

**FRUIT TREE & VINEYARD PROJECT
2008 GROWING SEASON**

APPLE VARIETIES

DESCRIPTIONS, EVALUATIONS and RATINGS

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SCARLET GALA - EMLA 7: Planted 1992.

Beautiful color with bright red striping over an orange background. Mid-bloom, with moderate to large fruit size and moderate to heavy yields in SW Colorado. Recommend using central leader training to allow good light penetration. Moderate tree development but in the 8th & 9th seasons several trees began leaning requiring support. Root sprouts have become a real issue requiring 2 prunings a season. Matures early to mid September. Very consistent yearly fruiting. Rating dropped ½ point due to tree leaning and sprout problems. 2008 good crop.

****** RATING**

NURED JONATHAN - MARK:

This variety was replaced with an improved version in 2000.

SWISS GOURMET - EMLA 7: Planted 1995.

Beautiful color with a bright red over a rich yellow background. Mid-bloom, medium sized fruit that even with light crop loads does not size-up -matures early to mid September. Excellent tree development on trellis system but may be a little too vigorous for a trellis on EMLA 7. Large Crop in 2005 but minimal crop in 2006 & 2007 due to freezes. Good Crop 2008.

***** RATING**

ROYAL EMPIRE - EMLA 7: Planted 1995.

Superior, excellent dark red fruit that colors early. Mid-bloom, medium to large fruit that is fairly resistant to light hail. Matures mid September. Long shelf life with excellent storage capacity. Excellent tree development on trellis system. Large Crop in 2005 but minimal crop in 2006 & 2007 due to freezes. Good Crop 2008.

****** RATING**

LIBERTY - EMLA 7: Planted 1995.

Good fruit color with deep red over a slight yellow background, but the fruit has a tendency to be slightly irregular in shape. Mid-bloom, highly resistant to major apple diseases. Excellent tree development on trellis system but vigorous growth on EMLA 7

indicates that a more dwarfing rootstock is required on a trellis system - use EMLA 26. Large fruit size with consistent heavy production. Proper pruning is essential to accommodate heavy fruit load. Thin fruit skin makes this variety highly susceptible to light hail. Matures a week to 10 days later than Scarlet Gala with late September to early October harvest. Large Crop in 2005 and same in 2006, 2007 & 2008.

***** RATING**

GOLDEN DELICIOUS - EMLA 26: Planted 1994.

Golden apple with an excellent light red blush that develops on sun exposed side. Mid-bloom, early heavy bearer with small to medium fruit, needs early thinning. Alternate bearing a possibility but recently excellent crops with good size even through the adverse weather conditions. Mid to late September harvest. Large Crop in 2005, 2006, 2007 & 2008.

****** RATING**

HONEY CRISP - EMLA 7: Planted 1995.

Excellent color with a scarlet red over a yellow background. Mid-bloom, large fruit, keeps well in storage-high quality. Good tree development but poor, low yields seem to be a chronic problem early in its development with this variety. 2000 Powdery Mildew outbreak did not affect this variety. Tree also tends to initially grow upright and requires substantial limb training during early development. Mid September harvest. This was the only variety to have a significant crop in 2002. Large Crop in 2005, 2006, 2007 & 2008 but very inconsistent prior to 2005. Rating raised ½ point in 2008.

***** RATING**

RED FUJI - EMLA 9: Planted 1995.

Good color development with red stripe over a yellow-green background - better color than expected for Fuji's grown in Colorado. Mid to late-bloom, late harvest mid October, very firm apple with excellent storage qualities that is very resistant to light hail. Excellent tree development on trellis system with medium to large fruit. Several seasons of consistent fruiting even through the adverse weather conditions. Heavy crop requires proper thinning to avoid limb breakage. Big market potential. Good crop in 2007 but 2008 crop was lost due to freeze.

****** RATING**

RED JONAGOLD - EMLA 7: Planted 1994.

Excellent red blush over a slight yellow background that makes a nice pie apple. Mid-bloom with late color development, small to

medium fruit, susceptible to mildew but resistant to light hail. Very good tree development with several seasons of fairly consistent, but light, fruiting even through the adverse weather conditions. Large Crop 2005, minimal crop in 2006 and good crop in 2007 & 2008.

***** RATING**

LUSTRE ELSTAR - EMLA 26: Planted 1994.

Beautiful scarlet red blush over a yellow background, mid-bloom, medium fruit size. Good tree development but this variety has been susceptible to limb breakage, especially during the winter. Several seasons of fairly consistent fruiting even through adverse weather conditions. Large Crop 2005, but minimal crop in 2006 due to May freeze. Moderate crop in 2007 & 2008. Lowering rating ½ point due to continued limb breakage.

***** RATING**

SUPER JON - EMLA 7: Planted 1994.

