

15 apple varieties found in Dorset

Not all of these varieties are available in nurseries but if you are interested in planting them please contact S.A.P. for more information.

Bell Apple [Synonym: Sweet Sheep's Nose]
Buttery Door
Coleman's seedling
Crimson King [Synonym: King's Favourite]
Golden Ball
Golden Bittersweet
Golden Pippin
Harvey
Long Stem
Melcombe Russet
Runaway [Synonym Woodbine]
Syme's Seedling
Slack-Ma-Gridle,
Tom Putt
Warrior

6 apples with descriptions

Slack-ma-girdle – Dual purpose

Crimson King – Cider (There is a dessert/dual purpose of the same name)

Buttery Door - Multi- purpose

Syme's Seedling - Cooker

Melcombe Russet – Dessert/Cooker

Runaway (Woodbine) – Cider



Slack-ma-girdle (Slack-my-girl)

Late Sweet apple. Probably originally from Devon date not known. Medium flat – round. It is greenish-yellow with crimson streaks. Early flowering but fruiting late, ready in early November but fruit will stay in the trees until January. Sometimes considered as a dessert and also is claimed to make a good jam!

Crimson King (John Toucher's, Bewley Down Pippin)

Late Sharp. Propagated by John Toucher of Bewley Down, Chardstock. Medium-large and variable in shape, usually conical but sometimes round or irregular with a large eye. It has yellowish-green skin flushed vivid crimson with stripes. Russetting present, particularly in the stem basin. In a good year it can be used for a single variety cider. It is medium sharp, light and fruity. It has resistance to woolly aphid, canker and mildew but can be susceptible to scab. It is a vigorous, large spreading tree which flowers mid season and fruit matures mid November. It is a triploid and as such needs two pollinators.

N.B. There is also, rather confusingly, another apple called Crimson King classified as a dessert/dual purpose originating in Somerset c1895. This too is yellow, flushed and striped red and conical. It is not a triploid and so tends to be smaller, mostly medium sized and has a very sweet juicy flesh. It matures rather earlier than the cider variety in September/October.



Buttery Door (Buttery D'Or, Buttery Dough)

Early multipurpose with mildly sharp flesh. A Dorset variety first sent to the Cider Institute in 1926 by Mr. Warren of Netherbury. It has medium to large, angular, lopsided and oblong fruit. The skin is butter yellow, smooth, waxy with very slight russet. As a cooker it is particularly good in apple dumplings!

Syme,s Seedling

Originating from Dorset it is a medium round cooking apple with yellow-green skin streaked with scarlet with slight russetting. Flesh is cream coloured and juicy. It is picked in October and matures as late as December or January.

Melcombe Russet

Originating from Dorset it is a medium sized flat round apple. It has a pinky orange flush over gold with russetting and has a sweet sharp and tangy taste of pineapple. It flowers mid season and is harvested late September to October/November. It displays resistance to scab. It is a tree of low vigour.



Runaway (Woodbine)

A late sweet, medium to large oblong fruit that is often lopsided and rather angular. The skin is green to yellow-green with a pinkish-red flush, which is both flecked and striped. It is a very fast growing open tree with few limbs in contrast to slack-ma-girdle which has very similar fruit but has a growth habit that is much more compact with many more limbs. The flesh is sweet and rather chewy. The variety is susceptible to scab. The fruit matures mid to

List of apples commended in Bridport News in 1929

Cider success of J Bowditch and varieties won distinction

Trees located in Upper Street around the south of the mill

Sweet Alfred
Stoke Red
Coward Red
Eggleten Styre
Fredrick
Foxwehelp
Golden Ball