



2025 Predicted Apple Harvest Dates – Southeast Michigan Region Derek Plotkowski and Emily Lavely, MSU Extension

The information below includes predicted dates for peak harvest. Actual harvest dates may begin before and extend after these dates, and it is likely to vary based on specific location and conditions. This information is intended to be used by commercial growers to start planning harvest management. Interpretation is necessary for marketing purposes and fruit may be available in retail locations at different times.

The predicted harvest dates for all <u>Michigan State University Enviroweather Stations</u> are now available online and can be determined using the <u>Apple Maturity Model on the Enviroweather Website</u>. These models for McIntosh, Jonathan and Red Delicious calculate predict harvest dates based on full bloom date and the temperatures in the 30 days after bloom.

Most varieties are predicted to harvest a few days earlier than normal in the region. Harvest dates may need to be adjusted as we get closer to harvest.

Crop load. Blocks with light croploads will mature 3 or 4 days sooner than the predicted harvest dates while heavy crop loads will mature 7 days later than the predicted dates.

Conditions during August and September will also affect harvest dates. If hot stressful weather occurs in August or September, apple maturity will be advanced, especially in early to mid-ripening cultivars.

Stop-drop materials. ReTain application should be applied 30 DBH (days before harvest). Harvista can be applied 3 to 7 DBH. Use Table 3, 2025 Predicted Harvest Dates for Other Varieties, to time ReTain applications and adjust for varieties and locations.

The tables below list the normal and predicted harvest dates for varieties across the state. Table 1 lists the predicted harvest dates for locations across the state of Michigan for 2025. Table 2 lists this year's predictions compared to normal and last year.

Table 1. 2025 Full bloom dates and predicted peak harvest dates.

Full bloom date 2025				Predicted harvest date 2025			
Station	McIntosh	Jons	Reds	McIntosh	Jons	Reds	Observer
SWMREC*	29-Apr	30-Apr	1-May	2-Sep	19-Sep	24-Sep	MSU Enviroweather
Deerfield*	26-Apr	28-Apr	28-Apr	29-Aug	18-Sep	24-Sep	MSU Enviroweather
Romeo*	4-May	5-May	6-May	9-Sep	22-Sep	29-Sep	MSU Enviroweather
Sparta*	5-May	6-May	7-May	10-Sep	23-Sep	30-Sep	MSU Enviroweather
Hart*	13-May	14-May	14-May	17-Sep	3-Oct	9-Oct	MSU Enviroweather
NWMHRS*	16-May	18-May	20-May	19-Sep	9-Oct	14-Oct	MSU Enviroweather

^{*}Dates indicated by model, not by actual observation.

Table 2. 2025 predicted peak harvest dates compared to normal and last year.

D	Days -/+ last year*					
Station	McIntosh	Jons	Reds	McIntosh	Jons	Reds
SWMREC	-8	-3	-4	7	9	7
Deerfield	-12	-3	-14	5	8	8
Romeo	-4	-3	-4	9	4	5
Sparta	-6	-3	-7	9	7	7
Hart	1	0	-1	11	10	10
NWMHRS	-3	3	-3	8	13	12

^{* -} is days earlier, + is days later

Table 3. Normal and predicted 2025 peak harvest dates for varieties for southeast Michigan based on Romeo, Michigan.

Variety	Normal	Predicted	Last Year	
Paulared	22-Aug	18-Aug	7-Aug	
Zestar	22-Aug	18-Aug	7-Aug	
Gingergold	23-Aug	19-Aug	9-Aug	
Gala	8-Sep	4-Sep	24-Aug	
McIntosh	13-Sep	9-Sep	26-Aug	
Honeycrisp	16-Sep	12-Sep	29-Aug	
Empire	20-Sep	17-Sep	7-Sep	
Jonathan	23-Sep	22-Sep	10-Sep	
Jonagold	23-Sep	20-Sep	10-Sep	
Early Fuji	25-Sep	22-Sep	13-Sep	
Golden Delicious	29-Sep	26-Sep	13-Sep	
Red Delicious	1-Oct	29-Sep	17-Sep	
Idared	6-Oct	2-Oct	24-Sep	
Rome	11-Oct	7-Oct	24-Sep	
Late Fuji	22-Oct	18-Oct	9-Oct	
Braeburn	23-Oct	19-Oct	9-Oct	
Goldrush	31-Oct	27-Oct	15-Oct	

^{*}Normal harvest dates in this table were determined from average observations by industry members in the region.