

MSU Fruit Team Apple Maturity Report 2013
Northwest Region, Report Number 1
September 4, 2013

General Comments - The NWMHRC will be testing apples for maturity for 2013, and results will be sent via fax and email to past apple maturity list subscribers. Results will also be available at:

http://agbioresearch.msu.edu/centers/nwmihort/nwmihort_resources_and_reports#NWMIAppleMaturityReps

Reports for other regions around the state can be viewed on the [MSU Extension news site](#).

Recent rainfall across NW Michigan should help apple varieties that were struggling to size. Color has not developed in most varieties, but the cool evenings and sunny days are helping with coloring and maturation.

Summary of northwest Michigan apple maturity samples taken on September 3, 2013.

| Variety | Color % (range) | Firmness lbs. pressure (range) | Starch (range) | Brix (range) |
|----------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Gingergold | 11 (0 – 30) | 18.8 (15 - 22) | 3.5 (1 - 9) | 11.4 (9 – 13.8) |
| Gala | 51 (20 - 90) | 21.8 (18 - 23) | 1.1 (1 - 2) | 10.4 (8.2 - 12) |
| McIntosh | 50 (20 - 80) | 19.2 (14.5 - 22) | 1.4 (1 - 3) | 11.3 (10 - 13) |
| Honeycrisp | 37 (10 - 60) | 19.3 (16 - 23) | 1.4 (1 - 5) | 11.5 (9 - 14) |

PaulaRed - None tested, should be mature.

Gingergold - Nearing mature to mature (2 samples). Firmness at 18.8 lbs. Starch index at 3.5. Spot picking has begun in the area. Background color should just be starting to turn yellowish at the time of harvest. Fruit that ripens to the point of full yellow will not hold up well in storage.

McIntosh - Immature (2 samples). Firmness at 19.2 lbs. Starch index at 1.4. Brix level at 11.3. Color is at 50%.

HoneyCrisp - Immature (3 samples). Firmness at about 19.3 lbs. Starch index at 1.4. Brix level at 11.5. Color is at 37%. This variety needs multiple pickings over several weeks for premium quality fruit. Watch for first 2 to 3 apples per tree to color for the first picking.

Gala - Immature (2 samples). Firmness at 21.8 lbs. Starch index is at 1.1 and brix levels are at 10.4. Color is just over 50%.