Mid-bloom, dark red small to medium fruit good for pies and resistant to light hail. Very good tree development with several seasons of fairly consistent, but light, fruiting even through the adverse weather conditions of Spring 1999. The freezes of Spring 2000 completely ruined the crop. 2001 crop was again light to moderate at 2.7bu./tree. 2000 Powdery Mildew outbreak did not affect this variety. Mid to late September harvest. 3 freezes in early 2002 eliminated the crop. Hail in 2003 eliminated the crop. Hail in July 2004 damaged the crop. Large Crop 2005 and moderate crop in 2006, 2007 & 2008.

***** RATING**

MOR-SPUR McINTOSH - EMLA 7: Planted 1996.

Bright cherry red blush. Early, reported to be a heavy producer BUT NOT HERE SO FAR. Smaller tree size is good for high density plantings. Tree has a very good natural spread to limb development that requires little limb training. Large Crop 2005, minimal crop in 2006, and good crop in 2007 and moderate in 2008. For the second year in a row we had "unexplained" significant fruit drop prior to harvest. This situation is being monitored.

***** RATING**

IMPROVED RED DELICIOUS - EMLA 7: Planted 1996.

Campbell strain that is highly striped with strong red color. Consistent medium to very large fruit that is mid-bloom. Upright tree growth that initially requires substantial limb training. This tree has had limited tree growth on this rootstock. May be more suited for a high density planting on a

trellis system than a field planting. I am also starting to wonder if the stated rootstock from the nursery may have been an error. Rating increased another ½ point in 2004 because of consistent, exceptional large fruit. Large Crop 2005, minimal crop in 2006 and good crop in 2007. Large crop in 2008.

***** RATING**

ROYAL GALA - EMLA 26: 1997 planting.

Produces a beautiful fruit with red stripes over an orange-red undercolor. Medium sized fruit which may exhibit a wide variation of fruit coloration. Very good tree development so far with a moderate crop in the fourth season with excellent color. Powdery Mildew outbreak heavily affected this variety. Large Crop 2005, minimal crop in 2006 and good crop in 2007 & 2008.

*****½ RATING**

MYRA RED FUJI - EMLA 26: 1997 planting.

Medium to large apple which colors up substantially. The finish color is a pinkish red. Matures 10 days earlier than Red Fuji. Very good tree development. Large Crop 2005, minimal crop in 2006 and good crop in 2007. No crop 2008 due to freeze.

*****½ RATING**

GRAVENSTEIN - EMLA 26: 1997 planting.

Large, red-striped, crisp and juicy. Excellent for cooking and pies. Hardy tree with very good tree development. But it is important to note that this variety does mature up to 3 weeks earlier - last part of August to 1st week in September and is never harvested as part of our regular U-Pick operation. Susceptible to Bitter Pit which is a calcium deficiency. Large Crop 2005, minimal crop in 2006, and good crop in 2007. No crop in 2008.

***** RATING**

IDARED - EMLA 26: 1997 planting.

A solid, beautiful bright red apple. Tree development has slowed rapidly as the bud union is starting to swell considerably. This tree on EMLA 26 is better suited to a trellis system. Lowering rating again in 2007 as poor tree development and limited crop does not make this variety very appealing. It really needs a more vigorous rootstock like EMLA 7. Heavy crop in 2008.

***½ Rating**

LODI - EMLA 111: Yellow fruit large in size with very early maturity - mid to late August. On EMLA 111 there is excessive

growth on the trellis that is very hard to handle. This variety should be on a more dwarfing rootstock like EMLA 26. Powdery Mildew outbreak moderately affected this variety.

THESE TREES HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM THE PROJECT.

RUBINSTAR JONAGOLD - EMLA 26: 1997 planting.

Intense red coloration that is uniform throughout the tree. Tree development has been moderate throughout its development.

Matures one week ahead of Jonagold and is less susceptible to sunburn. There are signs of Bitter Pit susceptibility. Good crop in 2005, minimal crop in 2006 and good crop in 2007 & 2008.

***** RATING**

SUN FUJI - EMLA 7: 1999 planting.

Extremely firm apple with a pinkish/red stripe over yellow-green ground color. The flesh is yellowish-greenish, dense and crisp.

Flavor is sweet, fruity, slightly aromatic, sub-acid and very pleasant. High soluble solids. Outstanding keeper. Tree development has been excellent. Large Crop 2005, minimal crop in 2006 and good crop in 2007. No crop 2008 due to freeze.

****** RATING**

GALAXY GALA - EMLA 7: 1999 planting.

This Gala's big difference to Royal Gala is that it develops an almost complete, bright, cherry red layer under more intense red stripes. The degree of striping is similar to Royal Gala, but the color is more complete. Tree development is excellent. Large Crops 2005, 2006, 2007 & 2008.

****** RATING**

IMPROVED GALA (Mitchell Cultivar) - EMLA 7: 1999 planting.

Bright red stripes over yellowish undercolor. Multiple pick apple. Noted for its increased color stability. Medium sized fruit. Outstanding flavor. Tree development is excellent. Large Crops 2005, 2006, 2007 & 2008.

