

# Winter Hardiness of Apricot Varieties in British Columbia

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Summerland, British Columbia

Sub-zero temperatures accompanied by very high winds in mid-December 1964, caused considerable damage to apricot trees in the Okanagan Valley of British Columbia. The damage to trees was mostly to shoot tips, fruit spurs and trunks. The injury to shoot tips and spurs was evaluated in the variety collection at the Summerland Station, and the varieties were then classified into five hardiness groups. The damage varied from practically none in hardy varieties to complete killing in the very tender group. Unnamed selections from various institutions included in the collection are as follows:

M-800, from Research Station, Mornden, Manitoba.

Utah 18, 27 and 32 from Utah Agri. Exp. Station, Logan.

N.Y. 345, from New York State Agr. Exp. Station, Geneva.

P5-61 and T-101, from Irrig. Exp.

Station, Prosser, Wash.

SHA 7, from branch Agri. Exp. Station, South Haven, Mich.

V-numbers, from Hort. Exp. Station, Vineland, Ontario.

2E-, 4E- and 8L- numbers, from Research Station, Summerland, B. C.

Of the hardy varieties, Sunglo combines hardiness with very good fruit characteristics. Sophia, which is classified as moderately hardy here, proved outstanding in hardiness both in 1949-50 and in 1955-56 at Summerland. The fruit of Sophia matures early and for an early apricot is of a good quality.

The commercial varieties, Blenheim, Royal and Tilton, proved to be tender again this winter, Blenheim being slightly hardier than Tilton. The early-maturing mutant of Blenheim, Summerland 119B, was comparable in hardiness to its parent variety. Wenatchee was superior to the above group.

Table 1. Relative hardiness of apricot varieties and selections evaluated following the winter of 1964-65 at Summerland, B. C., Canada.

| Hardy                | Moder. tender    | Tender            | Very tender      |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Manchu               | Apr. aus Nancy   | Rubinovii         | Abelardo         |
| Moongold             | Apr. von Breda   | SHA 7             | Bergetti         |
| M-800                | Blenril          | Shakar Para       | Blenheim         |
| Sunglo               | Borsi Rozza      | Stella            | Bulida Pougeot   |
| Syn Krasno-shchekavo | Earligold        | Superb            | Canino           |
|                      | Giletan          | T-101             | Char Maghaz      |
|                      | Henderson        | Utah 27           | Delgosha Tabrize |
|                      | Hurmai           | Utah 32           | Earlirl          |
| Moder. hardy         | Lasgerdi Malayer | Veecot            | Especial         |
| Curtis               | Iran             | V-49024           | Geneva           |
| Doty                 | Mandula Kajszi   | V-51092           | Kaleden          |
| Early Orange         | Mombacher Frühe  | V-51166           | Kur Sadyk        |
| Gibbs                | Montgamet        | Wenatchee         | Malayer Iran     |
| J. L. Budd           | Moorpark (Old)   | Yubileynyi Novoyi | Old Cape         |
| Magyar Kajszi        | N.Y. 345         | 2E-1-29           | Perle aus        |
| Rakowszky            | P5-61            | 4E-21-3           | Mombach          |
| Sophia               | Reliable         | 4E-28-14          | Royal            |
| Sungold              | Riland           | 4E-55-9           | Southwick        |
| Suphany              |                  |                   | Tilton           |
| Tlor Ciran           |                  |                   | Trevatt          |
| Utah 18              |                  |                   | V-49057          |
| 2E-14-22             |                  |                   | Wilson Delicious |
| 2E-15-5              |                  |                   | 2E-21-29         |
| 2E-15-28             |                  |                   | 2E-65-10         |
| 8L-12-20             |                  |                   | 119B             |

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