



Ornamental Fruit Trees for Puget Sound Landscapes

Jacqueline King, Gary Moulton, and Carol Miles

WSU - Mount Vernon NWREC

<http://extension.wsu.edu/maritimefruit>



Introduction

From 1984 to 2009, a trial of ornamental fruit trees was conducted at WSU Mount Vernon NWREC.

- ❖ Initiated 1984 – disease resistant crabapples only, one of 24 NCEP sites
- ❖ Inferior varieties were removed, and new ones added.
- ❖ Final crabapple additions 2004. Ornamental cherry, plum, and pear varieties added 2004-5.
- ❖ Annual evaluations spring and fall: bloom dates and types, disease ratings, evaluating overall ornamental quality.

Preferred qualities:

- ❖ *Disease resistance = low maintenance*
- ❖ *Small persistent fruit = no messy lawns or sidewalks*
- ❖ *Year-round eye appeal*
 - ❖ *Spring bloom*
 - ❖ *Healthy summer leaves*
 - ❖ *Fall fruit & leaf color*
 - ❖ *Attractive tree structure in winter*



Crabapples

- ❖ Wide range of tree size and habit to suit any landscape
- ❖ Bloom time: early April - late May in the Puget Sound.
- ❖ Flowers: usually white, also pink – red, occasionally double or multi-petal
- ❖ Leaves: usually green, some have purple or bronze shaded leaves



Jack Crab

Varied Bloom Types and Colors



Candymint ^



Prairie Rose

Scarlet
Brandywine >



Crabapples adapt to many landscape uses

- ❖ Dwarf & columnar – patio pots, decks, entry courtyards
- ❖ Specimen trees with special ornamental character – yards, lawns
- ❖ Narrow upright trees – streetside plantings
- ❖ Large vigorous trees – parks, highways, schoolgrounds

Dwarf, Columnar, & High-grafted Trees

Lancelot



Firebird



Cinderella >



Trees with less vigorous growth habit can be grafted high (3-6 feet) to produce trees like rose standards, well suited to entries and small areas.

- ❖ Cinderella (3'- 4') – dwarf type, white single flowers, bright green leaves, tiny yellow fruit, excellent disease resistance
- ❖ Lollipop (4') – dwarf type, white single flowers, green leaves, tiny red fruit, excellent disease resistance
- ❖ Lancelot (8'-10') – upright columnar tree habit, white single flowers, green leaves, small yellow fruit, excellent disease resistance

Weeping Types Are Good Landscape Features

- ❖ Louisa (7'-8' high, 13'-15' wide') – strongly weeping habit, rose pink single flowers, bright green leaves, tiny yellow fruit, excellent disease resistance
- ❖ Royal Fountain (6'-7' high, 6'-10' wide) – strongly weeping habit, magenta pink single flowers, purple-bronze leaves, red fruit, holds leaf color all summer, excellent disease resistance
- ❖ Weeping tree structure adds character even in winter when leaves and fruit are gone.
- ❖ Weeping trees make a good point of interest in mixed landscape plantings, especially located near water features.

Weeping Growth Habit



Royal Fountain

Weeping Fence – Trees grafted high (5') on dwarfing rootstock Geneva 11 spaced at 2' in row; Cvs Louisa (pink) and Red Jade (white).



Louisa tree
(full size: 7'-8' high, 13'-15' wide)

High Rated Crabapples

White Flowers

- ❖ **Redbud** (*M. zumi x calocarpa*)
- ❖ **Evereste** (high scab resistance)
- ❖ **Christmas Holly**
- ❖ **Puget Spice** (high scab resistance)
- ❖ **Red Jewel**
- ❖ **Holiday Gold**
- ❖ **Golden Raindrops** (high scab resistance)
- ❖ **Pumpkin Pie**