****** RATING**

PACIFIC GALA - EMLA 7: 1999 planting.

Ripens 5-7 days ahead of Royal Gala. The coloration of the fruit was observed to be distinctly different than the Tenroy cultivar and the Galaxy Gala, showing much higher color on 90 to 100% of fruit. Tree development is excellent. Large Crop 2005, 2006, 2007 & 2008.

****** RATING**

PINOVA - EMLA 7: 1999 planting.

A medium sized apple with outstanding flavor, similar to Golden. Skin is a bright, florescent pinkish/red; 50 to 80% blush over yellow background. Flesh is firm, fine grained and cream color. Matures with Golden Delicious. Tree has a low to medium vigor. Pinova is cold hardy and very productive. Large Crop 2005, minimal crop in 2006 and good crop in 2007. Good crop in 2008 but it matured in mid October.

***** RATING**

CAMEO - EMLA 7: 1999 planting.

Cameo is a pleasing bright red stripe over a golden blend with a sweet tart flavor. Prone to excessive suckering. The creamy white flesh shows virtually no browning when cut. Cameo stores and handles well retaining its firmness and dessert qualities for 5 months in regular storage. The tree has growing characteristics similar to a golden delicious. This variety is harvested in mid to late September and in 2001 had a small crop for the third season. Initial tree development is excellent but upright growth and significant suckering continues to require significant limb training and pruning. Fair crop in 2006 & 2007. No crop in 2008 due to the need to perform early spring corrective pruning.

**** RATING**

IMPROVED GOLDEN - EMLA 7: 2000 Planting.

The finish is smoother to the touch in comparison to a regular Golden. Medium to large fruit that is Russet resistant. Initial tree development and fruiting are excellent but limb growth has to be controlled early in its development to avoid congestion. Limited crop in 2005, good crop in 2006, small crop 2007. Large Crop 2008.

***** Rating**

GOLDEN SUPREME - EMLA 7: 2000 Planting.

Sweet flavor with smooth texture. Preferred as the cooking and eating golden delicious. Soft yellow finish may be touched with a red blush. Superior storage capabilities. Large fruit that is very smooth ready to harvest with the Galas. Russet resistant. Initial tree development and fruiting are excellent but limb growth has to be controlled early in its development to avoid congestion. Good crop in 2006 and fair in 2007. Large Crop 2008.

***** Rating**

NURED JOHNATHAN SPORT - EMLA 7: 2000 Planting.

Dark red small fruit that is excellent for cooking. Excellent storage capabilities. Requires heavy thinning and is very cold hardy. Tree development has been good but tends to sucker and requires significant training every season. Small to medium fruit size suited for pie apples. If tree growth and fruiting characteristics do not improve in 2008, the rating will be lowered in 2008. Limited crop in 2005, 2006 & 2007. Lowered rating ½ point in 2008 due to moderate crop and tree training issues.

****½ Rating**

IMPROVED MCINTOSH - EMLA 26: 2002 Planting.

Early maturing, mid September with very deep red color. A trellis planting. Tree growth and shape have been excellent. Limited fruit in 2006, 2007 & 2008.

****½ Rating.**

BUCKEYE GALA - EMLA 7: 2002 Planting.

The fruit is full size with food flavor and quality. Color is a deep red with a light yellow stripe. Tree growth and shape have been excellent. These trees were badly damaged in the 2003 hail storm and have fully recovered in 2008. Fair crop in 2007 and a good crop in 2008.

****½ Rating.**

SPECIAL NOTES

RATING SCALE - 5 STARS	*****	EXCELLENT POTENTIAL
4 STARS	****	VERY GOOD POTENTIAL
3 STARS	***	GOOD POTENTIAL
2 STARS	**	POOR POTENTIAL
1 STAR	*	FORGETABOUTIT

Refer to the enclosed production records for specific yield information.

APPLE ROOTSTOCKS

EMLA 9: Produces a tree that is 35-40% of a standard tree or semi dwarf, does well in heavy soil and wet conditions, needs mechanical support throughout the life of the tree, large fruit.

EMLA 26: Produces a tree that is 40-50% of a standard tree, may need mechanical support as the tree develops and begins cropping, though it roots well and is better anchored.

EMLA 7: Produces a tree that is 50-60% of a standard tree. Winter hardy, disease resistant, needs well drained soil. Develops an extensive root system and does not need mechanical support in our soils but we have several cases of 13 year old Scarlet Galas on EMLA 7 that have started to lean requiring support.

EMLA 111: Produces a tree that is 70-75% of a standard tree. Winter hardy, vigorous growth, adaptable to a wide range of soils, tolerant of drought, excellent for spur type cultivars. Because of the limiting dwarfing, this is not suited for use on a trellis system. Does not need mechanical support.

Mark: Not advisable to use in SW Colorado due to bud-union incompatibility.

**COMING IN 2009 - A SUPER HI
DENSITY PLANTING WITH TREES
PLANTED 18 INCHES APART!**