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## 'ROSELOW' SARGENT CRABAPPLE



*Released by*  
**Rose Lake Plant Materials  
Center**

*East Lansing, Michigan*

# 'ROSELOW' SARGEANT CRABAPPLE

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## 'Roselow' Sargent Crabapple

(*Malus sargentii* Rehd.) is a short, compact woody plant. It can be used in both farmstead and field windbreaks and its abundant tiny red fruit attracts songbirds.

### Description

'Roselow' is a rounded and densely branched shrub. One of the smallest crabapples, it reaches a height of only 8 feet. In mid-May, its pin buds produce single white flowers about one-half inch in diameter. Dark red fruit appear before the leaves drop and remain on the plant all winter.

### Availability

'Roselow' planting stock is generally available from commercial nurseries in the Midwest. Commercial nurseries use open-pollinated seed to propagate the shrub. Natural Resources Conservation Service maintains breeder seed at the Rose Lake Plant Materials Center in East Lansing, Michigan.

For more information on purchasing, planting and using 'Roselow' contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office.



### Adaptation

'Roselow' can grow wherever apples prove hardy, although it has been grown primarily in the East and Midwest. Both establishment and performance have been good. The shrub is adapted to a wide variety of soils but grows better on sandy soils where rainfall is adequate.

### Establishment

To plant 'Roselow', follow the planting dates and spacing recommended for shrubs in your area. In the temperate zone, it should be planted in the spring as soon as the frost is out of the ground, generally before May 15th or June 1st. The maximum spacing between plants should be 10 feet. Two year old seedlings are suitable for mechanical planting.

'Roselow' Sargent crabapple seed was first collected from evaluation plantings by the (NRCS) and the Elsberry Plant Materials Center in Missouri. NRCS established the shrubs in 1940 at Elsberry using seedlings obtained from the horticultural farm at Iowa State University.

Like other crabapples, 'Roselow' is susceptible to borers, the eastern tent caterpillar, and San Jose scale. Because it is a native of the Orient, it is not an alternate host for juniper rust.

'Roselow' usually produces an abundant crop of fruit averaging 27 pounds per shrub. Each shrub provides 0.8 pound of clean seed. Seedlings are easily propagated from seeds sown in nursery beds in late October. One pound of seed will produce about 5000 plants.