

Powdery mildew is a relatively rare fungal disease in the upper Midwest. It is more common where spring weather is warm and moist.

Before selecting a crabapple, check on its resistance to disease.

Size and Shape

The second consideration is to choose a disease-resistant variety that fits its landscape.

Crabapples come in a wide variety of sizes and shapes, from dwarf shrub-like forms (3' x 6') to trees that will grow to 40' x 40'.

Most are rounded to slightly horizontal in habit, 20-25' tall. In addition to shrub form, they have other shapes, including weeping, vase-shaped, upright spreading, spreading and round. Some are quite dense and compact; others are loose and open.

(continued on page 22)

CRABAPPLES RECOMMENDED FOR THE MIDWEST

TAXA	FLOWER COLOR	FRUIT COLOR	HT/WD	FORM	COMMENTS
'Adams'	R	DR	20/20	Round	Dense, one of best reds, scab prone
'Adirondack'	R	R	20/10	Upright	One of most narrow, parkway use
'Amberina'	W	R	15/15	UpSpreading	New ² , semi dwarf, PP #6942
'Anne E.'	W	R	10/15	Weeping	Birds ³ , = Manbeck Weeper
baccata Jackii	W	R	30/30	Round	FB ⁴
'Bob White'	W	Y	20/25	Horizontal	Birds ³ , very scab resistant
'Coral Cascade'	W	O	15/15	Weeping	New, PP #7142
'David'	W	R ⁵	15/15	Round	Open habit, scab prone
'Donald Wyman'	W	R ⁵	20/20	Round	Nice fruit display
'Doubloons'	W	Y ⁵	20/16	UpSpreading	Best of double flowers, PP #7216
floribunda	P/W	Y	20/25	Horizontal	Birds ³
Golden Raindrops®	W	Y	20/15	Vase	Deeply cut leaf
'Indian Magic'	P	O	15/15	Round	Nice fruit display, quite scab prone
'Liset'	R	DR	15/20	Horizontal	Open habit
'Louisa'	P	Y	15/15	Weeping	Rather fine texture
'Mary Potter'	W	R	15/30	Shrub	Birds ³ , alternate bearing, FB ⁴
Molten Lava®	W	R	15/15	Horizontal	Birds ³ , good for espalier
Pink Princess™	P	DR	8/12	Shrub	"Red Sargent"
'Pink Satin'	P	R	20/20	Round	One of the better pink crabapples
'Purple Prince'	R	DR	20/20	Round	Purple leaf color, PP #8478
'Ormiston Roy'	W	YR ⁵	20/25	UpSpreading	Excellent post frost fruit color
'Prairifire'	R	DR	20/20	UpSpreading	One of best reds
'Professor Sprenger'	W	O	25/25	Round	Nice fruit display
'Profusion'	R	DR	25/25	Round	One of best reds
'Red Jade'	W	R	15/15	Weeping	Dependable weeping form
'Red Jewel'	W	R ⁵	15/15	UpOval	Nice fruit display, PP #3267, FB ⁴
'Red Swan'	W	R	15/15	Weeping	New ² , PP #6974
sargentii	W	R	8/15	Shrub	Birds ³ , alternate bearing
'Sentinel'	W	R	15/10	UpSpreading	Parkway use if pruned
'Snowdrift'	W	O	20/20	Round	Birds ³ , FB ⁴
Sugar Tyme®	W	R ⁵	20/20	Round	PP #7062
'Zumi Calocarpa'	W	R ⁵	25/30	Horizontal	Spring birds ³
'Zumi Wooster'	W	R	25/25	Horizontal	Good winter fr. color

¹ Fruit size is 5/8" or smaller

² Father Fiala introduction

³ Birds attracted to fruit

⁴ FB - Fire Blight may be a problem in areas of high incidence

⁵ Post-frost fruit color

Flower Color: R = red, P = pink, W = white, P/W = pink & white

Fruit Color: R = red, DR = dark red, O = orange, Y = yellow, YR = yellow-red, OR = orange-red

Form: UpSpreading = upright-spreading, UpOval = upright-oval

Fruit Characteristics

The third consideration is to choose a tree with small, persistent fruit.

