



'Adams'



'Mary Potter'



M. floribunda



Apple scab disease

Small Flowering Tree
Deciduous
Native
Map #20 & #19

Flowering Crabapple
(*Malus spp.*)
Family: *Rosaceae*

Leaves: vary with species and cultivar. Simple and rounded and elongated to trilobed. Color varies from bright apple green to dark maroon. Some have good fall color.

Buds: alternate, oval and shingled with overlapping scales.

Stems: shiny, reddish brown when young.

Bark: on old trunks, shiny, gray-brown and scaly.

Flowers: In early to mid-May, white to pink or carmine to red or rose. Single flowers with 5 petals in clusters of 5—7 or so. Often one color in bud, opening to another shade and fading to yet another.

Fruits: small apple from an inferior ovary up to 2" in diameter. Color at maturity can be green, yellow, orange, pink, red (various shades) or purple. Persists on branches for varying periods, the longer the better for winter display. The most persistent will be fermented by spring resulting in "drunk" birds. Attract cedar wax-wing bird flocks in spring.

Habit: range from low mounded, rounded, oval, upright and pendulous. Size range is from 5' (*M. sargentii* 'Tina') to 30' or more (*M.* 'Donald Wyman').

Culture: adaptable to soil, best in heavy, well-drained loamy clay. Full sun for best flowers and fruit. Major diseases for which resistant varieties should be selected include apple scab, cedar-apple rust and fireblight. Scab in particular will render susceptible trees leafless by August if spring weather conditions favor the fungus. Popular, older cultivars highly susceptible include: 'Almey', 'Hopa', 'Eleyi', 'Bechtels', 'Red Silver'.

Miscellaneous: The flowering crabapples are a group of durable and highly useful ornamental trees that are strikingly beautiful in bloom. The flowers, fruit and fall color are dependent on the species or cultivar. It is of utmost importance when selecting a crabapple that disease resistant (primarily to apple scab) and fruit quality (persistence, bright color and small size) be considered.

Cultivars: over 500 nationwide. Most often listed as "best": 'Adirondack', 'Bob White', 'Donald Wyman', 'Prairifire', 'Professor Sprenger', 'Red Jewel', 'Snowdrift', 'Snowdrift', 'Sugar Tyme'; and the species *M. floribunda*, *M. sargentii*, *M. hupehensis*. See UWEX Wisc. Garden Factsheet "Top Ornamental Crabapples for WI" (XHT1012).

Related species: *Malus sargentii* (8'), and *M.s.* 'Tina' and Select A 'Firebird' (5').



'Prairifire'



'Donald Wyman'



'Red Barron'



'Sentinel'



'Anne E'
(weeping)



'Ormiston Roy'



M. sargentii 'Tina'



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