

SPARTAN

Beautiful medium-sized dark red dessert quality apple. Yellow ground almost entirely flushed a purplish-red with indistinct stripes. The surface is covered with a heavy bloom and the skin is aromatic. The very white flesh is crisp and fine-textured with a subacid flavor, similar in texture and quality to MacIntosh.

Spartan ripens mid-season, starting in early October. The apples will remain on the tree over a 2-3 week period, which means you can pick a few at a time rather than have to deal with a large harvest. This is also the best way to enjoy them because although they keep fairly well, the flavor and crispness fade in storage. If harvesting is delayed, the fruit develops a musty flavor in storage



Uses

- Flavour quality - **Good**
- Flavour style – **Sweet and aromatic**
- Good for eating **fresh, cider**
- Picking season - **October**
- Use / keeping – **moderate**

Growing

- Cropping - **Heavy**
- Fertility - **Partially self-fertile**
- Flowering group - **3**
- Good pollinator
- Fruit bearing - **Spur-bearer**
- Precocity - **Yes**
- Disease resistance - **resistant to fireblight, scab and mildew**
- Vigour - **Average growth (T2)**

How to grow Spartan apple trees

Spartan is very easy to grow in almost any climate. It crops reliably and sets heavily, but is subject to premature drop. The fruit tends to be small but thinning is very effective, and product medium to large apples.

Tree habit is upright and tidy, producing an attractive tree. The large quantity of blossom makes it a good pollinator for other apple varieties like Jonagold. Tree requires generous feedings.

Pollination partners for Spartan

Spartan is in flowering group 3. It is **partially self-fertile**, but a nearby pollination partner is beneficial. Since it flowers in the middle of the blossom season it can be pollinated by most other apple trees.

Historical details

Spartan is one of the most widely-grown of the McIntosh family of apples, which are characterised by their deep maroon colours and bright white flesh. Spartan was developed in the 1920s at the Canadian Apple Research Station in Summerland, Canada. It is probably a cross between MacIntosh and Albermarle Pippin.

