

return

Cultivars

are considered by authorities to be among the best for selected for disease resistance and represent a variety of other very good crabapples are available and can be identified by consulting catalogs and books.

Color/Flower	Fruit	Height	Habit
White/pink	red	18'	upright
White/white	yellow	20'	rounded upright
White/white	red	10'	low spreading
White-red/white	yellow	25' - 30'	upright spreading
White-red-purple	dark red	15' - 20'	upright spreading
White-pink/white	jade red	15'	weeping
White-pink/white	red	8'	low spreading
White-pink/white	red	18'	upright spreading
White/white	bright red	20' - 25'	upright spreading

Planting and Care

Flowering crabapples can adapt to a wide range of environmental conditions. However, they grow best in well-drained soils with an ideal pH of 5.5 - 6.5. They thrive in soils with ample moisture but also do fairly well in dry sites. Crabapples can be planted in a narrow strip between street and sidewalk although growth is better in a lawn area. Exposure to full sun is recommended for the best development of flowers and fruit.

When planting crabapples, the hole should be dug only as deep as the root ball and at least two times as wide. The area where the roots emerge from the main stem should be at ground level. No more than one third by volume of compost or peat moss should be mixed with the removed soil. Fill in around the tree with the amended soil and then mulch well to conserve soil moisture and to reduce weed growth. If the tree is large, it should be staked to prevent swaying.

Once the crabapple is established, pruning should be kept to a minimum except for an occasional thinning during the late winter or after flowering. Heavy cuts of one inch or more should be avoided since they may induce excessive water-sprout growth (vigorous shoots arising from the trunk or main branches of the tree). Suckers from the base of the tree are also undesirable and should be removed each season.

Diseases most commonly found in crabapples are apple scab, fire blight, cedar-apple rust, and powdery mildew. The effects



of these diseases range from leaf spots to early defoliation. Left unattended, these problems may lead to the eventual death

of the tree. Fortunately, many disease resistant cultivars are now available through local nurseries.