

TREES IN AGRICULTURE

APPLE TREES

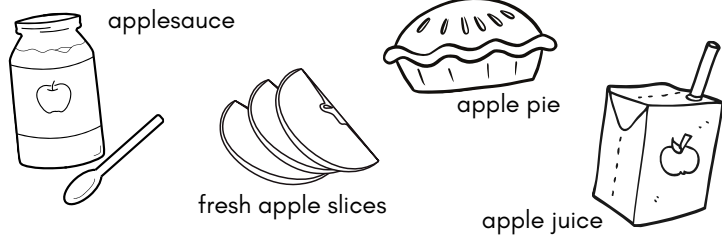
Apples are a fruit that grows on trees. A group of apple trees is called an orchard. Apple trees produce flowers in the spring. These flowers are called blossoms.

Bees land on the blossoms and move pollen from one blossom to another. This is called pollination. Once a blossom is pollinated, an apple will start to grow.



Apples are harvested, or picked, in the fall. There is no machine to harvest apples and so each apple is picked by hand.

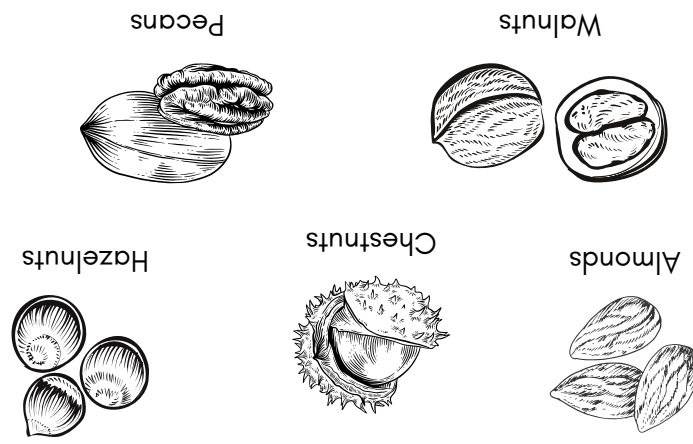
Circle all the apple products that you like!



Nuts, like pecans and walnuts, grow on trees! There are over 207 tree nut orchards in Illinois that cover around 785 acres.

Nut tree harvest is different that many other crops. First a machine called a tree shaker grasps the tree by the trunk and shakes. This makes the nuts fall to the ground. Then a harvester drives in between the tree rows and collects the fallen nuts.

The main nut trees grown in Illinois are:



NUT TREES

APPLE MATH

Complete the math equations below to see how many apples to color green, red, and yellow!

#1
$$\begin{array}{r} 39 \\ - 31 \\ \hline \end{array}$$
 Green Apples

#2
$$\begin{array}{r} 58 \\ - 46 \\ \hline \end{array}$$
 Red Apples

#3
$$\begin{array}{r} 108 \\ - 104 \\ \hline \end{array}$$
 Yellow Apples



READING COMPREHENSION

Circle the correct answer based on the information from the Christmas Trees page.

1. True or False: Christmas trees are grown in 50 different states.
 - a. true
 - b. false
2. How many seeds are planted for every tree harvested?
 - a. 1-3
 - b. 4-6
3. Around how many Christmas trees are produced each year in Illinois?
 - a. 32,000
 - b. 66,000
4. Why are Christmas trees known as evergreens?
 - a. They stay green year-round.
 - b. Every type has green leaves.

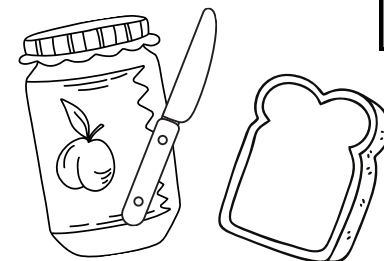


PEACH TREES

Illinois is not the most common place to find peaches, but there are around 1,470 acres of peach tree orchards in Illinois.

There are over 2,000 different varieties of peaches around the world. In Illinois, the most common types are ones with yellow flesh, like Harbelle, Redhaven, and Golden Jubilee.

All fruit trees need to be pruned and thinned to make sure there is enough space for air and sunlight to go through the branches. This also helps keep the weight of the tree limbs lighter.



Next time you have toast for breakfast, try some peach jam on top!

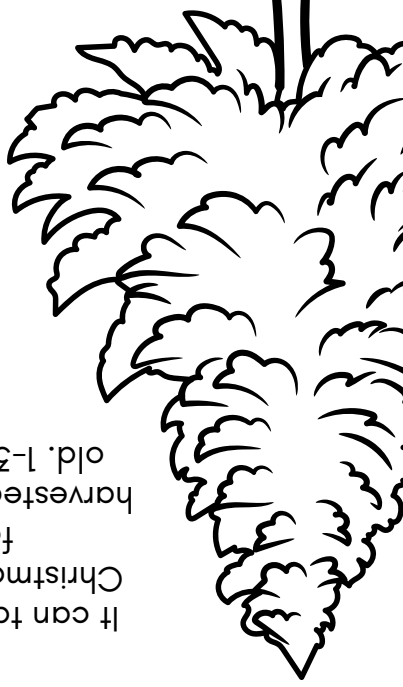
CHRISTMAS TREES

Christmas trees are commonly known as evergreens because these trees stay green year-round rather than dropping their leaves in the fall. Most evergreens used for Christmas trees are firs, spruces, and pines.

It can take up to 15 years for a Christmas tree to grow up to 6 feet tall. Most trees are harvested at about seven years old. 1-3 seeds are planted for every tree harvested.

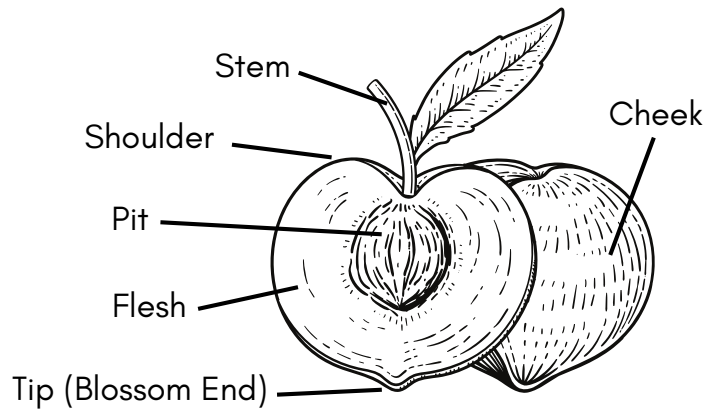
Christmas trees are grown and harvested in 45 different states.

In Illinois, there are over 250 different Christmas tree farms that produce around 66,000 trees per year.



PEACH PART SCRAMBLE

Use the peach diagram to help you unscramble some of the vocabulary words below!



pti _____
 mest _____
 elshf _____
 heekc _____