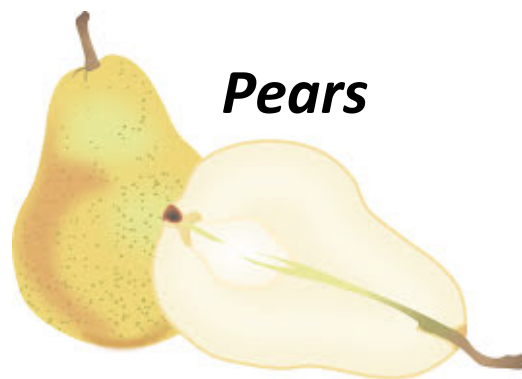
Name(s)	Time & Place of Origin	Size, Color, Taste & Texture	Qualities	Ripens
Fall Premium (Bramley Seedling)	Popular apple, found in the Hughes area, likely an English apple	Irregular oblate shape, multi-colored, primarily green with red streaks, complex flavor and easy to grow	A great English cooking apple, tart/sweet cooking and sauce apple	September
Crimson Crisp Geneva 935 (Dwarf)	1995 United States	Small to medium, very bright mid-range red over yellow, extremely crisp, sweet/sharp flavor	Approx. 10 feet tall tree with good cold hardiness, resistance to fireblight, good in storage	September
Honey Crisp MINNB42 (Dwarf)	1960's Minnesota	Medium to large, red variety, sweet, juicy, lightly crisp	Very popular, good in storage with flavor improving for 7-10 days	September
Hewe's Crab	1700's Virginia	Small, green with dull red, firm flesh & acidic	Great cider apple	September
Wolf River	1856 Wisconsin Found along the banks of the Wolf River	Very large, irregular shape, greenish-yellow with splashes and stripes of red	Prized for outstanding applesauce and apple butter	September/ October
Spitzenburg	Mid 1700's New York, Thomas Jefferson's favorite apple	Small to medium round/conical, greenish red striped skin, tree grows easily but is difficult to grow clean fruit because of disease susceptibility, <i>But well worth it!</i>	Best tasting apple, with white fine texture flesh, best dessert, apple/great pie apple, keeps shape	September/ October



<i>Name(s)</i>	<i>Time & Place of Origin</i>	<i>Size, Color, Taste & Texture</i>	<i>Qualities</i>	<i>Ripens</i>
American Golden Russet (Bullock Pippin, Rusty Coat)	1836 New Jersey	Medium uniform, gold russet apple, sweet and acidic	Late ripening, easy to grow, great cider and pie apple	October
Gold Rush	1980's Perdue Research Farm (Parents are Golden Delicious and Red Rome)	Medium, yellow with a round shape, smooth skin, and fine textured flesh	Dessert apple, sweet but complex flavor, good for fresh eating, pies and cider, bears young and heavily, high disease resistant, very easy to grow and stores well	October
Gragg	1860 Caldwell County, NC, by James Gragg	Medium to large, oblate shape, greenish-yellow skin w/ dark and bright red stripes, greenish flesh is juicy	Excellent keeper, good cooking apple and fine pie apple	October
Northern Spy	1800's East Bloomfield, N.Y.	Large, roundish, sometimes oblong, thick skin, greenish or yellow with light and dark red stripes, fine grained, tender, juicy, crisp aromatic, and spicy sub-acid	Excellent keeper, excellent for cooking, blooms about two weeks later the most apples	October
Yellow Bellflower	1800's New Jersey	Large to medium, lemon yellow skin with some red-orange blushing on the side, yellowish-white flesh is firm, crisp, juicy and aromatic	Good eating and cooking apple, flavor improves with storage	October



<i>Name(s)</i>	<i>Time & Place of Origin</i>	<i>Size, Color, Taste & Texture</i>	<i>Qualities</i>	<i>Ripens</i>
Fallawater (Mountain Pippin, Molly Whopper)	1842 Bucks County, PA	Large to very large, round to oblate, tough skin that is dull, dirty green with dull red or bronze shades and easy to grow	Very mild sweet flavor, tender, juicy flesh, great fresh eating and sauce making	October
Summer Banana	1900 Marion County, South Carolina when trademarked by J. Van Lindley Nursery in Greensboro	Medium, round conical, deep yellow skin with red spots and rough skin, stores well, and is a quick bearing apple	Very sweet, course grained, apple for fresh eating and excellent sauce	October
Winesap Blacktwig (Blacktwig, Paragon)	1842 Arkansas (known to be a seedling from a Winesap)	Large, conical shape, yellowish skin covered with dark red dots and dark red stripes, firm and juicy flesh	Actually, quite sweet, and sweeter still when stored a couple of months, fine keeping abilities and known as an incredibly good pie apple	October
Virginia Beauty	1810 Zach Safewright, of the Piper's Gap Community of Carroll County, VA	Medium to large, conical, smooth, dark red or purplish skin, fine grained and tender flesh	Classic mountain eating apple, mellow sweet floral flavor and a fine pie apple	October
Newtown Pippin (Southern Golden Pippin, Albemarle Pippin)	1666, Newtown, New York, popularized by Thomas Jefferson in Virginia in the early 1800's	Large apple, yellow in color with hints of pink at the stem end, yellowish flesh is firm, crisp, and very aromatic	Complex sweet flavor, excellent fresh eating apple, and a very good pie apple	October
Swiss Limbertwig	1700's Grown by Swiss settlers in the Cumberland Mtns.	Medium size, square compact apple, skin is somewhat russeted/to touch, mottled greenish maroon with bronze blushes	Very unusual sweet flavor, with tones of citrus, high cider potential	October