Puget Spice

White Flowers



Red Jewel >



Evereste



Pumpkin Pie



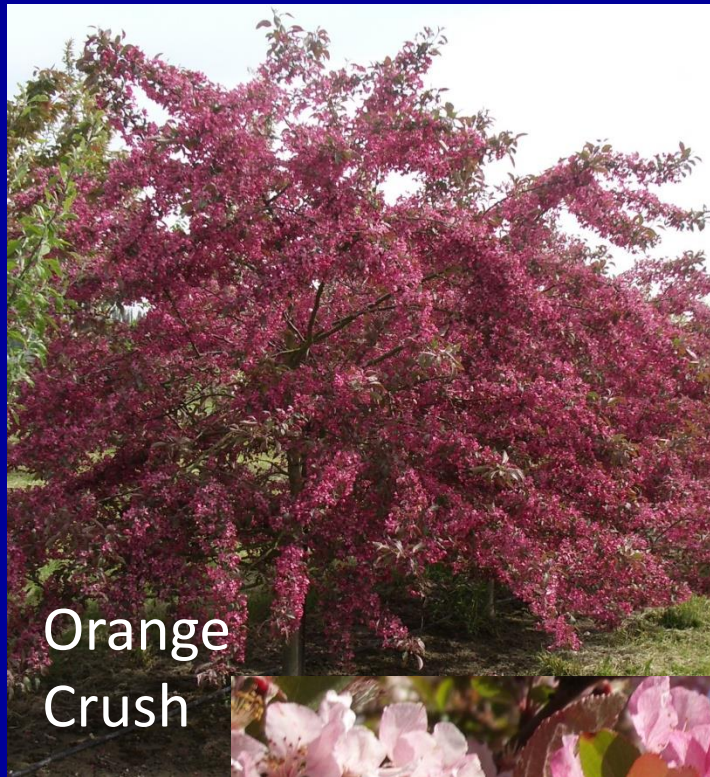
Golden Raindrops

High Rated Crabapples

Red or Pink Flowers

- ❖ Tea – pink single flowers, green-bronze leaves
- ❖ **Prairifire – red single flowers, purple leaves**
- ❖ **Orange Crush – red single flowers, purple leaves**
- ❖ Candymint Sargent – pink single flowers edged dark pink, green-bronze leaves
- ❖ Pink Princess – pink single flowers, green-bronze leaves
- ❖ Prairie Maid – pink single flowers, green leaves
- ❖ **Royal Fountain – strongly weeping habit, red single flowers, purple leaves**
- ❖ **Royal Raindrops – red single flowers, purple leaves**
- ❖ Prairie Rose – pink flowers multi petaled (rose-like), green leaves

Pink & Red Flowers



Prairie Maid

Prairifire >



Street Trees – Tall & Narrow



Malus tschonoskii



Adirondack >

Trees for Large Spaces – Parks & Playgrounds

- ❖ Jack (30' high, 18'-20' wide) – very early, white single flowers, green leaves, red fruit, excellent disease resistance
- ❖ Bob White (25' high, 18'-20' wide) – early, white single flowers, green leaves, yellow fruit, good disease resistance
- ❖ White Angel (25'-30' high, 20'-25' wide) – midseason, white single flowers, green leaves, dark red fruit persists all winter, excellent disease resistance, long spreading limb structure
- ❖ Professor Sprenger (25' high, 18'-20' wide) – midseason, white single flowers, green leaves, very profuse red-orange fruit, good disease resistance
- ❖ Silver Moon (40+' high, 25'-30' wide) – late, white single flowers, green leaves, red fruit, excellent disease resistance, very large and vigorous tree



Silver Moon



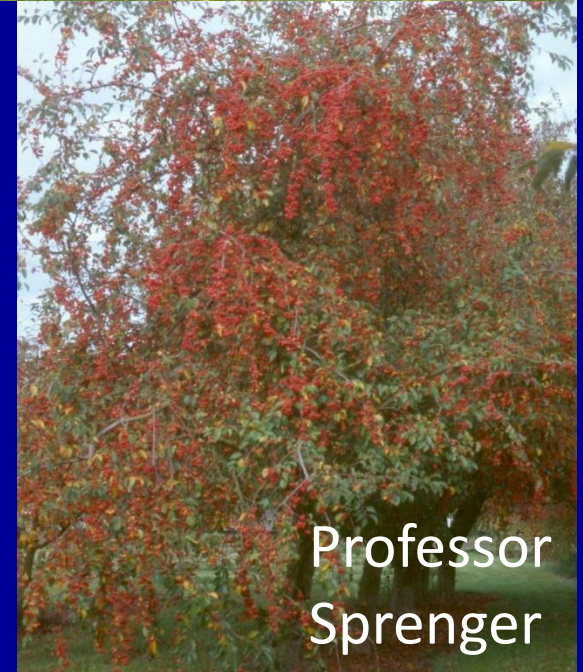
Bob White



White Angel



Jack Crab



Professor
Sprenger

Large-scale Trees

Crabapples for Fresh Eating, Culinary, and Cider

- ❖ Everest – white single flowers, green leaves, red-orange fruit 1" diameter hangs on tree till midwinter, scab immune, ripe in October; USE: jelly, pickling, cider
- ❖ Puget Spice (WSU AxP) – white single flowers, green leaves, blush yellow fruit 1"- 1.5" diameter, scab immune, ripe in October; USE: jelly, pickling, very good for cider
- ❖ Centennial – white single flowers, green leaves, red blushed yellow fruit 1.5"- 2" long, good disease resistance, ripe in August; USE: jelly, fresh eating
- ❖ Chestnut – white single flowers, green leaves, russeted yellow fruit 2"- 2.5" diameter, good disease resistance, ripe in September; USE: fresh eating