Crabapples should not have messy fruit. Superior varieties have bright glossy fruit that is 3/8" to 5/8" diameter and generally remains on the tree after it ripens (persistent). Color choices include: yellow, orange, red, dark red and purple. Bright red and orange varieties are often the most showy. Some varieties retain a colorful reddish fruit all winter. Many of the varieties have fruit that are attractive to the fall and spring migrating birds. The fruit display will last for a month, and those lasting all winter are on display for four-five months.

Crabapples require more pruning than most trees and should be pruned once every three-four years. Vigorous vertical shoots (watersprouts) should be pruned while leaving more horizontal branches.

Flower Characteristics

The last consideration is flower color; the flower display will last for approximately one week. Yet, most crabapples are chosen for their flower display. Crabapples have three basic flower colors: white, pink and red. Most varieties have flowers with five petals (single), a few have six-ten petals (semi-double) and a few have more than ten petals (double). In general, red flowering (and pink flowering) crabapples are more susceptible to scab. Also, many of the red flowering crabapples have dark red and less showy fruit. Some of the pink and red flowering crabapples have a tendency to fade to a dirty white.

Basic Maintenance

Pruning—Pruning should be based upon its characteristic form. Crabapples require more pruning than most trees and should be pruned once every three-four years. Vigorous vertical shoots (watersprouts) should be pruned while leaving more horizontal branches. Crossing and overlapping branches, and branches directed inwardly, should be removed as they develop. Any shoots coming from the ground (suckers) should also be removed. Suckers are often a major nuisance and should be removed as they develop. Another way to reduce suckering is to demand trees grown on MM111 understock, and try to avoid crabapples grown on common apple.

Watering—This is required for all trees. Keep them well-watered during dry periods. Established trees should get about 1" of water per week. Water them with long slow soaks (two-four hours) once every two-four weeks (depending on how hot, windy and dry it is). Newly planted trees are often over-watered to death. Newly planted trees should get watered

(continued on page 26)

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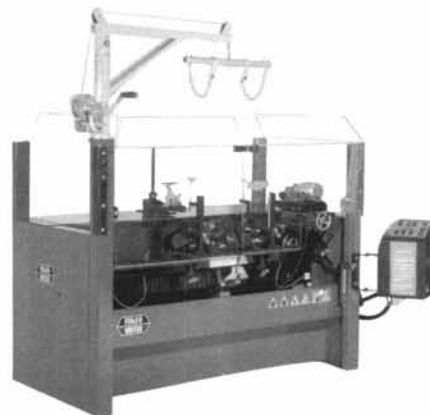
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Farewell to Jerry Crist

Colonel Jerry A. Crist, U.S. Air Force retired, passed away Monday, January 29.

Jerry was superintendent for several years at the Glenview Naval Air Station. Then he and his wife, Nancy, moved to Shady Lawn G.C. in Crete. He was superintendent and they built a home on the seventh fairway. His last golf venture was building a nine-hole executive course with Buz Didier in Monee, called Golf Vista.

Jerry graduated from the University of Illinois.

Jerry and Nancy loved to travel.

Off-season, his activities were numerous:

- Refinishing and caning antique rocking chairs.
- Deer-hunting in Wisconsin.
- Cheering at Big Ten football games.
- Substitute-teaching at the local high school.

For culture, he and Nancy would move to downtown Chicago for a week each year. There they would attend the opera, a show or two, visit the museums and eat at fancy restaurants.

I first met Jerry at Adolph's annual Christmas party. He and Oliver Miles were cleaning up on Paul Voykin and Kinky Trometer at the poker table.

I looked forward to his early-morning phone calls. "And what have you done for God and your country today?" and then, "Let's do lunch this week."

