



Fruit Pollination Recommendations

By Brent Hanson

Apple Trees – Require a pollinator. You must have at least two trees and they must have overlapping bloom periods (i.e. early with mid, mid with late, not early with late). Sometimes crabapples work as a pollinator.

Pear Trees – Require a pollinator (Asian pears can be partially self-fruitful). You must have at least two trees (three or four are better), and they must have overlapping bloom periods. Very early flowering and susceptibility to frost damage of blooms is problematic in the North.

Blue Plums – ‘Mount Royal’ is self-fruitful.

Red/Yellow Plums – Require a pollinator (often ‘Toka’).

Cherry Plums – Require a pollinator (‘Compass’ probably is the best).

Aronia (Chokeberry) – ‘Viking’ and the species are self-fruitful.

Blueberry – Will generally be pollinated in WI, but will produce much better with two varieties.

Cherry (Nanking) – Partially self-pollinating, but best to put in several plants.

Sweet Cherry – Lots of hardiness and inter-sterility issues, but ‘Lapin’ is self-fruitful.

Cherry (Sand or Bush) – Same recommendations as Nanking.

Sour Cherry – Are self-fruitful.

Cranberry – Self-fruitful.

Elderberry – Named cultivars greatly benefit from planting more than one cultivar.

Honeyberry – Requires a pollinator (more than one cultivar).

Juneberry – Self-fruitful, but cultivars like ‘Regent’ are more fruitful if grown with another cultivar or with the open-pollinated species.

Raspberry – Self-fruitful (UWEX says that cross-pollination is helpful to production). Keep red raspberries and black raspberries well-separated for plant health reasons.

Strawberry – Self-fruitful.

Grape Vines – Self-fruitful.