USDA

A Conservation Plant Release by the Natural Resources Conservation Service Rose Lake Plant Materials Center, East Lansing, MI

'Roselow' Sargent's crabapple

Malus sargentii Rehder



'Roselow' Sargent's Crabapple

'Roselow' Sargent's crabapple was released as a cultivar in 1978 by the USDA-NRCS Rose Lake Plant Materials Center (PMC).

Description

'Roselow' is a rounded and densely-branched shrub, reaching a height of 18 to 20 feet. In mid-May, its pin buds produce single white flowers about 1/2 inch in diameter. Dark red fruit appear before the leaves drop and remain on the plant all winter.

Source

'Roselow' Sargent's crabapple seed was first collected from evaluation plantings by the NRCS and Elsberry PMC in Missouri. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly the Soil Conservation Service) established the shrubs in 1940 at Elsberry using seedlings obtained from the horticultural farm at Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. It was originally introduced from Japan.

Conservation Uses

Michigan NRCS technical specialists have determined that 'Roselow' is useful or potentially useful with these Conservation Practice Standards:

> Hedgerow Planting (422) Riparian Forest Buffer (391) Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580) Tree/Shrub Establishment (612) Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380) Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation (650)

Its profuse spring flowers and dense foliage and abundant nectar and fruit make it a favorite of humans, honeybees, birds, and other wildlife.

Area of Adaptation and Use

'Roselow' Sargent's crabapple can be grown where apples prove hardy. 'Roselow' has been tested in the midwestern United States and as far west as Corvallis, Oregon. Establishment and performance have been good.

Establishment and Management for Conservation Plantings

To plant 'Roselow', follow the planting dates and spacing recommended for shrubs in your area. The maximum spacing between plants should be 10 feet. Two-year-old seedlings are suitable for mechanical planting.

'Roselow' is released as an open-pollinated, seedpropagated cultivar. It exhibits excellent uniformity in size, form, and fruit color from seed. Propagation by commercial growers is from open-pollinated seed.

Ecological Considerations

Like other crabapples, 'Roselow' is susceptible to borers, the eastern tent caterpillar, and San Jose scale. It is not an alternate host for juniper rust.

Seed and Plant Production

There are approximately 70,000 seeds per pound. Seedlings are easily propagated from seeds sown in nursery beds in late October.



Row of 'Roselow' Sargent's Crabapple in Blossom

Availability

'Roselow' Sargent's crabapple, as well as other Rose Lake PMC releases, is available from commercial suppliers. Rose Lake PMC does not sell releases to the general public, although small quantities of seed are available to commercial seed or nursery growers for increase purposes.

For more information, contact: Rose Lake Plant Materials Center 7472 Stoll Road, East Lansing, MI 48823 Phone: 517-641-6300 Fax: 855-701-4363

Citation

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For additional information about this and other plants, please contact your local USDA Service Center, NRCS field office, or Conservation District <<u>http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/</u>>, and visit the PLANTS Web

site <<u>http://plants.usda.gov</u>> or the Plant Materials Program Web site <<u>http://www.plant-</u> materials.nrcs.usda.gov>



Windbreak of 'Roselow' with Fruit



Close-up of 'Roselow' Sargent's Crabapple with Fruit