

Availability

Planting stock of 'Magenta' is available from commercial nurseries in the Midwest. Commercial propagation is from open pollinated seed. Breeder seed is maintained by the Rose Lake Plant Materials Center in East Lansing, Michigan. Contact your local NRCS Service Center for more information.



Magenta field windbreak



For More Information

Visit the NRCS Plant Materials Program website to learn more about using plants to address conservation problems.

<http://Plant-Materials.nrcs.usda.gov>

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'MAGENTA' HYBRID CRABAPPLE



Rose Lake Plant Materials Center

East Lansing, Michigan

MAGENTA HYBRID CRABAPPLE

'Magenta' hybrid crabapple (*Malus* sp.) is a small tree that can be used for single-row windbreaks and rural roadside beautification. It can also be planted for wildlife food and cover and for plantings in recreational developments.

Description

'Magenta' is an attractive compact tree, reaching heights of up to 30 feet that has ascending reddish-brown branches and a symmetrical pyramidal or rounded crown. The leaves are red in the spring and retain a reddish hue for most of the year. Attractive pink flowers cover the tree in May. The fruit is a dark-red pome, one-half inch in diameter that ripens in October. 'Magenta' is a member of the Roseybloom race of crabapples that were derived from the Redvein crabapple (*Malus pumila* v. *niedzwetzkyana*) and the Siberian crabapple (*Malus baccata*).



Adaptation

'Magenta' can be grown wherever apples prove hardy. Its best adaptation is in the Midwestern and northeastern parts of the country (plant hardiness zones 4,5 and 6). 'Magenta' grows well in most kinds of soil although the best performance has been recorded on loam soils.

Establishment

To plant 'Magenta,' follow the planting dates and spacing recommended for trees in your area. In the temperate zone, it should be planted in the spring following the average frost free date (usually between May 15 to June 1). For windbreaks, the spacing between adjacent plants should be 6 to 10 feet. Two year old seedlings are recommended for planting.



To assure establishment, control weeds during the first few years. Once 'Magenta' is established, herbicides can be used for weed control. Whenever a herbicide is used, be sure to follow the manufacture's directions carefully. Like other crabapples, 'Magenta' is susceptible to borers, the Eastern Tent Caterpillar and Scale. 'Magenta' is highly resistant to Cedar-Apple Rust and Fire Blight. It is moderately resistant to Apple Scab.

'Magenta' usually produces an average of 20 pounds of fruit or 0.5 pounds of cleaned seed per tree. Seedlings are easily propagated from seeds sown in nursery beds, late in October. About 80 percent of the seedlings will be true to type. These are easily identified by their reddish leaves. The other 20 percents have green leaves and should be rogued from propagation beds. One pound of seed can produce over 20,000 plants.

