

FRUIT TREE & VINEYARD PROJECT
2008 GROWING SEASON
PEAR VARIETIES
DESCRIPTIONS, EVALUATIONS and RATINGS

By: Dan Fernandez, Dolores County Director
Colorado State University Extension

Max Red Bartlett: Planted 1996.

Tree growth is satisfactory with a very limited crop in 1999, no fruit in 2000 but a nice crop in 2001 with moderate fruit sizes. 3 freezes in early 2002 did NOT affect this variety. Excellent crop with most fruit harvested before the 2003 hail. Hail in July 2004 damaged the excellent crop. Large Crop in 2005. Late freeze did not affect the large crop in 2006 & 2007. Limited Crop due to 2008 freeze

***** RATING**

Du Comice: Planted 1996.

Excellent dessert pear with a rich, juicy flavor. Its flesh is tender, smooth and the fruit is large, color clear yellow. Tree growth is satisfactory and we finally had our first moderate crop in 2001, with medium sizes, but crop was off the tree before data could be collected. Large Crop in 2005 raised rating ½ point in 2005. Late freeze did not affect the large crops in 2006, 2007 & 2008.

***** RATING**

D'Anjou: Planted 1997.

Firm, juicy with excellent flavor. Excellent storage capabilities. Tree growth is satisfactory with limited production through the 2004 season. Most fruit was harvested before the 2003 hail. Hail in July 2004 damaged the crop. Large Crop in 2005 and raised rating ½ point. Late freeze did not affect the large crop in 2006 but did reduce the 2007 crop. Good 2008 crop.

****½ RATING**

Bronze Beauty: Planted 1997.

Fruit is medium to large with a russet that takes on a bronze color when ripe. Tree is vigorous and large, exhibiting a spreading habit. Tree growth is satisfactory. Limited crop in 2001, none in 2002 and small crop in 2003 and 2004. Most fruit was harvested before the 2003 hail. Hail in July 2004 damaged the crop. Large Crop in 2005 and 2006 with a moderate crop in 2007. Good 2008 crop.

****1½ RATING**

NOTES:

All pear varieties are subject to severe attacks from the Pear Slug. Regular pest monitoring and timely sprays must be applied to avoid leaf skeltonization and defoliation.

It is also important to remember that pears take several years to come into production. It may take 6 to 7 years after planting before you see the first significant crop.

ROOTSTOCKS

Old Home x Farmingdale rootstock (O.H. x F.): is hardy well-anchored and productive. Produces a semi-dwarf tree.

Old Home x Farmingdale #97 rootstock (O.H. x F.#97):

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.

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PEACH VARIETIES

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J.H. Hale: THIS VARIETY HAS BEEN ELIMINATED FROM THE VARIETY TRIAL. FRUIT MATURES TOO LATE FOR SW COLORADO AND THE TREES CONTINUALLY SUFFERED FROM WINTER INJURY. * RATING

Redskin: THIS VARIETY HAS BEEN ELIMINATED FROM THE VARIETY TRIAL. FRUIT MATURES TOO LATE FOR SW COLORADO AND THE TREES CONTINUALLY SUFFERED FROM WINTER INJURY. * RATING

Red Globe: 1996 Planting.

Firm yellow flesh with good flavor. Has a bright skin color and is excellent for canning and freezing. Fruit tends to mature in LATE August. Good initial growth but Spring, 1999 & 2000 freezes eliminated the crop. Good crop in 2001, 2002 and 2003 with excellent size. Most fruit was harvested before the 2003 hail. Hail in July 2004 damaged the excellent crop. Large Crop in 2005 & 2006. Limited crop in 2007 and large crop in 2008.

***** RATING**

Flamin' Fury series PF#15A: 1996 Planting.

Large red fruit that has good flavor and shipping qualities. The trees are very winter hardy and fruit tends to mature in MID August. Good initial growth, but Spring, 1999 & 2000 freezes eliminated the crop. Good crop in 2001, 2002 and 2003 with excellent size. Most fruit was harvested before the 2003 hail. Hail in July 2004 damaged the excellent crop. Large Crop in 2005 & 2006. Limited crop in 2007 and large crop in 2008.

***** RATING**

Starfire, (FA 11): 1999 Planting.

Very large, solid red peach with clear yellow flesh. Fruit shape is round with a slight tendency for a high shoulder. Shipping and eating quality is reported to be outstanding. Fruit tends to mature in LATE August. Planted in spring 1999, these trees did not fare well with the Spring 1999 cold snaps with several trees dying. In 2001, 2002 and 2003 there was a

limited crop with good tree development. Most fruit was harvested before the 2003 hail. Hail in July 2004 damaged the excellent crop. Large Crop in 2005 & 2006. Limited crop in 2007 and large crop in 2008.

****½ RATING**

Suncrest: 1999 Planting.

Fruit is large, round and has a light pubescence. About two thirds of the surface is covered with a bright, red blush over a yellow background color. Yellow flesh, firm but melting, and of good texture and color. Fruit tends to mature in LATE August. All the trees survived the Spring 1999 freezes and developed normally for newly planted trees. In 2001, 2002 and 2003 there was a limited crop with good tree development. Most fruit was harvested before the 2003 hail. Hail in July 2004 damaged the excellent crop. Large Crop in 2005 & 2006. No Crop in 2007 and large crop in 2008.

***** RATING.**

Notes:

Only use ½ inch caliper or less nursery stock for new plantings.

The only rootstock currently being evaluated on all varieties is Certified Peach.

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.