Pears

In the Fall of 2006, we searched Avery County for Historical Apples. In the process, we ran upon some old-fashioned pears. We were able to secure a variety called **Seckel pear**, or locally known as the **Honey pear**. Thomas Jefferson wrote of this pear extensively in his writings.

The two pear varieties do not require each other for pollination but will benefit from planting the two together. Pear trees available are grafted onto standard size rootstock, "OHxF97" and should reach 15/20 feet in height at maturity and need to be planted a minimum of 15 feet apart. These pear trees are 5/8-inch diameter and will arrive 4-5 feet tall.

Name(s)	Time & Place of Origin	Size, Color, Taste & Texture	Qualities	Ripens
Seckel (Honey Pear)	Heirloom pear from France, first grown at Monticello, vigorous and productive, known for extraordinary flavor	Small, reddish-brown skin, very sweet, juicy, aromatic dessert pear for fresh eating	Self-pollinating tolerant of fire blight, fresh eating, but not a good keeper	Late September
Harrow Sweet	A late season pear developed from a Bartlett in Ontario, Canada	Similar to a Bartlett with a pink blush, medium to large sweet pear, developed for short term storage, canning or freezing	Self-pollinating and a good resistance to fire blight, and often begins bearing in 3 years	Late September

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PawPaw Tree

The PawPaw tree (*Asimina triloba*) is a native fruit-bearing tree that grows in the eastern United States, from Canada to Florida, and as far west as Nebraska. The Pawpaw fruit resembles a green mango and the flavor is sometimes described as a cross between a banana, pineapple and mango.

****NOTE** DO NOT EAT SKIN AND SEEDS!!!**

PawPaws have gained popularity because of their nutritional value and because the leaves, bark and twigs produce anti-cancer and insecticidal compounds called acetogenins. The fruits ripen between late August and October. In the fall, pawpaw leaves turn golden yellow and do not drop quickly.

Pawpaw trees are considered an understory tree and reach heights of 25-30' tall. The flowers are self-incompatible, meaning they require pollen from a different cultivar to be properly fertilized therefore requiring 2 or more varieties planted.

<i>Name(s)</i>	<i>Time & Place of Origin</i>	<i>Size, Color, Taste & Texture</i>	<i>Qualities</i>	<i>Ripens</i>
Lehman's Chiffon (Grafted Variety)	Native to Eastern United States	Flavor described as cross between a banana, pineapple and mango	Nutritious and can be eaten plain or in desserts	Late August and October



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Blueberries, of course, do very well in our area. Our acidic soils are their natural home. However, care should be taken to soil sample if bushes are to be planted in a yard or garden, where lime has been applied and pH may have been raised significantly.

Blueberries are not very good self-pollinators. They will produce much better if two or more varieties are planted together.

Plants should be spaced at least 5 feet apart, and fertilized only lightly the first 2-3 years. Plants will take 3-5 years to begin producing large yields. Pick berries off the first 3 years to allow the bush to grow. All varieties offered here will reach 4-6 feet at maturity. More details are available in the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service publications.

All these varieties have may eventually produce 10 pounds or more per bush.

<i>Name(s)</i>	<i>Time & Place of Origin</i>	<i>Size, Color, Taste & Texture</i>	<i>Qualities</i>	<i>Ripens</i>
Blue Crop	Upright vigorous productive bush, very cold hardy and drought tolerant	Large, firm berry, good flavor and loose fruit clusters	Ripens early–mid season	July
Blue Ray	Upright spreading, vigorous, productive and cold hardy ornamental	Large, firm, sweet berry, with large tight clusters	Ripens early–mid season	July
Patriot	Upright spreading growth habit with good ornamental and cold hardiness	Medium to large fruit in tight clusters; Patriot can tolerate wetter soil sites	Ripens in early to late season, allow to ripen for a few weeks before picking	July thru August
Jersey	Upright vigorous growth and very cold hardy	Medium to large, strongly flavored berry and long loose clusters	Ripens late in season, and picked out for its intense flavor	August and September



Strawberries

Strawberry plants are best grown in a matted row type planting. This requires planting them approximately 18-24 inches apart; in rows at least three feet apart. In our area, full fruit production is completed the second year. **After the third year, it is recommended that the strawberry patch be re-planted. Strawberry plants are self-pollinating and therefore do not require multiple varieties.**

Successful strawberry production requires close attention to planting, weeding, fertilization and **winter mulching is most important.** Recommendations are all available in the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service publications.

