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Cooperative Extension South Dakota State University

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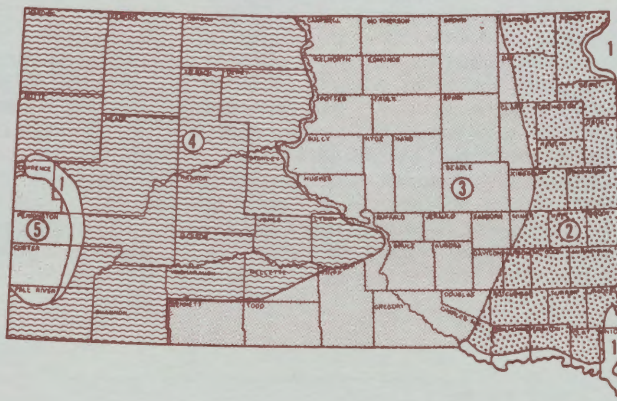
# Fruit Cultivars for South Dakota



Cooperative Extension Service  
South Dakota State University  
United States Department of Agriculture

# Fruit Cultivars for South Dakota

## FRUIT DISTRICTS



By Dr. R.M. Peterson, head of Horticulture and Forestry Department,  
and Dean Martin, Extension horticulturist

This guide has been prepared to help growers choose fruit for home planting. South Dakota has been divided into five districts (shown on map). Cultivars have been suggested by districts, but local climatic and soil variations may occur within each district.

Cultivar	Fruit Districts			
	1	2	3	4

### Apples

(listed in approximate order of maturity)

Melba	X	X	X*	
Mantet	X	X	X*	X*
Oriole	X	X	X*	X*
Duchess			X	X
Beacon†	X	X	X	X*
Wealthy†	X	X	X*	
Red Baron	X	X	X*	X*
McIntosh	X	X*		
Cortland	X	X*		
Spartan	X*	X*		
Northwestern	X	X*		
Redwell	X	X	X*	
Haralson**	X	X	X	X*
Prairie Spy†	X	X	X*	
Connell Red	X	X*		
Honeygold†	X			
Regent†	X			

### Crab Apples

Dolgo	X	X	X	X
Red River‡			X	X
Chestnut	X	X	X*	
Centennial	X	X	X	X

### Apricots

Moongold	X*	X*		
Sungold	X*	X*		
Manchu			X	X

### Pears

Luscious	X	X	X*	X*
Parker	X	X*	X*	
Golden Spice		X	X*	X*
Lincoln	X	X*	X*	
Patten	X*	X*	X*	

### Blue Plums

Mount Royal	X*	X*		
Dietz‡	X*	X*	X*	
Stanley	X*	X*		

Cultivar	Fruit Districts			
	1	2	3	4

### Plums

(pollinator variety required)

Kaga	X	X	X	X*
(pollinator)				
Tecumseh	X	X	X	X
Underwood	X	X	X	X
South Dakota	X	X	X	X
(pollinator)				
Hanska	X	X	X	X*
Gracious‡			X	X*
Waneta	X	X	X*	
Superior	X	X		
Toka	X	X	X	X*

### Red Raspberries

Fallred	X	X	X	X*
(everbearing)				
Boyne	X	X	X	X*
Latham	X	X	X	X*
September	X			
(everbearing)				

### Black Raspberries

John Robertson	X	X	X*	X*
Black Hawk	X	X	X*	

### Strawberries

Ogallala	X	X	X	X
(everbearing)				
Sparkle	X	X	X*	X*
Vesper	X*	X*		
Cyclone	X	X*		
Senator Dunlap	X	X	X	X
Ozark Beauty	X*	X*		
(everbearing)				
Superfection	X	X	X*	X*
(everbearing)				

### Sandcherry

Brooks	X	X	X	X
Black Beauty	X	X	X	X
Sioux	X	X	X	X

Cultivar	Fruit Districts			
	1	2	3	4

### Cherries

(sour or pie)

North Star	X	X	X	X*
Meteor	X	X	X*	X*

### Cherry-Plums

Opata	X	X	X	X
Sapa	X	X	X	X
Sapalta	X	X	X	X
Compass	X	X	X	X

### Currants

Red Lake	X	X	X	X
Cascade	X	X	X	X
Perfection	X	X	X	X
Wilder	X	X	X	X

### Gooseberries

Pixwell	X	X	X	X
Welcome	X	X	X	X

### Grapes

Beta	X	X	X	X*
Fredonia	X*	X*		
Worden	X*	X*		
Red Amber	X	X*		

### Native or Wild Fruits

Chokecherries	X	X	X	X
Buffalo-berries	X	X	X	X
Juneberries	X	X	X	X
Highbush Cranberries	X	X	X	X*

\* For favorable sites and soils only. Plant on trial basis.

† Cultivar very susceptible to fireblight disease.

‡ Cultivar not generally available from most nurseries.

\*\* Red selections preferred.

## Description of Fruit Districts

**District 1.** This area consists of the lower fringes of the Black Hills, protected sites adjacent to Big Stone Lake and Lake Traverse in northeastern South Dakota and the Missouri River valley and adjacent hills along the valley edge in southern South Dakota. District 1 also extends north along the Big Sioux River to include the Newton Hills in Lincoln County.

**District 2.** It includes much of eastern South Dakota not included in District 1. The southeastern part of District 2 and the Whetstone valley in the northeast are the most favored areas in District 2.

**District 3.** Sites adjacent to the "breaks" along the Missouri River reservoirs provide the most favored conditions for fruit growing in District 3. Deep well-drained soils and an ample moisture supply are important factors governing success in all parts of District 3.

**District 4.** Areas having the longest growing season, best soils, and supplemental water supplies are the most favored for fruit production in this district.

**District 5.** Conditions vary greatly in this area. Varieties must be selected on the basis of the specific site. Tree-fruit growing is not recommended in higher elevations.

## COMMENTS ON DWARF TREES

Dwarf apple trees are developed by grafting the desired cultivar on a dwarfing rootstock. Present rootstocks used for producing dwarf trees are not reliably hardy in South Dakota. However, dwarf trees may often be grown successfully if planted in a protected site in favored areas.

It is essential that a mulch, such as hay, be placed around the tree each fall to protect the base of the tree and the roots. The mulch should be 8 to 12 inches deep. The trees should go into the winter with a good supply of soil moisture. The trees should be protected from mice and rabbits.

## COMMENTS ON "5 in 1" TREES

The "5 in 1" trees are developed by grafting or budding five different cultivars on the branches of a single tree. The cultivars used should be adapted to South Dakota conditions.

The Department of Horticulture and Forestry at South Dakota State University welcomes nurserymen and experienced growers in South Dakota to make suggestions about proven cultivars which they think should be included in the next revision of this list.

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File: 7-2-2 ES 542

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