



How cold is too cold? to leave apples on the trees

Posted by [Josh Karp](#)

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[Josh Karp](#)

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October 14, 2016 03:32AM

Registered: 10 years ago

Posts: 18

Here in Northern VT, we're supposed to get 28 degrees tomorrow night. I've read that apples freeze at 27 or 28 degrees depending on variety & how ripe. Trying to tease out the finer points of this: can I sell as #1 fruit, apples that have experienced 27 deg. for only a few hours on one night?? Other than possibly shortening the storage potential, will the flavor/texture/appearance be compromised? Sure, if we hit 24 degrees the apples are toast. But I have a few vars. which could use another week to get good & ripe..and I'm loathe to pick them in their current state. But I certainly will, if this singular cold night will downgrade them all to the cider bin.

The tricky thing is only one or two degrees can make a huge difference here (as with cold temps in the spring as well!). If today's "28 degree" forecasted low changes to "26 degrees" tomorrow afternoon, I'll find myself with no way to get all the fruit picked in time.

Wondering what other growers have experienced over the years?

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[Nathaniel Bouman](#)

[Re: How cold is too cold? to leave apples on the trees](#)

October 18, 2016 10:14PM

Registered: 9 years ago

Posts: 81

I'm really interested in this topic too.

Nat Bouman

Growing cider varieties in Zone 5b

On B.118 at 18X24

Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania

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