Jerry and Nancy were anticipating a six-month visit to China, where he was invited to teach, when he was stricken with cancer.

The Colonel was buried downstate, in his hometown of Milford.

God bless you, Jerry Crist.



How to Choose a Crabapple for Your Golf Course *(continued from page 22)*

about once per week in dry weather (probably not at all when sufficient rainfall has occurred). Inspect the soil before watering to see if it is moist or dry. Crabapples take dry weather fairly well.

Pests—There are quite a few critters that like crabapples. Deer can be a major problem eating both fruit and tender branch tips. Deer are hard to control. Voles (tailless meadow mice) and other rodents (especially rabbits) can eat the bark during the winter and

girdle the tree. Plastic tree guards are good for stopping rabbits and deer rubbing their antlers. The eastern tent caterpillar makes ugly tents in the spring but these are easy to control by physically removing them (never burn them) or spraying them with insecticides. In some areas, the Japanese beetle can cause damage to foliage. Insecticide sprays are recommended for control but may not help much. The beetles can cause a lot of damage before the insecticide kills them.



Now professor of urban forestry at WIU, Dr. Green previously worked for 13 years at the Morton Arboretum. A crabapple specialist, he has also conducted numerous golf course inventories. One of his current pursuits is a study on the successful fall planting of oaks.

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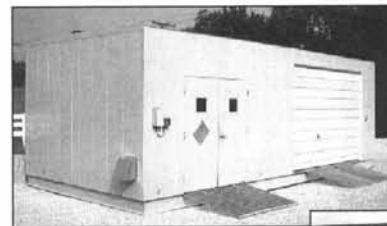
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that there are more than over 500 golf courses in existence or under construction in our "stomping grounds?" Can we do a better job of membership outreach? Should we?

- **Employment**—Do employers know that our membership is loaded with talented and experienced superintendents? Is our employment referral service their first choice when it comes time to advertise an open position? Can we do a better job of promoting membership in the GCSAA/MAGCS as prerequisite for professional competency? If so, should an "employment committee" visit prospective employers to offer MAGCS assistance in defining job requirements or even help find qualified candidates?

- **Media**—We need to promote ourselves as "go-to" guys when it comes to anything on the golf course except playing the game. Right now, superintendents are like linemen on a football team. Anybody who knows football knows the line of scrimmage is where games are won or lost, but the only attention the line gets is when someone gets flagged for a penalty. Our 75th anniversary is a perfect hook for some copy other than weather disasters or why the greens are dead.

- **Refine and Renew**—In addition to the issues above (and others that the LRP Committee will identify), we need to continue to provide you, the members, with the current high level of service to which you have become accustomed: quality meeting sites, pertinent and

timely education, an excellent magazine, employment referrals, scholarship opportunities (new), networking resources, environmental leadership, Internet exposure, national leadership representation, world-class hospitality venues . . . it's really quite an extensive list of services to maintain and enhance.

The key to our success is your participation and support. The best organizational plan in the world vaporizes without dedicated people to implement it. We, as an organization, have enjoyed continued growth because you have stepped up and taken your turn in the box. We all have every right to be proud of our chapter's progress; let's get ready for the next 75 years. 

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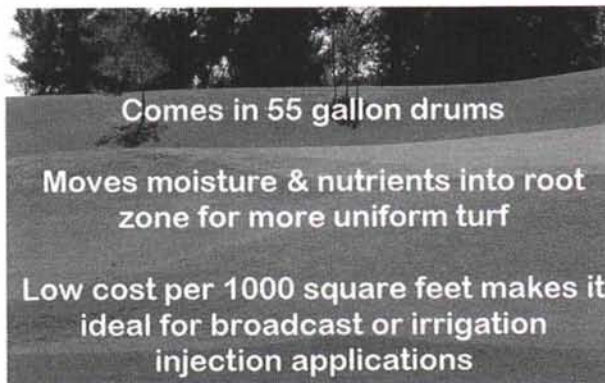
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an opportunity for green industry members to see the House and Senate in session and meet our political representation. I'll report more in the months ahead.

