

HARDY APPLES FOR ALBERTA



Norkent - This apple tree bears large fruit with a pleasant apple/pear taste similar to Golden Delicious. Very hardy. A natural semi-dwarf, fruit maturing late August and suitable for storage.

Ht: 15ft Sp: 10ft Zone 3



Harcourt - Green fruit washed with red. Excellent for eating, cooking, and storing. Mild pleasant flavour. Apple ripens early to mid September.

Ht: 15ft Sp: 12ft Zone 3



Haralson - Fruit is red over green, fair for eating good for cooking, excellent storage. Ripens late September - early October.

Ht: 15ft Sp: 12ft Zone 3



Goodland - Fruit is green washed with red. Good for cooking, eating and excellent for storing. Ripens late September.

Ht: 15ft Sp: 12ft Zone 3



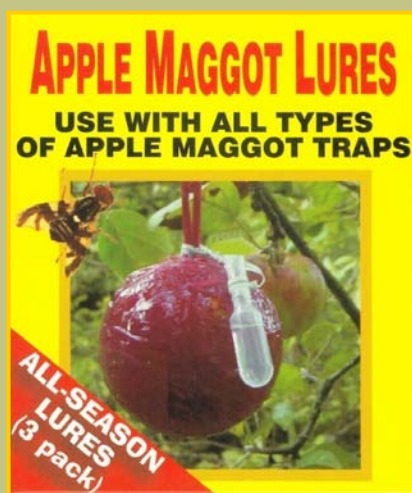
CONTROLLING APPLE MAGGOT

One of the most troublesome apple pests in the last few years has been the apple maggot. This pest causes winding brown trails in apple flesh, causing so much damage that the fruit is not edible.

The mature larvae overwinter in our soil, and at this time of year they pupate into the adult Apple Maggot, known as a Fruit Fly. The fly looks similar to a house fly with distinctive black bands on their wings. The female flies puncture the fruit, then insert eggs just below the skin.



The eggs hatch into maggots which leave tunnels/trails in the flesh of the fruit as they feed. Many gardeners who have older apple trees notice the damage to be more severe than on the newer varieties of trees. Here are some suggestions to help prevent damage to your apples.



It is important to start control early. In mid May hang apple maggot traps in trees to lure and trap adults. (Adults traditionally emerge from the ground in Alberta around May 25th).

These plastic traps resemble an actual apple and contain a lure which acts as an attractant to the damaging fly, and a sticky substance that you cover the artificial apple with. By hanging traps early you are trapping adults that would otherwise lay eggs in fruit.

Traps should be checked from mid-June to harvest; 2 or 3 times a week. If traps are full of insects, you may have to re-apply glue. The idea is to catch as many adults as possible before the fruit is formed. Egg laying activity begins in July and carries on until August. Note that if you have neighbours who also have apple maggot, they need to use the traps.

When fruit begins to ripen in late summer and fall, ensure ALL fallen fruit is picked up daily until no fruit remains. In late fall place Remay cloth on the soil under the tree. This can help prevent adults from emerging from the soil next spring.