

Estimated Tree Vigor for Apple Varieties

Estimated Tree Vigor for Apple Varieties – Over 3,900 varieties listed according to vigor. Early crop load has the most dramatic effect on tree vigor, more than any other factor. T1: weak vigor varieties should not be allowed to fruit early to prevent poor growth of the whole tree (runting out) where shoot growth is lacking. Tree structure will never develop and it will be too small to produce fruit. More vigorous rootstock selection and later fruiting of low vigor varieties will help maintain adequate tree size. T2, medium vigor varieties (which are the most numerous) will be better suited to the more dwarfing rootstock. T3, very vigorous varieties are ideal for the more dwarfing rootstocks and early fruiting will help control tree size.

Many factors enter into the equation to determine tree size: rootstock, soil fertility, growth habit, early crop load and vigor.

HOS has printed much information on rootstocks and this is readily available. Soil fertility is a variable that must be taken into consideration, but each growth site is different. Growth habit deals with growing upright or spreading, spur or tip fruit bearing. HOS has an expanded publication of spur and tip bearing apples. Keep in mind that a spur bearing fruiting habit is more dwarfing than a non-spur bearing fruiting habit. Vigor refers to the growth of the variety that is grafted onto a size controlling rootstock.

Predicting vigor is a rough estimate on how large the tree will grow on a particular rootstock. Other factors affecting size include soil fertility and general climate.

I am adopting the symbols used in *The Book of Apples* by Joan Morgan and Alison Richards, published in association with the Brogdale Horticultural Trust, 1993.

T1: Weak vigor varieties

T2: Medium vigor varieties

T3: Very vigorous varieties

Early crop load has the most dramatic effect on tree vigor than any other factor. T1: weak vigor varieties should not be allowed to fruit early to prevent poor growth of the whole tree (runting out) where shoot growth is lacking. Tree structure will never develop it will be too small to produce fruit. The most dwarfing apple rootstock should not be used on weak vigor varieties. More

vigorous rootstock selection and later fruiting of low vigor varieties will help maintain adequate tree size. While T2 medium vigor varieties (which are the most numerous) will be better suited to the more dwarfing rootstock. T3, very vigorous varieties are ideal for the more dwarfing rootstocks and early fruiting will help control tree size. When the data conflicted I choose the larger of the two, better to be surprised with a smaller tree than a larger one (e.g., Liberty).

I hope this listing will provide information for the rootstock choice that you have to make. It is **but one** of the determining factors in tree size.

Variety | Vigor

'15 Welday Jonathon' T2	'Aldenham Blenheim' T3
'19 Welday Jonathon' T2	'Aldenhamensis' T2
'Aargauer Jubilauums' T3	'Alderman' T2
'Abbondanza' T2	'Aldwick Beaut' T2
'Abondance' T2	'Alexander' T3
'Acadian Queen' T2	'Alexis' T2
'Acklam Russet' T2	'Alfa 68' T3
'Acme' T2	'Alfa 68A' T3
'Adam' T3	'Alfa 68B' T3
'Adams' T2	'Alfred Jolibois' T2
'Adams Apple™' T2 (Sport of	'Alfriston' T2
'Oregon Spur® II')	'Alice' T2
'Adam's Pearmain' T2	'Alkmene' T2
'Adanac' T2	'Allen's Everlasting' T1
'Adersleber Calville' T2	'Allington Pippin' T3
'Adel' T3	'Allington Pippin Sport' T2
'Adina' T3	'All-Red Gravenstein' T3
'Adina, Stark' T3	'All Red Jonathan' T2 (slightly larger than 'Jonathan')
'Admirable' T1	'Allison' T2
'Admiral' T2	'Almata' T3
'Advance' T2	'Almata Crab' T2
'Agathe' T3	'Almay' T2
'Aivania' T2	'Almeda' T2
'Akane' T2	'Almey' T3
'Akeron' T3	'Alnarp 2' T2
'Akibae' T2	'Alnarp's Favourite' T2
'Akin' T2	'Alps-Cotone' T1
'Alamata' T2	'Alred' T3
'Alastair Cannon-White' T2	'Altaiski Sweet' T2
'Alboplana' T2	'Altländer Fettafel' T2
	'Altländer Pfannkuchenapfel' T2

'Altländer Rosenapfel' T3
 'Alton' T3
 'Alwa' T3
 'Amanishiki' T2
 'Amassia' T2
 'Amasya #2' T3
 'Amasya #3' T2
 'Amasya #4' T2
 'Amasya #5' T3
 'Ambassy' T2
 'Ambrosia' T2
 'Amelia' T3
 'Amère de Berthecourt' T3
 'American Beauty' T2
 'American Golden Pippin' T3
 'American Golden Russet' T2
 'American Grindling' T2
 'American Mother' T2
 'American Summer Pearmain' T1
 'Ames' T2
 'Ames 550' T3
 'Amish Black' T3
 'Amsib Crab' T3
 'Amur Naliv' T3
 'Amzr Gauthier' T2
 'Ananas' T3
 'Ananas Berzenicki' T2
 'Ananas Reinette' T1
 'Ananas Reinette x James Grieve' T2
 'Ananas Rouge' T2
 'Anaros' T3 (Crab) ('Rosthern #2')
 'Anderson Red Delicious' T2
 'André Briollay' T2
 'Andrews' T3
 'Andrew's Favorite' T3
 'Angyal Dezsö' T2
 'Anis Aliy K-32' T2
 'Anisa' T2
 'Anisim' T2
 'Anna' T3
 'Anna Boelens' T2
 'Annie Elizabeth' T3
 'Annurca' T2

'Anoka' T2
 'Antonovka' T3
 'Antonovka 172670-B' T1
 'Antonovka 1.5 pounds' T2
 'Antonovka 5' T3
 'Antonovka 600-Grammovaya' T3
 'Antonovka Debnicka' T3
 'Antonovka Kamenichka' T3
 'Antonovka Mitchurin' T2
 'Antonovka Polutorafuntovaya' T2
 'Antonovka Shafran' T2
 'Antonovka Zheltaia' T3
 'Aori' T2
 'Apetala' T2
 'Apez Zagarra' T2
 'Api' ('Lady') T1
 'Api Noir' T1
 'Api Rose' T2
 'Appel van Paris' T2
 'Apple Babe' T1
 'Applewaites'™ T1
 'Apricot' T2
 'Arctic' T2
 'Ard Cairn Russet' T2
 'Arditi' T2
 'Ariane' T2
 'Arkansas' T3
 'Arkansas Beauty' T3
 'Arkansas Black, Compspur' T3
 'Arkansas Black, Spur' T2
 'ArkCharm' T3
 'Arlet' ('Swiss Gourmet') T2
 'Arnold's Beauty' T2
 'Aroma' T2
 'Aromat de Vara' T3
 'Aromatic Russet' T2
 'Arthur' T2
 'Arthur Turner' T3
 'Arthur W. Barnes' T2
 'AS510' T3
 'Ascot' T2
 'Ashdown Seedling' T2
 'Ashmead's Kernel' T2



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