

# Growing Backyard Fruits & Berries

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3	Minimum Maintenance – simple pruning, usually not more than one pest control application, adaptable to soil conditions, may need protection from birds/chipmunks	Currant, elderberry, filbert, gooseberry, serviceberry, strawberry
3	Moderate Maintenance – Pruning, 1-5 pest control application, protection from rabbits	Raspberry, blackberry, blackberry, cherry, Apricot
č	High Maintenance - >5 pest control	Apple, grapes, pears, peach, plums













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## Irrigation

- First year of planting 1-2" (3-5 gallons) of water weekly
- Regular watering from planting until leaf fall
- As trees gets older, their roots explore larger volume of soil and irrigation becomes less critical







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**M.9** 



### Selecting Apple Rootstocks

- Dwarf M.9, Bud.9, G.11, G.65 (6-10 ft height, 25-30% size, spacing 75-100 Square feet)
- Semi-dwarf M.26, M.7, G.30, G935 (12-20 ft height, 40-50% size, spacing 125-200 Square
- Semi-vigorous MM.106, MM.111

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### Apple Cultivar Selection Factors to Consider

- Two cultivars for cross pollination
- Intended use fresh eating, baking, processing
- Hardiness (Rome Beauty, Jonathon not hardy for WI) and maturity (ripen by mid-October; Fuji, Granny Smith require 180 days from bloom to harvest and in WI it does not mature)
- Disease resistance (apple scab, fire blight)
- Storage quality
- · learningstore.extension.wisc.edu
  - Apple Cultivars for Wisconsin (A2105),
    Home Fruit Cultivars for Southern Wisconsin (A2582)

### Two Scion Types

- Spur Type Strain Fruits are borne on short shoots called spurs, branches are compact in nature and are about 25% smaller than standard types, produce fruit earlier than standard types, not all spur type strain recommended for Wisconsin
- Standard Type Fruits are borne on longer shoot or intermediates





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- Honey Crisp
  Golden Delicious (spur type not recommended)
- Red Delicious (Oregon Spur, Redchief)
- Liberty
- Jonafree
- Cortland
- McIntosh (Mac Spur, RedMax)







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## Pest Management

•A2179: Apple Pest Management for Home Gardeners

•http://learningstore.extension.wisc. edu







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- the branch with a gentle upward twist.
- Takes 3-4 days for the mature fruits to ripen indoors at normal room temperature



### Growing Tart Cherries

- Rootstock Mahaleb
- Cultivars Balaton, Evans, First Editions Sweet Cherry Pie Cherry, Meteor, Montmorency, North star, Suda, Surefire, Carmine Jewel, Crimson Passion
- Self pollinating
- Ripens Mid to late July







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## **Container Planting**

- Best time for planting mid spring
- Container size 5 gallon to 55 gallon, sufficient drainage holes
- For patio settings, avoid black color container
- Best to bury containers in ground, place an inch of gravel underneath container



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#### Don't disturb the root ball

- Don't bury the root ball deep in to the container
- Apply elemental Sulphur
- Water it immediately
- Apply 2 inches of mulch using pine bark or sawdust
  Frequent light watering
- Repot every 3-4 years



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Soilless Media Recipe

• 1 part mini nugget pine bark

• 1 part perlite (optional)

1 part peat





































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- Straw 2-3"
- Apply when soil freezes (late)
- Remove in spring as leaves emerge (early)
- Spun-bonded polyester row covers