

Apple Facts

1. October is National Apple Month in the U.S.!!!!
2. What does the word POMOLOGY mean? The science of growing apples
3. How long does it take for an apple tree to produce its first fruit? 4-5 years
4. How long do some apple trees live? Over one hundred years
5. Leaves collect sunlight and eventually help produce apples. How many leaves are needed to collect energy to grow one apple? 50
6. An average apple tree yields how many pounds of apples?
 - a. 20 boxes at
 - b. 42 pounds/box
 - c. 840 pounds of apples
7. A bushel of apples weighs how many pounds? 42
8. How many apples are needed to produce one gallon of apple cider? 36 apples
9. Is wax on apples natural?
 - a. Pick an apple from the tree and rub it on your shirt – it will shine b/c the apple produces natural wax that keeps apples moist and crisp; they would otherwise lose the moisture through normal respiration and transpiration and become soft and dry
 - b. After apples are picked, the washing process to remove dirt also removes natural waxes. The apple industry replaces the wax with food grade waxes from natural sources i.e. carnauba wax from leaves of a Brazilian palm; candellia wax from reed-like desert plants
10. Why is apple peel healthy?
 - a. It contains 2/3 of the apples fiber
 - b. It contains many anti-oxidants which help reduce cell damage
11. How many varieties of apples exist? 7500
12. Which countries are the top apple producers? China, U.S., Turkey, Iran and Poland
13. In the U.S., how many varieties of apples are grown? 2,500
 - a. Only 15 varieties account for 90% of the total U.S. apple production
 - b. The top 10 are:
 - i. Red delicious
 - ii. Golden delicious
 - iii. Gala
 - iv. Granny Smith
 - v. Fuji
 - vi. McIntosh
 - vii. Rome Beauty
 - viii. Idared – an Idaho native
 - ix. Jonathan - in the Midwest
 - x. York Imperial – mid-Atlantic region, discovered in the early 1800's near York, PA
14. In California, what time of the year do apples grow?
 - a. Gala- starting in July
 - b. Granny Smith – starting Aug and ending in June
 - c. Fuji- starting in September
 - d. Pink Lady- starting in October

15. What Halloween activity involves apples?
 - a. Bobbing for apples.
 - b. Why do apples float? They are 25% air
16. Where was the first U.S. apple tree?
 - a. Planted by pilgrims (1600's) in the Massachusetts Bay Colony
 - b. Colonial (1607-1776) time apples were called Winter banana or melt-in-the mouth
17. Believed apples grew wild in Central Asia and China, and in Southwest Asia
18. What is the difference between apple "juice" and apple "cider"
 - a. The definitions of "juice" and "cider" vary from region to region. Apple cider is freshly pressed, not-from-concentrate juice that may or may not undergo a filtration process to remove coarse pulp. Most cider is pasteurized but perishable and is often found in the refrigerated section of the supermarket. Apple juice may be from concentrate and has been filtered, pasteurized, and vacuum sealed to give a longer lasting, shelf stable, clear product. (www.usapple.org)

Resources

www.calapple.org

<http://harvestofthemonth.cdph.ca.gov/Pages/student-sleuths.aspx>

U.S. Apple Association www.usapple.org