Other Ornamental Tree Fruit



- ❖ Flowering cherry
(*Prunus*)
- ❖ Purpleleaf Plum
(*Prunus*)
- ❖ Ornamental Pear
(*Pyrus*)

Flowering Cherries & Plums

tested at WSV Mount Vernon

Cherry

- ❖ Snow Fountain
- ❖ Yoshino
- ❖ Akebono
- ❖ Snow Goose
- ❖ Shirotae (Mt. Fuji)
- ❖ Amanogawa
- ❖ Kanzan (Kwanzan)
- ❖ Royal Burgundy
- ❖ Shirofugen
- ❖ Shogetsu

Plum

- ❖ Krauter Vesuvius
- ❖ Newport
- ❖ Hollywood (dual purpose ornamental & edible)



Flowering Cherry (Prunus)

- ❖ Wide range of bloom times: late winter (February-March) – mid May in the Puget Sound
- ❖ Flowers: usually white, also pink, may be double or multi-petal
- ❖ Leaves: usually green, some have purple or bronze shaded leaves
- ❖ Tree habit from narrow upright to low, broad spreading

Yoshino



**Kanzan
(Kwanzan)**

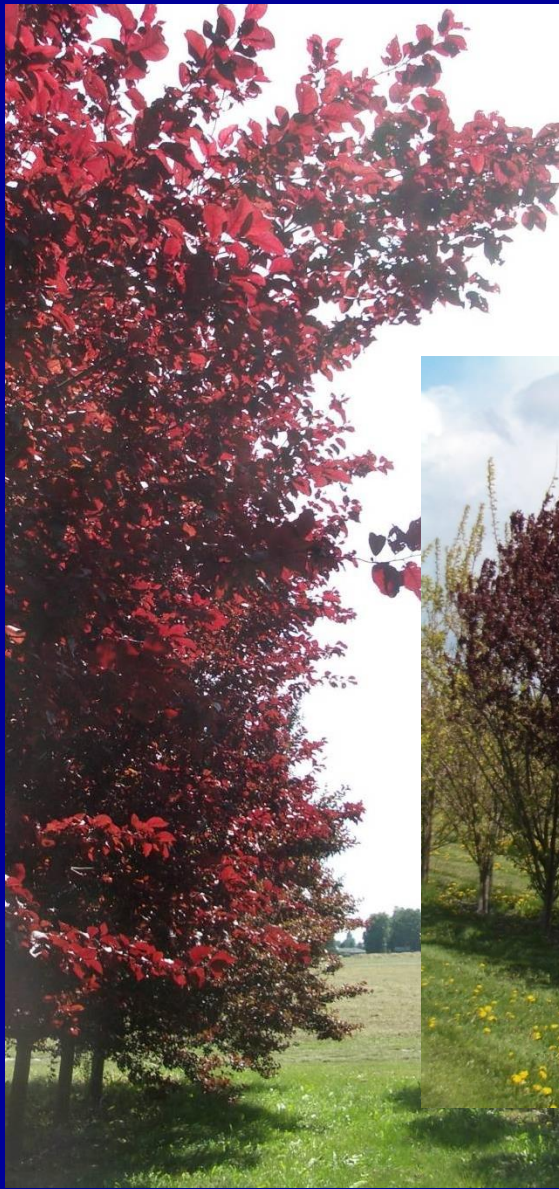


Snow Fountain



Flowering Plum (Prunus)

- ❖ Bloom time very early to early-midseason: late winter (February-March) – April in the Puget Sound
- ❖ Flowers: pink or white, usually single (5 petals)
- ❖ Leaves: may be purple or bronze shaded
- ❖ Tree habit upright spreading to broad spreading



Krauter Vesuvius (L), Newport (R)

Ornamental Pear (Pyrus)

- ❖ **Bradford (*P. calleryana*)** – old standard widely planted, but trees often brittle, short-lived
- ❖ **Aristocrat** – newer selection with wider branch angles, less susceptible to damage
- ❖ **Jack Pear** – very dwarf selection of *P. calleryana*, well suited to small yards
- ❖ **Chanticleer/Cleveland Select** – less fragile than Bradford, more pyramidal structure

Jack



Bradford



Chanticleer

Summary:

- ❖ Ornamental fruit trees are available that are both disease resistant and attractive landscape assets.
- ❖ Select from a wide range of flower and tree characteristics to suit your specific landscape purpose.
- ❖ Ornamental trees can add both beauty and value to urban and rural environments.



Thanks to Supporting Groups

- ❖ **National Crabapple Evaluation Project – International Ornamental Crabapple Society**
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