

2021
Avery County Cooperative Extension Center
Plant Sale Catalog



Avery County Cooperative Extension Center
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2021
Avery County Cooperative Extension Center
Plant Sale

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Plant Sale General Information



Welcome to the 2021 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 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.** *If paying with cash, please have exact amount of order. WE DO NOT ACCEPT DEBIT OR CREDIT CARDS.*

The staff expects to distribute the plant orders on Thursday - Friday, April 15th and 16th, 2021.

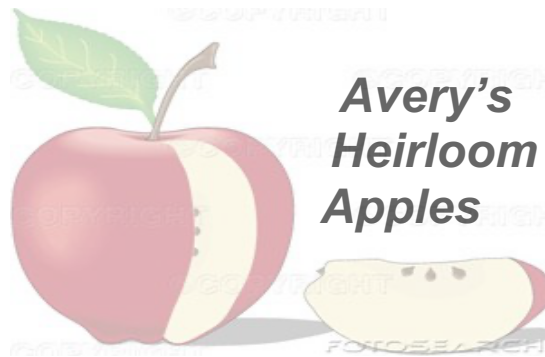
Plant orders will be distributed from the Avery County Cooperative Extension Center (Heritage Park Fair Grounds) at 661 Vale Road, Newland, N.C. You will be contacted by phone and/or by email to confirm the pick-up date and time.

Plant orders must be received by **Wednesday, April 7, 2021**. We would like 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 significant 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)

****Honeycrisp (Dwarf) and Golden Delicious (Dwarf)** are grown on *Geneva 202 (G202)* rootstock.

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) simultaneously. 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 allow you 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 may be a mistake. All other combinations should be sufficient. 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 excellent 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, Fallawater, 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.

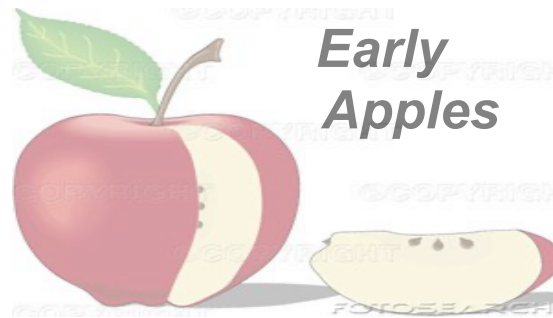


Apple Reference Guide

Apples	Fresh Eating	Sauce/Butter	Baking	Cider	Stores Well	Ripens	Easy to Grow	Bloom Time Season
Yellow Transparent	F	E	P	P	P	July	E	Early
Carolina Red June	F	E	P	P	P	July/ August	E	Early
William's Favorite	E	F	?	F	F	July/ August	E	Early/Mid
** Summer Rambo	G	E	?	F	F	Aug./Sept.	E	Early
<i>Jarrett</i>	G	?	?	G	?	Sept.	E	?
Honeycrisp	E	G	G	E	G	Sept.	G	Late
Golden Delicious	E	P	F	G	E	Sept./Oct.	E	Mid/Late
McIntosh	E	G	E	G	G	Sept./Oct.	G	Early/Mid
Golden Pippin	E	F	G	G	G	Sept./Oct.	G	Mid
Spitzenburg	E	F	E	E	G	Sept./Oct.	F	Mid/Late
Sheepnose	G	F	G	?	F	Sept./Oct	G	Late
Grimes Golden	G	G	P	P	G	Sept./Oct.	G	Mid
Junaluska	G	F	G	G	?	October	G	Early/Mid
Goldrush	E	?	?	G	E	October	E	Mid/Late
**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
Swiss Limbertwig	G	P	E	G	G	October	E	Early/Mid

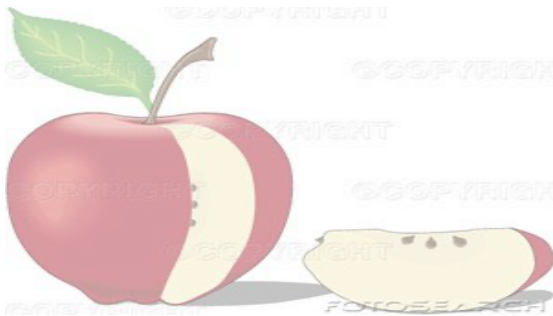
This information was gathered from many sources and should be considered as opinions.

- *P = Poor F = Fair G = Good E = Excellent*
- *? Indicates "Unknown"*
- ****Triploid variety – Not a good pollinator!**

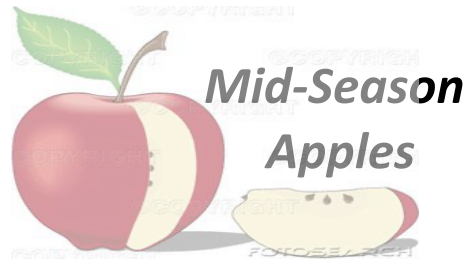


Early Apples

Name(s)	Time & Place of Origin	Size, Color, Taste & Texture	Qualities	Ripens
Yellow Transparent	Before 1870 Russia	Medium, round, green, cream-colored flesh	Excellent sauce apple	July
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 multipurpose	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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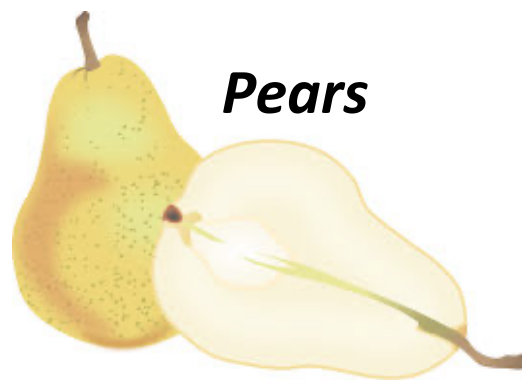


