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**SOME REASONS YOUR FRUIT TREES
 MAY FAIL TO BEAR FRUIT**

A fruit tree must be healthy and mature enough to bear fruit. In addition adequate pollination is also necessary. The following are the ages (from planting time) at which fruit can be expected: apple (4-7 years); sour cherry (4-5 years); peach (3-4 years); pear (4-6 years); plum (4-6 years); and quince (5-6 years). Dwarf apple and pear tend to bear 1-2 years sooner than standard size trees.

Extreme cold weather in the winter or spring may kill fruit buds. Peaches are the most sensitive to cold, the buds may be killed by temperatures at 10° below zero. As the fruit buds open, heavy frost often kills many fruit buds. If the buds have started to open but not blossomed yet, the buds can tolerate temperatures of 25° or above. Once open, blossoms of most fruit trees will die if temperatures drop below 28°.

An abundance of blossoms does not necessarily mean there will be a lot of fruit. The flowers still have to be pollinated.

Many fruit trees need two different varieties to pollinate each other. In other words, one fruit tree or two fruit trees of the same varieties will usually not "self pollinate" therefore, no fruit. However, Golden Delicious is an exception. Winesap, Stayman, Baldwin, Rhode Island Greening and Gravenstein need to be planted with at least two other varieties to insure pollination.

Plums, sour cherries and pear also need two different varieties, however, Seckel and Bartlett pears will not cross pollinate each other.

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