



THE MSU TART CHERRY BREEDING PROGRAM USES PREDICTIVE DNA TESTS TO DEVELOP SUPERIOR NEW CULTIVARS

Superior tart cherry cultivars that consistently exceed consumer expectations for fruit quality and also meet industry needs for disease resistances and productivity remain elusive. Such cultivars are possible, but only if breeders can effectively combine the right sets of attributes.

New DNA tests are now being used by the MSU tart cherry breeding program to do exactly that – combining components of superior fruit quality and productivity with disease resistance. Strategic application of such DNA tests can greatly enhance traditional breeding programs, without employing GMO methods.

These DNA tests predict

- cherry leaf spot resistance
- Brilliant red Montmorency color
- self-compatibility



Breeders can now more effectively determine the best parents to combine and the best seedlings to advance. This approach reduces the need to grow and sort through thousands of seedlings that are unlikely to meet requirements for both disease resistance and fruit quality.



Upcoming trait targets for DNA test development include:

- cherry leaf spot tolerance
- late bloom time

This enhanced breeding efficiency, accuracy, speed and creativity due to strategic applications of DNA tests is enabled by the U.S.- wide RosBREED project (www.rosbreed.org).

RosBREED
Tart Cherry Breeder



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RosBREED

DISEASE RESISTANCE × HORTICULTURAL QUALITY → SUPERIOR CULTIVARS



WWW.ROSBREED.ORG

Acknowledgements:

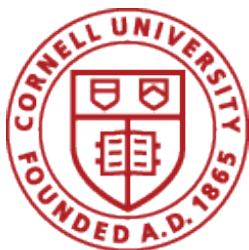
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