Name(s)	Time & Place of Origin	Size, Color, Taste & Texture	Qualities	Ripens
Jarrett	Heirloom apple grown in Watauga County, NC for generations	Small to medium, conical shape, sweet flavor, flesh is yellow & turns bright red as it ripens, tender, fine-grained and juicy	Dessert apple with a strikingly full sweet flavor	September
Honeycrisp (G202 rootstock) (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
Golden Delicious (G202 rootstock) (Dwarf)	1890's West, VA Believed to be a seedling from a cross of Grimes Golden/Reinette	Medium, round-conical shape, yellow-gold, excellent flavor, crisp & juicy	Fresh eating, cooking, juicing, drying	September/ October
McIntosh	Early 1800's Canada	Medium, roundish, thin skin, crimson red color with white flesh, crisp & very juicy	Fresh eating, cooking, cider	September/ October
Golden Pippin	1629 Sussex, England	Large apple, yellowish flesh is firm, crisp, and aromatic	Complex sweet flavor, excellent fresh eating apple, cider, very good pie apple	September/ October
Esopus Spitzenburg	Mid 1700's New York, Thomas Jefferson's favorite apple	Small to medium round/conical, greenish-red striped skin, grows easily but is difficult to grow clean fruit because of disease susceptibility, But well worth it!	Best tasting apple, white fine texture flesh, best dessert apple/great pie apple, keeps shape	September/ October
Red Sheepnose	1700's Connecticut	Oblong conical, medium-dark green turning dull red, greenish-white flesh, and firm	Excellent flavor, fresh eating, and good pie apple	September/ October
Grimes Golden	1700's Brooks County, WV	Medium to large, round to oblong, yellow skin, very sweet, aromatic, tender, crisp, juicy, yellowish-orange flesh	Good keeper	September/ October



Late Season Apples

Name(s)	Time & Place of Origin	Size, Color, Taste & Texture	Qualities	Ripens
Junaluska	Early 1800's Cherokee, NC	Medium-large, distinctive irregular globular form, greenish with orange, red blotches, tender yellow flesh, crispy, moderately juicy, pleasant subacid flavor	Good fresh eating and cooking, stores well	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
Fallawater (Mountain Pipper, 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's Marion County, South Carolina, 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
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 in diameter and will arrive 4-5 feet tall.

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

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PawPaw Tree

The PawPaw tree (*Asimina trilobal*) 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, requiring two or more varieties planted. The selected varieties are not grafted.

<i>Name(s)</i>	<i>Time & Place of Origin</i>	<i>Size, Color, Taste & Texture</i>	<i>Qualities</i>	<i>Ripens</i>
Selected Varieties 3 yr. old natives	<i>Native to Eastern United States</i>	<i>Flavor described as a cross between a banana, pineapple, and mango</i>	<i>Nutritious and can be eaten plain or in desserts</i>	<i>Late August and October</i>



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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 for the first 2-3 years. Plants will take 3-5 years to begin producing large yields. Pick berries off the first three 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>Growth Habit</i>	<i>Size, Color, Taste & Texture</i>	<i>Qualities</i>	<i>Ripens</i>
Duke	<i>Upright spreading 4'-6', very productive, high yielding, & cold hardy</i>	<i>Medium to large, light blue color, very firm, good flavor, slightly tart</i>	<i>Ripens early, flowers late avoiding spring freezes</i>	<i>Late June – Early July</i>
Blue Crop	<i>Upright vigorous, productive bush, very cold hardy and drought tolerant</i>	<i>Large, firm berry, good flavor and loose fruit clusters</i>	<i>Ripens early, mid-season</i>	<i>July</i>
Blue Gold	<i>Grows compact, spreading somewhat, 4'-6', highly productive & cold hardy</i>	<i>Medium size, sweet berries, large clusters</i>	<i>Ripens mid-season, most berries ripen at same time</i>	<i>July</i>
Patriot	<i>Upright spreading growth habit with good ornamental and cold hardiness</i>	<i>Medium to large fruit in tight clusters; Patriot can tolerate wetter soil sites</i>	<i>Ripens in early to mid-season, allow to ripen for a few weeks before picking</i>	<i>July</i>



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

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





Grapes

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

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

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Asparagus and Rhubarb

Asparagus does well in our area. The asparagus comes as one-year-old, large graded crowns. Asparagus needs 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 begin producing well in 2-3 years.

Name(s)	Traits		
Millennium Asparagus	<i>Excellent yield</i>	<i>Great taste, large tight-tipped, uniform spears</i>	<i>Grows well in all soil types, tolerates cooler springs & cold winters</i>
MacDonald Rhubarb	<i>Excellent production characteristics</i>	<i>Vigorous and upright growing</i>	<i>Large, tender stalks, with acceptable red color, resistance to root rot problems</i>

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