<i>Name(s)</i>	<i>Time & Place of Origin</i>	<i>Size, Color, Taste & Texture</i>	<i>Qualities</i>	<i>Ripens</i>
Earliglow	A wonderful heirloom flavor is this variety's trademark, best early season variety around, and excellent for fresh eating and freezing	Uniform color, tough glossy skin, firm flesh, medium size (size tends to decrease as the season progresses), and excellent freezer	Good resistance to red stele root rot and intermediate resistance to Verticillium wilt	June
Jewel	Grows well in different locations and moderate winter hardiness	#1 mid-season variety, with consistent productivity, and excellent freezer	Firm, sweet flavored berries	Late June-July
Albion	A great ever-bearing berry (often bears fruit 12-14 weeks after planting)	Large to VL, very firm, conical berries	Excellent flavor for an ever-bearing variety	June thru August

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Raspberries and Blackberries

Raspberries and Blackberries should both be planted in rows approximately 4 feet apart. The spacing between plants and need for trellising, depends upon the variety chosen. **These berries are self-pollinating and therefore do not require multiple varieties.** All these raspberries can be grown for home garden use with little if any trellising if managed properly. Ask your County Agent.

Due to many natural occurring brambles in our area, disease problems are common in domestic plantings, but can be controlled effectively. Details regarding planting and managing raspberries and blackberries are available in the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service publications.

<i>Name(s)</i>	<i>Time & Place of Origin</i>	<i>Size, Color, Taste & Texture</i>	<i>Qualities</i>	<i>Ripens</i>
Nova	Summer bearing Red Raspberry	Medium to large berry, firm bright red with superb flavor	Nearly thornless, vigorous with upright habit	July
Prelude	Ever bearing Red Raspberry advertised as an excellent raspberry with both a spring and fall crop	Medium to large roundish berries, excellent sweet flavor, and good freezer	One or the earliest red raspberries to ripen in June, followed by another crop in August thru September	June and August
Jewel	Black Raspberry	Glossy black, large size, with a rich raspberry flavor	Excellent for jams and jellies, very popular variety, excellent yields of berries on winter hardy canes	July
Chester	Thornless Blackberry	Large, very flavorful, an excellent quality fruit	Semi-erect thornless canes, thornless blackberries, needs sheltered from cold winter winds	August





Grapes

Grapes do very well in our area and are a traditional favorite. Grapes are considered somewhat self-fruited, **but will do better when planted in pairs of different varieties.**

Grapes do take some work with trellising, regular fertilizing, and annual pruning. Each grape vine will produce a vine 20-40 feet long, and will need to be set in rows at least 6 feet apart. Our grapes vines are two-year-old vines, Graded #1, with an excellent root system. Details on grape production are available in the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service publications.

<i>Name(s)</i>	<i>Time & Place of Origin</i>	<i>Size, Color, Taste & Texture</i>	<i>Qualities</i>	<i>Ripens</i>
Concord	Developed over 150 years ago	Still sets the standard for jelly and juice making	Seeded grape, very hardy, high vigor, and disease resistance	Late September, becoming sweeter with October frosts
Niagara	Niagara County, New York	Multi-purpose grape, good for fresh eating, jelly and juice	Seeded grape, with outstanding hardiness, vigor and disease resistance	Late September October
Buffalo	1938 Cornell University	Medium size, reddish black, very sweet	Very adaptable to a diversity of sites, early ripening grape, recognized as the sweetest of its season	September
Captivator or Pink Sugar Grape	We believe this is our "Pink Sugar Grape" based on local testing	Multi-purpose, sweet pink grape, good for fresh eating, jelly, and juice	Seeded grape, very hardy, high vigor, and shows signs of disease resistance	September

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Asparagus and Rhubarb

Asparagus does well in our area. They need to be planted in beds of at least 25 plants. The asparagus come as one-year-old, large graded crowns. Asparagus need to be spaced in shallow trenches, approximately every 18 inches, in rows 3-4 feet apart. They require 2-3 years to begin producing fully.

Rhubarb is a traditional favorite in our area and easy to grow. It needs to be planted in very well-drained ground, approximately 3 feet apart, with the top of the root division level with the soil surface. **Find a well-drained area and do not plant too deep!** With liberal fertilizing the plants should become established, and will begin to produce well in 2-3 years.

<i>Name(s)</i>	<i>Time & Place of Origin</i>	<i>Size, Color, Taste & Texture</i>	<i>Qualities</i>	<i>Ripens</i>
Jersey Knight Asparagus	Most popular variety from the New Jersey Breeding Program	Large, succulent spears	Tolerant to heavy soils	Resistant to rust, crown rot and fusarium
MacDonald Rhubarb	Excellent production characteristics	Vigorous, and upright growing	Large, tender stalks, with acceptable red color	Resistance to root rot problems

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