

# New Apple Varieties for the Prairie States

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Three new apple varieties are being released for propagation. These apple varieties have been in trial for a long time and have characters that merit their release. All are large fruited and have very hardy trees.

## **Northern Lights**

Released in 1990 by the New York Agricultural Experiment Station and North Dakota State University. It has been in trial in North Dakota as ND17-207 since 1957. It is a cross between Haralson and McIntosh. It has a very hard tree, red fruit and a tart (McIntosh) flavor. The fruit are ripe in early September. It stores well at 32-34° F.

## **Dakota Gold**

This variety was selected at the USDA Fruit Breeding Station at Mandan. It was first selected in 1958 and tested as Mandan 58-17. Its parentage is not known but appears to relate back to Yellow Transparent and/or Golden Delicious. It is a very early apple and which ripens with Hazen. It is good for eating out of hand and for sauce and pies. Its tree is very hardy, tolerant to fire blight and an annual bearer. The fruit are large and do not store. This variety is being jointly released by the USDA and NDSU.

## **Wodarz**

R.L. Wodarz was an apple breeder from Wyndmere who introduced several varieties for trial in North Dakota. Wodarz 83 was one of his creations. It has been grown around the state for at least 40 years. NDSU and the family of R.L. Wodarz will release Wodarz 83 as the variety Wodarz. This is a late apple. It is very sweet and stores very well, even in common storage. The tree is hardy and has tolerance to fire blight.

Grating wood and budsticks are available by contacting Dr. A.A. Boe, Department of Horticulture and Forestry, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND 58105.

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