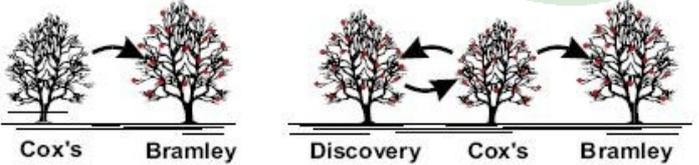


HOW TO

succeed with FRUIT TREES



APPLES

Pollination Groups

A few apples are self-fertile, capable of setting some fruit with their own pollen - examples include James Grieve and Arthur Turner. In practically all cases, however, it is necessary to have a pollination partner nearby - another variety which flowers at approximately the same time, enabling cross-pollination to take place.

Apples are classified into 4 flowering groups. A pollination partner is a variety which is ideally in the same group or else in the one immediately above or just below the group which includes the Apple in question.

The so-called Triploid varieties pose a special problem. Here the variety is an extremely poor pollinator, so 2 non-Triploid varieties need to be grown nearby to act as pollination partners - these pollinate both the Triploid variety and each other.

Family Trees

The need for a pollination partner can create a difficulty in a small garden where there is room for only one tree. Growing a family tree can be the answer. Here 2-4 different but compatible varieties are grafted on to one tree - ensuring cross-pollination plus a prolonged cropping period. A choice of rootstocks and an extensive range of varieties are available in this form.

Typical offerings include

* Charles Ross/Grenadier/Worcester Pearmain

* Discovery/Fortune/Sunset

* Cox's Orange Pippin/James Grieve/Spartan

Avoid combinations which include Bramley's Seedling or Golden Delicious as these varieties tend to take over.

Pruning

The purpose of pruning during the first 4 years of the tree's life is **training** - the creation of the basic framework which will ensure satisfactory cropping in later years. With bushes and standards this calls for fairly severe cutting back of the branches in order to produce an open-centred and freely-branched tree. In addition you must remove poor quality wood - weak twigs, dead or badly diseased shoots etc.

After 4 years the purpose of cutting out wood is **maintenance pruning** - the creation of a regular supply of new fruiting wood balanced with the need to retain as much existing fruiting wood as possible. This pruning is generally much less severe than training, but you must continue to remove all dead wood, crossing branches and so on.

A Early flowering	BEAUTY OF BATH EGREMONT RUSSET GEORGE CAVE IDARED IRISH PEACE LORD LAMBOURNE REV W WILKS	ST EDMUND'S PIPPIN VISTA BELLA
B Mid-season flowering	ARTHUR TURNER BOUNTIFUL CHARLES ROSS COX'S ORANGE PIPPIN DISCOVERY EARLY VICTORIA ELSTAR EPIPURE FIESTA FORTUNE GRANNY SMITH GREENSLEEVES GRENADIER JAMES GRIEVE JESTER KATY	KIDD'S ORANGE RED LANE'S PRINCE ALBERT MERTON KNAVE REDSLEEVES SPARTAN STURMER PIPPIN SUNSET WORCESTER PEARMAN
C Mid-season/late flowering	ANNIE ELIZABETH ASHMEAD'S KERNEL ELLISON'S ORANGE GALA GOLDEN DELICIOUS GOLDEN NOBLE HOWGATE WONDER LAXTON'S SUPERB LORD DERBY	ORLEANS REINETTE PIXIE TYDEMAN'S LATE ORANGE WINSTON
D Late flowering	AMERICAN MOTHER EDWARD VII NEWTON WONDER	
		AT Triploid—needs two partners RIBSTON PIPPIN
		BT Triploid—needs two partners BLENHEIM ORANGE BRAMLEY'S SEEDLING CRISPIN
		CT Triploid—needs two partners JONAGOLD
		DT Triploid - needs two partners SUNTAN

FRUITING SEASON	Picking time	Storage period
Early	July—Early September	Nil—eat within 7 days
Mid season	September—October	Limited—2-3 weeks
Late	October—November	Prolonged—1-6 months depending on variety

BUSHES & STANDARDS

Pruning an established tree The simplest way to look after your mature tree is to follow the Regulation System in winter:

Tip-bearing variety Remove dead, diseased and overcrowded wood.

Then: *Cut back come leaders - leave alone all laterals with fruit buds at their tips.*