Within our own association, there is plenty of news. At the end of January, the 75th Anniversary Committee got together for a second time. Don Ferreri is chairing this committee, and a great deal of thought is being put into celebrating our anniversary year. All in all, pretty exciting and I'll applaud the efforts of the committee in advance; there is plenty of work going on behind the scenes. It's a real honor to lead the association during such a special occasion.

Congratulations go out to Dudley Smith for receiving the MRTF Distinguished Service Award. Dudley received the award in January down at the MRTF conference in Indianapolis. He had a few words to say about loyalty (40+ years at Silver Lakes, I believe) and a few words to say about the lack of it that shows up in our business from time to time. There's more to life than chasing the next big paycheck. He also shared a humorous story of being "right-sized" much earlier in his career. At the twilight of his career, Dudley still attends meetings, still has a fire in his belly and stays close to the action. Some people are just born leaders.

If you were in attendance at Poplar Creek, you were not only treated to a great meal, but also you heard that GCSAA has recently awarded Albie Staudt "lifetime member" status. Albie has been a GCSAA member for 50 years! He's mighty proud of the honor and he should be. As with Dudley, high praise for Albie: still attending our meetings regularly and with his heart still close to the action.

Last, a mentor to many is stepping down to serve the industry in another capacity. After 12 years at the helm, Danny Quast is leaving Medinah Country Club this spring. I was employed at Medinah in 1989 when Danny took over, and that doesn't make me an expert on him, but I would like to pass along some perspectives on a wonderful man. I'll need to start by saying that he was replacing Pete Wilson and anyone that ever worked for Pete learned to respect him. I was pretty bitter about Pete's departure and didn't exactly welcome Danny with open arms or an open mind. I was, after all, 25 years old and surely knew more than a guy who would wear a flannel shirt with a tie. No kidding, it happened at the first green committee meeting he attended, although I don't think the minutes will reflect that.

Well, Danny had plenty of big ideas and I wasn't buying into too many of them. He wanted the respective course superintendents to share responsibilities and periodically rotate course assignments. I thought that was a particularly silly concept and told him so. Well, I got to stay put on course #2 (referred to by some as the ladies' course) and Danny moved a more willing chap over to course #3 (referred to by some as the championship or tournament course). Guess I showed him a thing or two. Grinding my teeth the whole way, I began to buy into Danny's methods and madness. I had to because they passed the acid test; they worked! Danny was also a real gentleman to work with; always offering encouragement and praise and never failing to introduce me to members, salesmen and the many friends he had in the business. He wanted none of the spotlight and glory and passed it along to as many as he could. He has a great sense of humor and a perspective that keeps life ahead of his work.

Danny shared the whole job with his course superintendents and we got a taste for the political end of the spectrum; attending those marathon greens committee meetings really helped me in the future. He was a master at work in those meetings, anticipating the next comment and staying one step ahead of the angle at all times. He also had a gift for being able to break down technical turf-grass jargon to his committee members. Not everything was easy going for Danny. He lost a daughter unexpectedly early in his tenure at Medinah and the entire staff felt his loss. He had a few health issues of his own, but always maintained an upbeat attitude, a sort of "roll with the punches" outlook. And I'll never forget the day we shared a Coke in the course #3 snack shop when my own personal life was unraveling a bit. He was very understanding and a friend whenever I needed one.

We haven't worked together for 10 years, but through experience, I've started to acquire an appreciation for what the job requires and Danny has always been a consummate professional through the good and not-so-good times. It is no secret that some shots went his way during the last PGA tournament, and he defended his staff, offered no excuses and threw no verbal punches back. What a credit to the profession! Let's face it, it's not so tough to be a nice guy when everything goes right. I felt what it was like to be **really** proud of a good friend. Thanks, Danny, for everything; you've had a very positive impact on many lives. You and Beverly enjoy life north of the border. I know there was a green and gold part of your heart that never left that state. 